



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Ventura had a Significant Decrease in Violent Crimes while Property Crimes Increased Slightly Overall in 2020**

Ventura's crime statistics are based on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR), defined as the number of crimes committed per 1,000 residents. Part I Crimes are comprised of eight offenses, broken down into two categories. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crime includes burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

The City of Ventura experienced a 3/10ths of one percent increase in reported Part I Crime in 2020. Overall, Part I Crimes totaled 3446, which was 12 more offenses than were reported in 2019.

Part I Violent Crime saw a significant decrease of 28.38% in 2020, with 130 fewer offenses reported in 2019. Aggravated assaults decreased 31.4%, with 92 fewer reported assaults, and sexual assaults decreased by 44.64%, with 25 fewer reported crimes. Robberies also had a reduction of 11.32%, and homicides decreased from 3 in 2019 to 2 in 2020.

Part I Property Crime increased slightly by 4.77%, with significant increases in commercial burglaries and arson. Commercial burglary increased by 60.99%, arson increased by 342.86%, and motor vehicle theft increased by 7.48%. Residential burglaries and larceny saw a small reduction compared to 2019, with 2.34% and 0.34% reductions, respectively.

The impacts of COVID-19 and the stay-at-home health orders impacted the City's crime rates this past year. Many residents were home more often, decreasing the likelihood of residential burglaries, while commercial businesses were burglarized at a higher rate due to business closures and restricted hours of operation. Arson saw the most significant increase, and many of those crimes occurred in the watershed areas or were trash fires.

Part I Offenses	Jan to Dec 2020	Jan to Dec 2019	% Change	# Diff	Crime per 1,000 pop	Clearance by Arrest	% Cleared
HOMICIDE	2	3	-33.33%	-1	0.02	0	0.00%
RAPE	31	56	-44.64%	-25	0.29	3	9.68%
ROBBERY	94	106	-11.32%	-12	0.88	38	40.43%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	201	293	-31.40%	-92	1.89	106	52.74%
<b>TOTAL VIOLENT CRIMES</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>-28.38%</b>	<b>-130</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>44.82%</b>
BURGLARY - TOTAL	460	353	30.31%	107	4.33	71	15.43%
<i>BURGLARY - Residential</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>171</i>	<i>-2.34%</i>	<i>-4</i>	<i>1.57</i>		
<i>BURGLARY - NonResidential</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>182</i>	<i>60.99%</i>	<i>111</i>	<i>2.76</i>		
LARCENY-THEFT	2354	2362	-0.34%	-8	22.15	289	12.28%
VEHICLE THEFT (10851)	273	254	7.48%	19	2.57	69	25.27%
ARSON	31	7	342.86%	24	0.29	16	51.61%
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY CRIMES</b>	<b>3118</b>	<b>2976</b>	<b>4.77%</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>29.34</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>14.27%</b>
<b>TOTAL PART 1 CRIMES</b>	<b>3446</b>	<b>3434</b>	<b>0.35%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>32.43</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>17.18%</b>
<i>2020 DOF Population E-1 Table</i>				<i>106,276</i>			