



OXNARD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Protecting Our Community with Exceptional Service

CHIEF OF POLICE
Scott Whitney

ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF
Jason Benites

ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF
Eric S. Sonstegard

251 SOUTH C STREET, OXNARD, CALIFORNIA 93030-5789 * (805) 385-7600 * <http://oxnardpd.org>

UCR News Release Attachment

Homicides

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define homicide as *“the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.”*

There were fourteen homicides in Oxnard in 2019. Investigators cleared eight cases with arrests.

Other homicide cases cleared in 2019 include cold cases from 1979, 1980, 1983 and 2018. One case in 1979 was cleared as a justifiable homicide¹, when the suspect shot the victim, after the victim stabbed the suspect. Two additional cases from 1979, one from 1983, and one in 2018 were cleared by exceptional means². The cases in 1979 and 1983 were exceptionally cleared as the suspects of those cases were deceased. One case from 2018 was exceptionally cleared as the District Attorney’s Office was unable to prosecute due to self-defense. In total, 9 arrests were made in 8 homicide cases throughout the year; one case resulted in the arrest of multiple suspects.

Case Clearance Disposition	1979	1980	1983	2018	2019
Arrest		1		1	8
Justifiable	1				
Exceptional Means	2		1	1	

¹ In the UCR Program, justifiable homicide is defined as and limited to: the killing of a felon by a peace officer in the line of duty, or the killing of a felon, during the commission of a felony, by a private citizen.

² In order to qualify for an “exceptional” clearance, law enforcement agencies must meet the following four conditions: 1) The agency must have: Identified the offender. 2) Gathered enough evidence to support an arrest, make a charge, and turn over the offender to the court for prosecution. 3) Identified the offender’s exact location so that the suspect could be taken into custody immediately. 4) Encountered a circumstance outside the control of law enforcement that prohibits the agency from arresting, charging, and prosecuting the offender.

The following table shows the weapons used in the cases mentioned above:

Weapons Used in Cleared Homicides	1979	1980	1983	2018	2019
Firearm	3			2	2
Knife			1		2
Vehicle					2
Blunt Object		1			1
Fist/Feet/Hands					1

Rape

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define rape as *“penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.”* Based on the reporting criteria, the Oxnard Police Department reported 63 cases to the FBI.

Rape	2018	2019	Percent Change	Num. Diff.
Rape	65	63	-3.1%	-2
Attempted Rape	1	0	-100.0%	-1
Grand Total	66	63	-4.5%	-3

The suspect / victim relationships to the reported rapes were as follows in 2019:

Rape	Count
Acquaintance	25
Family	25
Domestic	8
Date Rape	3
Stranger	2
Grand Total	63

Aggravated Assaults

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define aggravated assault as *“an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.”*

Aggravated Assaults	2018	2019	Percent Change	Num. Diff.
Firearm	87	98	12.6%	11
Knife	145	142	-2.1%	-3
Other Weapon	124	112	-9.7%	-12
Feet/Fists/Hands	38	22	-42.1%	-16
Total	394	374	-5.1%	-20

Aggravated assaults decreased by 5.1% with 20 fewer aggravated assaults in 2019 as compared to 2018. The aggravated assaults category is broad. The Oxnard Police Department tracks the relationships between the victim and suspect(s) and found them to break down as follows:

Aggravated Assault Relationship Types	Count
Total Aggravated Assaults	374
Random	150
Domestic / Family	64
Acquaintance	53
Gang / Tagger	17
Officer Involved	12
Road Rage	10
Bar / Party	10
Unknown / Gunshots	8
Roommates	7
Neighbors	3
Coworkers	2
Grand Total	374

Robberies

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define robbery as *“the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.”*

Robbery	2018	2019	Percent Change	Num. Diff.
Type				
Business	74	77	4.1%	3
Person	232	174	-25.0%	-58
Carjacking	21	24	14.3%	3
Total	327	275	-15.9%	-52

The number of robberies decreased from 327 in 2018, to 275 in 2019. This category exhibited significant decreases in robberies to a person due to policing efforts driven by actionable intelligence.

Burglary

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define burglary as “*the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.*” Burglaries decreased by 4.8%, 34 fewer crimes. The reduction largely involved residential burglaries.

Burglary	2018	2019	Percent Change	Num. Diff.
Residential	446	373	-16.4%	-73
Commercial	258	298	15.5%	40
Grand Total	704	670	-4.8%	-34

During 2019, there were 373 residential burglaries reported compared to 446 in 2018, a decrease of 16.4%, or 73 fewer crimes.

Arson

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define arson as “*any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.*”

During 2019, there were 48 reported arson incidents compared to 41 in 2018, an increase of 17.1%, 7 more crimes.

Arson	2018	2019	Percent Change	Num. Diff.
Residential	1	2	100%	1
Other Residential	4	4	0.0%	0
Storage	2	0	-100%	-2
Industrial	1	0	-100%	-1
Other Commercial	4	3	-25.0%	-1
Community / Public	2	3	100.0%	1
All Other Structure	9	3	-66.7%	-6
Motor Vehicle	13	18	38.5%	5
Other Mobile	0	1	100.0%	1
Other	5	14	-180.0%	9
Grand Total	41	48	17.1%	7

Larcenies (Thefts)

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define larceny as “*an unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.*”

	2018	2019	Percent Change	Num. Diff.
All Other	511	456	-10.8%	-55
Bicycles	149	151	1.3%	2
Coin op machines	21	7	-66.7%	-14
From buildings	349	241	-30.9%	-108
From motor vehicle	1,363	1,096	-19.6%	-267
Motor vehicle parts, or accessories	456	316	-30.7%	-140
Pocket picking	5	4	-20.0%	-1
Purse snatch	5	2	-60.0%	-3
Shoplift	709	714	0.7%	5
Total	3,568	2,987	-16.3%	-581

Larceny is responsible for 60% of the total crime picture and is the most preventable. This crime category of decreased by -16.3% overall in 2019. There were 3,568 larcenies reported during calendar year 2018 and 2,987 during 2019, a decrease of 581 incidents. This year, detectives, beat coordinators and patrol officers placed more emphasis on working with residents to curb thefts from vehicles. There were 267 fewer thefts from motor vehicles in 2019.

Motor Vehicle Theft

For purposes of crime classification and reporting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice define motor vehicle theft as “*the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.*” A motor vehicle is defined as “*a self-propelled vehicle that runs on land surface.*”

Sub-Code	2018	2019	% CHG	NUM DIFF
Auto / SUV	605	428	-29.3%	-177
Truck / Buses	159	146	-8.2%	-13
Other Vehicle (Motorcycle)	19	11	-42.1%	-8
Total	783	585	-25.3%	198

Motor vehicle theft decreased by 25.3%, with 783 motor vehicle thefts reported during 2018, and 585 during 2019. Statewide, the most popular cars stolen are older model Honda Accords and Civics. Unfortunately, many of these vehicle thefts continue to be preventable. Approximately 35%, or 203 car thefts, were considered preventable in 2019.

Overall, Oxnard saw its fourth consecutive year of declining crime rates.

Although 2019 data is not yet available, the FBI reported that in 2018, for cities nationwide with a population between 100,000 and 249,999, the violent crime rate averaged 4.53 incidents per 1,000 residents in 2018. Oxnard experienced 3.46 violent crimes per 1,000 residents in 2019.

In regards to property crimes, comparable cities nationwide averaged 28.49 incidents per 1,000. Oxnard experienced 20.44 property crime incidents per 1,000 residents in 2019.