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Statement Attributed to Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

FBI Releases National Crime Data; Comparing National and Washington State Data for 2022-23 and for the last five years (2019-2023)

(Lacey, WA) The FBI released its Crime in the US 2023 data on Monday, September 23, 2024; data for Washington State had previously been released by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) in July 2024, and that data is used by the FBI to create its national report.

	Crime Totals			Crime Rates Per 100,000		
						%
	2022	2023	% Difference	2022	2023	Difference
Violent Crime (US)	1,256,671	1,218,467	-3.0%	377.1	363.8	-3.5%
Violent Crime (WA)	29,041	27,641	-4.8%	370.7	351.5	-5.2%
Murder (US)	21,781	19,252	-11.6%	6.5	5.7	-12.3%
Murder (WA)	377	371	-1.6%	4.8	4.7	-2.0%
Rape (US)	140,384	127,216	-9.4%	42.1	38.0	-9.7%
Rape (WA)	3,015	2,880	-4.5%	38.5	36.6	-4.8%
Robbery (US)	223,511	222,795	-0.3%	67.1	66.5	-0.9%
Robbery (WA)	6,745	6,371	-5.5%	86.1	81.0	-5.9%
Aggravated Assault						
(US)	909,929	884,550	-2.8%	273.0	264.1	-3.3%
Aggravated Assault						
(WA)	18,904	18,019	-4.7%	241.3	229.1	-5.0%
All Property Crimes						
(US)	6,578,281	6,419,149	-2.4%	 1973.8	1916.7	-2.9%
All Property Crimes						
(WA)	258,949	223,535	-13.7%	3305.4	2842.4	-14.0%
Burglary (US)	908,900	839,563	-7.6%	272.7	250.7	-8.1%
Burglary (WA)	43,194	37,176	-13.9%	551.4	472.7	-14.3%
Larceny-Theft (US)	4,721,262	4,512,064	-4.4%	1416.6	1347.2	-4.9%
Larceny-Theft (WA)	166,227	133,379	-19.8%	2121.8	1696.0	-20.1%
Vehicle Theft (US)	948,119	1,067,522	12.6%	284.5	318.7	12.0%
Vehicle Theft (WA)	49,528	52,980	7.0%	632.2	673.7	6.6%

Note: Population data is from 2023 FBI Crime in the United States report Source: <u>https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/downloads</u>

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Comparing 2019 to 2023 data for the last five years shows that:

- In Washington State, the increase in murders is more than five times higher than the national trend (87.4% vs. 17.2%), and the murder rate has increased more than 80% since 2019.
- Violent crime rates have increased 19.6% in the last five years in WA State, while they have decreased 4.1% nationally.
- Aggravated assault rates have increased 27.3% since 2019 in WA State, while they have increased 5.6% nationally.
- Vehicle theft rates have increased 110.2% since 2019 in WA State, while rising 44.9% nationally.
- The vehicle theft rate in WA State is more than twice the national rate (318.7 per 100,000 nationally vs. 673.7 per 100,000 in WA State).
- While the rate of robberies in WA State has increased 19.8% over the past five years, they have decreased nationally by 18.5%.

	Crime Totals			Crim	er 100,000	
	2019	2023	% Difference	2019	2023	% Difference
Violent Crime (US)	1,245,410	1,218,467	-2.2%	379.4	363.8	-4.1%
Violent Crime (WA)	22,377	27,641	23.5%	293.9	351.5	19.6%
Murder (US)	16,425	19,252	17.2%	5.0	5.7	14.0%
Murder (WA)	198	371	87.4%	2.6	4.7	80.8%
Rape (US)	139,815	127,216	-9.0%	42.6	38.0	-10.8%
Rape (WA)	3,332	2,880	-13.6%	43.8	36.6	-16.4%
Robbery (US)	267,988	222,795	-16.9%	81.6	66.5	-18.5%
Robbery (WA)	5,147	6,371	23.8%	67.6	81.0	19.8%
Aggravated Assault (US)	821,182	884,550	7.7%	250.2	264.1	5.6%
Aggravated Assault (WA)	13,700	18,019	31.5%	179.9	229.1	27.3%
All Property Crimes (US)	6,925,977	6,419,149	-7.3%	2109.9	1916.7	-9.2%
All Property Crimes (WA)	204,224	223,535	9.5%	2681.9	2842.4	6.0%
Burglary (US)	1,117,696	839,563	-24.9%	340.5	250.7	-26.4%
Burglary (WA)	34,540	37,176	7.6%	453.6	472.7	4.2%
Larceny-Theft (US)	5,086,096	4,512,064	-11.3%	1549.5	1347.2	-13.1%
Larceny-Theft (WA)	145,282	133,379	-8.2%	1907.9	1696.0	-11.1%
Vehicle Theft (US)	721,885	1,067,522	47.9%	219.9	318.7	44.9%
Vehicle Theft (WA)	24,402	52,980	117.1%	320.5	673.7	110.2%

Source: https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019

WASPC calls on our state's policy makers to provide balanced public safety approaches that respect victims, provide for adequate and meaningful consequences for criminal behavior, support fair and transparent policing, and increase staffing and support for law enforcement.