

MLive

Success in solving violent crime varies for Washtenaw County police forces, FBI data shows

By Nathan Clark – May 13, 2020

WASHTENAW COUNTY, MI – Nobody wants to be the victim of a violent crime, but if it does happen, one hopes the local police has the power to solve the case and bring the perpetrator to justice.

FBI [violent crime data for Washtenaw County in 2019](#), the most recent data pool available, shows some departments have been more successful than others in solving violent crimes.

Washtenaw County has a population of roughly 367,000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, with 10 police forces in operation.

While some of the county's smaller police departments have the highest clearance rates, the rate does not necessarily reflect the quality of police work, as each department provides police services for its various jurisdictions which vary greatly in population when compared to the number of sworn officers on staff and resources available.

Listed below is how successful each department was in solving violent crimes in 2019 as reported to the FBI contributing to the National Incident-Based Reporting System.

Data for 2020 is expected to be released in the next few months though, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, data reported to the system for 2020 will need special consideration when being analyzed, officials said.

Violent crimes included in the data are cases involving various degrees of murder, non-negligent manslaughter, sexual assaults, robbery and aggravated assaults.

It should be noted cases are not necessarily cleared the same year the incident occurred, meaning there could be some overlap between one or more years.

Northfield Township Police Department: 89 percent

The Northfield Township Police Department investigated 18 violent crimes in 2019. Of those reported crimes, 16 cases were cleared, giving the department the highest violent crime clearance rate in the county at 89 percent.

The township, located north of Ann Arbor, has a population of more than 8,000 residents being served by the department.

Pittsfield Township Police Department: 85 percent

The Pittsfield Township Police Department investigated 81 violent crimes reported in 2019. Of those, 69 cases were cleared giving the department a high clearance rate of 85 percent.

The township, with a population of more than 38,000, recently [voted down a public safety millage](#) that was to be used to fund both police and fire operations.

University of Michigan Division of Public Safety and Security: 76 percent

University of Michigan police investigated 17 violent crimes reported in Washtenaw County in 2019. Of those, 13 cases were cleared, giving officers a 76 percent clearance rate in the county.

The department is responsible for overseeing the safety of students and the public on all University of Michigan property throughout Washtenaw County.

Saline Police Department: 71 percent

The Saline Police Department investigated seven violent crimes reported in 2019. Of those, five cases were cleared, giving Saline police a 71 percent clearance rate for violent crimes.

The city, located south west of Ann Arbor, has a population of more than 9,000 residents being served by the department.

Eastern Michigan University Police: 70 percent

Eastern Michigan University police investigated 27 violent crimes reported in Washtenaw County in 2019. Of those, 19 cases were cleared, giving officers a 70 percent clearance rate in the county.

The department is responsible for overseeing the safety of students and the public on all Eastern Michigan University properties in Ypsilanti.

Michigan State Police: 57 percent

Michigan State Police investigated 108 violent crimes reported in Washtenaw County in 2019. Of those, 62 cases were cleared giving the state police a 57 percent clearance rate for violent crimes in the county.

State police generally investigate crimes outside the jurisdiction of local police forces, cases originating from the Michigan Attorney General's Office or when requested to investigate a case by local police.

Ann Arbor Police Department: 54 percent

The Ann Arbor Police Department investigated 354 violent crimes reported in the city. Of those, 190 cases were cleared giving it a 54 percent clearance rate.

Crimes in Ann Arbor, with its population of more than 120,000 residents, are investigated by a fully staffed detective bureau, as well as a special victims unit which investigates sexual assault cases.

Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office: 52 percent

The Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office investigated 625 violent crimes reported in the numerous townships in the county in 2019. Of those, 322 cases were cleared giving the office a 52 percent clearance rate for violent crimes.

Chelsea Police Department: 50 percent

The Chelsea Police Department investigated four violent crimes reported in the city in 2019. Of those, two cases were cleared giving the department a 50 percent clearance rate.

Chelsea is a small town west of Ann Arbor with a population of more than 5,000.

Ypsilanti Police Department: 29 percent

The Ypsilanti Police Department investigated 236 violent crimes reported in the city. Of those reported crimes, 68 cases were cleared giving it a 29 percent clearance rate for 2019.

The department currently has only two detectives on staff assigned to investigate serious crimes in the city of more than 20,000 residents.

The department's highest clearance rate on record since 2009, according to FBI data, was 47 percent in 2014 when it had 165 violent crimes reported and 77 cases cleared.



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC SERVICES AREA

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<http://www.a2gov.org>

April 27, 2021

Supervisor Mandy Grewal
Pittsfield Township
6227 E. Michigan Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Dear Supervisor Grewal,

Please be advised that we are establishing sewer rate increase to cover our revenue requirements for the 2022 budget year.

The Township sewer rates are based on an average cost to provide services. Due to the makeup of Township customers (residential, commercial, private fire service, etc.), sewer rates are based on an average cost (revenue requirements divided by units sold).

The Township sewer rate is calculated using the average cost recovery per unit adjusted by the provisions of the contract and by City ordinance. This therefore will establish the new Township sewer rate of \$6.50/100 cubic feet effective July 1, 2021. The discount for early payment will continue to be offered. The effective rate as a result of the early payment discount is \$5.85/100 cubic feet.

If you need any additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Craig Hupy
Public Services Area Administrator

cc Tom Crawford, City Administrator
Marti Praschan, CFO/Financial and Administrative Services Administrator
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