

Murder in Midsize Cities

Community Research Council
Chattanooga, Tennessee
August 2006

About the Community Research Council

The Community Research Council (CRC) is a 40 year old non-profit organization based in Chattanooga, Tennessee. CRC is the leading source of independent policy research and data analysis for foundations, non-profit and government agencies in the Chattanooga region. Its work focuses on five broad areas of urban policy:

- Crime and Public Safety
- Health
- Economic and Community Development
- Urban Governance
- Youth and Education

CRC's work is funded by grants from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, AcademyHealth, the Benwood Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga, the Lyndhurst Foundation, the Public Education Foundation and the United Way of Greater Chattanooga.

About the Author

David Eichenthal is the President and CEO of the Community Research Council. Prior to joining CRC, Mr. Eichenthal served as Director of the Office of Performance Review and City Finance Officer for the City of Chattanooga. Mr. Eichenthal continues to serve as the Chair of the City's \$200 million General Pension Plan.

Before coming to Chattanooga in 2002, Mr. Eichenthal spent a dozen years in New York City and State government. He was the Chief of Staff to the New York City Public Advocate, the City's second highest elected official.

Mr. Eichenthal holds a degree in Public Policy Studies from the University of Chicago and a law degree from New York University School of Law. His articles have been published in the New York Daily News, New York Newsday, the Chattanooga Times Free Press, Justice Quarterly and the Prison Journal. He has taught public policy, public administration and criminal justice courses as an adjunct faculty member at New York University, Georgia State University, Baruch College and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Mr. Eichenthal also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Employment Opportunities, a national leader in the effort to provide immediate, comprehensive, and effective employment services for men and women returning from prison.

Executive Summary

Between 2000 and 2005, murder and non-negligent homicide in midsize cities (cities with a 2000 population between 100,000 and 300,000) has increased by 22.2%. The rate of increase was two and a half times the rate of increase for the nation as a whole (8.5%) and more than fifty percent higher than that of large cities (cities with a population between 300,000 and one million): in U.S. cities with a population of more than one million, the number of murders actually declined between 2000 and 2005 by 6.1%.

The increase in murder in midsize cities is not the result of a one year spike. By 2005 -- when murder nationally increased by 4.8%, the largest one year increase in murder since 1991 -- 36% of the net increase in homicides since 2000 had already taken place. By comparison, more than 77% of the increase in homicides in large cities was the result of a one year increase between 2004 and 2005.

Not all midsize cities have experienced an increase in murders. In fact, in one-third of midsize U.S. cities, there was no change or a decline in murders between 2000 and 2005. Twenty one midsize cities with the highest net increase in murders between 2000 and 2005 accounted for almost 80% of both the five year increase and one year increase in midsize murders.

Seven midsize cities that have experienced the highest net increase in murder since 2000 accounted for 38.7% of the net five year increase and just over half of the one year increase.

Nationally, in 2005, the average murder rate in midsize cities was 8.5 per 100,000 residents, less than the rate for large cities (13.7) and cities of more than one million (13.6). The seven midsize cities with the highest net increases in murder each had 2005 murder rates that significantly exceeded that national midsize city rate:

Table 1
Highest Net Increase in Murders – Midsize Cities

City	2005 Murder Rate	Net Increase in Murders, 2000 - 2005
Newark	35.5	39
San Bernardino	31.3	26
Birmingham	42.8	25
Jersey City	15.8	21
Buffalo	19.1	17
Portsmouth, Va.	21.9	16
St. Petersburg, Fl.	12.1	16

The geographic diversity of these seven cities is reflected in the larger

group of 21 midsize cities with the greatest net increase in murder: six

are in California, three are in Virginia, two are in Alabama, New Jersey and New York and there is one city each in Arkansas, Florida, Massachusetts, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

Several factors may explain the increase in murder in these 21 cities. Six of the cities grew in population by more than 10% between 1990 and 2000 and Census estimates suggest that they have continued to grow over the last five years. On the other hand, eight of the twenty one cities have experienced sustained population loss since 1990.

On average, 20.3% of individuals in these 21 cities were living in poverty in 2000: by comparison, the poverty rate average for the nine largest cities was 18.9% and 12.4% for the nation as a whole. Among the seven cities with the highest increase in murder, four – Newark (28.4%), San Bernardino (27.6%), Birmingham (24.7%) and Buffalo (26.6%) – had poverty rates more than double the national rate.

Based on 2000 Census data, the 21 cities had a youth cohort (age 10 to 19 in 2000 and 15 to 24 in 2005) average of 15.2% of their total population. By comparison, this youth cohort accounted for 14.1% of the population of the nine largest cities and 14.5% for the nation as a whole. Of the seven cities with the highest increase in murder, two had youth cohorts higher than the national average – Newark (15.3%) and San Bernardino (18.2%).

Finally, the non-white population of the 21 cities was an average of 58.5%. By comparison, the average non-white population for the nine largest cities was 62.1% and 30.9% nationally. Of the seven cities with the highest increase in murder, four had non-white majorities and three had white majorities.

Why Focus on Murder?

Murder and non-negligent homicide is one of the least common criminal offenses. In fact, fourteen U.S. cities with population greater than 100,000 had one or no murders during 2005.¹ But for a variety of reasons, murder is perhaps the best means of looking at crime – particularly violent crime – across different jurisdictions.

Criminologist James Fox has noted that “[N]ot only is homicide, because of its severity, of greatest concern to lay persons and experts alike, but available data on this offense are unmatched in terms of quality, consistency and coverage. At a national level, no other crime is measured as accurately and precisely...it is a fairly reliable barometer, relatively unaffected by non uniformity in law enforcement definition and processing.”²

¹ All data on murder is from the recently released preliminary Uniform Crime Report for 2005 and the Uniform Crime Reports for preceding years, all of which are available at www.fbi.gov.

Detailed tables are found in Appendices A (Midsize Cities), B (Large Cities) and C (Cities with Population of One Million or More).

² James Alan Fox, “Demographics and U.S. Homicide,” in *The Crime Drop in America*, ed. Alfred Blumstein and Joel Wallman, 2000.

Why Focus on Midsize Cities?

The experience of the 1990s made clear that crime patterns and trends are not uniform across place. Significant growth and decline in discrete geographic areas can drive national crime data. This is particularly true in the area of murder.

For example, both the record levels of violent crime nationally and the historic decline during the 1990s were driven by cities, particularly the nation's largest cities. Professor Alfred Blumstein has noted that "examination of the trends over time offers a compelling picture of the saliency or large cities, both in the rise of homicide in the 1980s and the decline during the 1990s." Blumstein noted that in 1991, New York City's homicides accounted for nine percent of the national total.³

Midsize cities deserve special focus because there are both more midsize cities and more Americans living in midsize cities than in the larger cities that typically drive thinking about urban America and urban policy.

Focusing on the fifty states and the District of Columbia, there were 9 cities with a population of more than one million (super-sized cities), 48 cities with a population of 300,000 to 1 million (large cities) and 182 cities with a population of 100,000 to

300,000 (midsize cities).⁴ Residents of midsize cities also outnumber the residents of large and super sized cities (cities with population exceeding one million) – there are 28.3 million residents of mid size cities, compared to 23.9 million residents of large cities and 22.9 million residents in super-sized cities.

Table 2
U.S. Cities by Population

	Number of Cities	Total Population
Mid Size Cities	182	28,257,477
Large Cities	48	23,927,469
Super-Sized Cities	9	22,947,966

The Rise of Murder in Midsize Cities

After the murder rate in the United States reached a record high in 1991, the nation enjoyed an eight year period of significant and dramatic decline in both the number of murders and the murder rate. The number of murders increased for the first time since 1991 in 2000, with the number of murders and non-negligent homicides rising from 15,522 to 15,586 – an increase of less than one percent. Throughout this decade, the number of murders had generally reached a new plateau. The number of murders increased in 2000 (.4%), 2001 (2.8%), 2002 (1.0%) and 2003 (1.7%) and declined in 2004 (-2.4%).

³ Alfred Blumstein, "Disaggregating the Violence Trends," in *The Crime Drop in America*.

⁴ Population data is from the 2000 Census. An additional 4 cities of more than 100,000 residents are located in Puerto Rico – San Juan, Bayamon, Carolina and Ponce.

In July, preliminary data released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicated a 4.8% one year increase in murder and non-negligent homicide in 2005 – the largest one year increase since 1991.

The preliminary data on murder for 2005 noted significant variation in the rate of increase based on categories of city size, with double digit increases in the number of murders in cities in the 50,000 to 99,999 population range (12.4%) and the 100,000 to 249,999 range (12.5%), and a 9.4% increase for

cities between population between 250,000 and 499,999.

For midsize cities, the apparent spike in murder in 2005 was actually the continuation of a five year increase that has produced a 22.2% increase in murder. The rate of increase was two and a half times the rate of increase for the nation as a whole (8.5%) and more than fifty percent higher than for large cities (cities with a population between 300,000 and one million): in U.S. cities with a population of more than one million, the number of murders actually declined between 2000 and 2005 by 6.1%.

Table 3
Increase in Murder by City Size⁵

	Total 2005 Murders	2004 – 2005 Change	2000 – 2005 Change	2000 – 2005 Change (%)
Population > 1 million ⁶	2745	+1	-177	-6.1%
Large Cities ⁷	2402	+222	+286	+13.5%
Midsize Cities	2282	+265	+414	+22.2%

⁵ City population is based on data from the 2000 Census. While the Census Bureau generates annual estimates of population for U.S. cities, they frequently result in population undercounts – especially in urban areas. See, e.g. Bruce Katz and Alan Berube, “Don’t Read Too Much into Census Numbers,” *Journal Sentinel*, July 19, 2005. See, also, Greg Harper, Chuck Coleman and Jason Devine, “Evaluation of 2000 Subcounty Population Estimates,” Population Division – U.S. Census Bureau, Working Paper 70, May 2003 (comparative analysis of population estimate and 2000 Census finds that a mean absolute percent error rate of 4.3 for subpopulations of 100,000 or more: in more than 70% of the cases, the error reflected a lower than actual population).

⁶ The appendices contain city by city charts for all categories of cities.

⁷ Comparative data was available for thirty six out of forty eight large cities and 161 out of 182 midsize cities. Aggregate data reflects only those cities where comparable data was available.

The increase in murders in midsize cities is part of a trend that was in place before the one year national spike in 2005. For example, between 2000 and 2004, murder had increased in large cities by just 3.0%. By 2004, midsize cities had already experienced a 8% in murders since 2000.

Not all midsize cities are alike, however. Fifty nine midsize cities either experienced no increase in murder since 2000 or had a reduction in murder. Twenty one midsize cities, with the highest net increase in murder over five years, accounted for approximately 80% of the increase in midsize city murders since 2000 and close to 70% of the increase over the last year.

**Table 4
Murder in 21 Midsize Cities**

		2004	2005	One Year Change	Five Year	% of Five Year Change
Newark	NJ	84	97	13	39	9.4
San Bernardino	CA	50	58	8	26	6.3
Birmingham	AL	59	104	45	25	6.0
Jersey City	NJ	23	38	15	21	5.1
Buffalo	NY	51	56	5	17	4.1
Portsmouth	VA	8	22	14	16	3.9
St. Petersburg	FL	19	30	11	16	3.9
Mobile	AL	27	35	8	15	3.6
Norfolk	VA	35	58	23	14	3.4
Rochester	NY	36	53	17	14	3.4
Glendale	CA	18	19	1	13	3.1
Allentown	PA	11	21	10	12	2.9
Flint	MI	39	48	9	12	2.9
Richmond	VA	93	84	-9	12	2.9
Lancaster	CA	15	16	1	11	2.7
Stockton	CA	40	41	1	11	2.7
Little Rock	AR	40	41	1	10	2.4
Moreno Valley	CA	9	11	2	10	2.4
North Las Vegas	NV	14	20	6	10	2.4
Oxnard	CA	18	19	1	10	2.4
Springfield	MA	17	18	1	10	2.4

Midsized City Murder Rates

While murder in midsize cities appears to be driving the increase in murder nationally, on average, midsize cities still have murder rates below those of both large cities and cities of one million or more.

Among 161 midsize cities, murder rate per 100,000 in 2005 averaged 8.5 – with a range from 0 to 56.4. Among large cities, the average was 13.7 per 100,000 – with a range from 2.9 to 37.6 per 100,000. Among those cities with a population of more than one million, the murder rate was

13.6 – with a range of 4.2 to 24.8 per 100,000.

While midsize cities as a category have a lower average rate than other categories of cities, the 21 midsize cities that account for the bulk of the

increase in murder in midsize cities generally had a significantly higher murder rate, in all but one case exceeding the average rate for all midsize cities and in thirteen out of twenty one cities at a level double the midsize city average.

**Table 5
Murder Rates in 21 Midsize Cities**

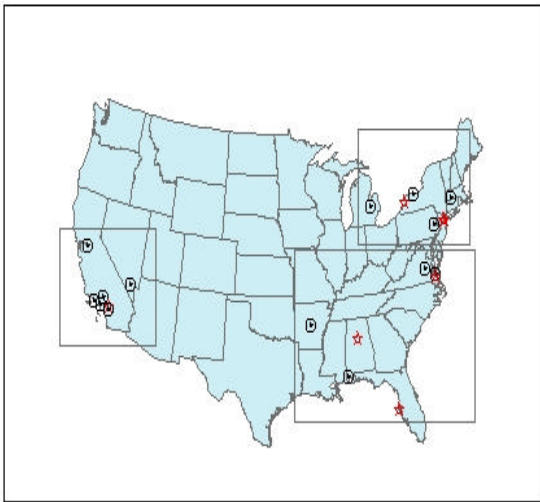
		Murder Rate per 100,000
Birmingham	AL	42.8
Richmond	VA	42.5
Flint	MI	38.4
Newark	NJ	35.5
San Bernardino	CA	31.3
Norfolk	VA	24.7
Rochester	NY	24.1
Little Rock	AR	22.4
Portsmouth	VA	21.9
Allentown	PA	19.7
Buffalo	NY	19.1
Mobile	AL	17.6
North Las Vegas	NV	17.3
Stockton	CA	16.8
Jersey City	NJ	15.8
Lancaster	CA	13.5
St. Petersburg	FL	12.1
Springfield	MA	11.8
Oxnard	CA	11.2
Glendale	CA	9.7
Moreno Valley	CA	7.7

What Do the 21 Midsize Cities with High Net Increases in Murder Have in Common?

The 21 cities are not geographically concentrated: six are in California, three are in Virginia, two are in Alabama, New Jersey and New York and there is one city each in Arkansas, Florida, Massachusetts, Michigan and Pennsylvania. Nine, however, are clustered in or near three metropolitan areas New York

(Jersey City and Newark), Los Angeles (Glendale, Lancaster, Moreno Valley, Oxnard and San Bernardino) and Norfolk (Norfolk and Portsmouth). These metropolitan areas, however, also have cities that sustained reductions: for example, both New York and Los Angeles experienced continued reduction in murder and Newport News (also in the Norfolk MSA) had the largest net five year reduction in murders of any midsize city.

Murder in 21 Midsize Cities



Population change could have an effect on murder. A city's murder rate could remain the same, but could experience more murders with an increase in population. On the other hand, cities with a declining population may have a declining employment base as well. Given the relationship between crime and employment opportunity, this might also explain part of the increase in murder.⁸

Six of the twenty one cities have experienced population growth of more than ten percent between 1990 and 2000 and have reportedly continued population growth between 2000 and 2005: North Las Vegas (142.1%/53.0%), Lancaster (22%/12.9%), Moreno Valley (19.9%/25.3%), Oxnard (19.8%/7.8%), Stockton (15.6%/17.7%) and San Bernardino (12.9%/7.1%).⁹

Eight of the twenty one cities lost population during the 1990s and have reportedly continued to lose population since 2000: Flint (-11.2%/-5.1%), Buffalo (-10.8%/-4.4%), Norfolk (-10.3%/-1.04%),

Birmingham (-8.7%/-4.7%), Rochester (-5.1%/-4%), Portsmouth (-3.2%/-0.4%), Springfield (-3.1%/-0.2%) and Richmond (-2.6%/-2.0%).

High poverty rates may also explain some of the increasing murder rates in these cities.¹⁰ On average, 20.3% of individuals in these 21 cities were living in poverty in 2000: by comparison, the poverty rate average for the nine largest cities was 18.9% and 12.4% for the nation as a whole. Among the seven cities with the highest increase in murder, three – Newark (28.4%), San Bernardino (27.6) and Buffalo (26.6%) – had poverty rates more than double the national rate. Nevertheless, cities like New York and Los Angeles had poverty rates of 22.1% and 22.9% respectively and still sustained declines in murder during the last five years.

There may also be a relationship between violent crime and both age and race. As Fox notes, “[A]ll else equal, violent crime rates rise as the percentage of the population in the more violence prone age-race-sex groups (that is, young adult males, especially minorities) expands.”¹¹

Based on 2000 Census data, the 21 cities with the highest net increases in murder had a youth cohort (age 10 to 19 in 2000 and 15 to 24 in 2005) average of 15.2% of their total population. By comparison, this

⁸ See, Ted Chiricos, “Rates of crime and unemployment: An analysis of aggregate research evidence,” *Social Problems*, 1986, cited in Bushway and Reuter, “Labor Markets and Crime Risk Factors” in *Preventing Crime* (2002): “Chiricos does find...that at lower levels of aggregation (states, counties and cities), roughly half of all reported studies show a positive and statistically significant relationship between employment and crime...”

⁹ Data on population are from both the 2000 Census and the most recent subcounty population estimates released by the Bureau of the Census. See, footnote 5 for a discussion of the significance of population estimates.

¹⁰ See, e.g. Robert Sampson and Janet Lauritsen, “Violent Victimization and Offending” in Reiss and Roth, eds., *Understanding and Preventing Violence, Volume 3* (1994).

¹¹ See, Fox, *ibid.*

youth cohort accounted for 14.1% of the population of the nine largest cities and 14.5% for the nation as a whole. Of the seven cities with the highest increase in murder, two had youth cohorts higher than the national average – Newark (15.3%) and San Bernardino (18.2%).

Finally, the non-white population of the 21 cities was an average of 58.5%. By comparison, the average non-white population for the nine largest cities was 62.1% and 30.9% nationally. Of the seven cities with the highest increase in murder, four had non-white majorities and three had white majorities.

The Need for Further Study

Just as the dramatic national reduction in murder in the 1990s was led by declines in the nation's largest cities, a reversal of the increase in murder during this decade will only occur with declines in those midsize cities where murder has been on the rise.

Many demographic factors that could explain an increase in murder exist in some of the twenty one midsize cities that account for 80% of the overall increase in murder in midsize cities. But they also appear to exist in many of the super size cities where murder had continued to decline. In fact, in places like the New York and Los Angeles metropolitan areas, murder *does* appear to know boundaries – with declines in the largest cities and increases in surrounding midsize cities.

This report is not exhaustive. Many other factors may be contributing to the rise of murder in midsize cities. In particular, it may be worth exploring localized strategies at crime prevention – both through more effective policing and other means. Different approaches on the local level, as opposed to factors such as state correctional policies, may help to explain the anomalous situation of neighboring cities experiencing different trends.

Appendix A – Murder in 21 Midsize Cities and Murder in Midsize Cities

Murder in 21 Cities

		Murders					Murders/100,000, 2005	One Year Change	Five Year Change
		2000 Population	2000	2004	2005				
Newark	NJ	273,546	58	84	97	35.46	13	39	
San Bernardino	CA	185,401	32	50	58	31.28	8	26	
Birmingham	AL	242,820	79	59	104	42.83	45	25	
Jersey City	NJ	240,055	17	23	38	15.83	15	21	
Buffalo	NY	292,648	39	51	56	19.14	5	17	
Portsmouth	VA	100,565	6	8	22	21.88	14	16	
St. Petersburg	FL	248,232	14	19	30	12.09	11	16	
Mobile	AL	198,915	20	27	35	17.60	8	15	
Norfolk	VA	234,403	44	35	58	24.74	23	14	
Rochester	NY	219,773	39	36	53	24.12	17	14	
Glendale	CA	194,973	6	18	19	9.74	1	13	
Allentown	PA	106,632	9	11	21	19.69	10	12	
Flint	MI	124,943	36	39	48	38.42	9	12	
Richmond	VA	197,790	72	93	84	42.47	-9	12	
Lancaster	CA	118,718	5	15	16	13.48	1	11	
Stockton city	CA	243,771	30	40	41	16.82	1	11	
Little Rock	AR	183,133	31	40	41	22.39	1	10	
Moreno Valley	CA	142,381	1	9	11	7.73	2	10	
North Las Vegas	NV	115,488	10	14	20	17.32	6	10	
Oxnard	CA	170,358	9	18	19	11.15	1	10	
Springfield	MA	152,082	8	17	18	11.84	1	10	
AVERAGE						21.71			

Murder in 21 Cities

		Population Change Since 1990	MSA	2005 Murders	Murders Per 100,000	One Year Change	Five Year Change	2005 Pop	Population Change Since 2000	White	Poverty	10 to 19 Year Olds
Newark	NJ	-0.6	New York	97	35.46	13	39	280,666	2.6	14.2	28.4	15.3
San Bernardino	CA	12.9	Los Angeles	58	31.28	8	26	198,550	7.1	28.9	27.6	18.2
Birmingham	AL	-8.7		104	42.83	45	25	231,483	-4.7	23.5	24.7	14.1
Jersey City	NJ	5	New York	38	15.83	15	21	239,614	-0.2	23.6	18.6	13.3
Buffalo	NY	-10.8		56	19.14	5	17	279,745	-4.4	51.8	26.6	14.5
Portsmouth	VA	-3.2	Norfolk	22	21.88	14	16	100,169	-0.4	45.1	16.2	14.4
St. Petersburg	FL	4	Tampa	30	12.09	11	16	249,079	0.3	68.6	13.3	11.9
Mobile	AL	1.3		35	17.60	8	15	191,544	-3.7	49.8	21.2	14.7
Norfolk	VA	-10.3		58	24.74	23	14	231,954	-1.0	47.0	19.4	14.5
Rochester	NY	-5.1		53	24.12	17	14	211,091	-4.0	44.3	25.9	14.9
Glendale	CA	8.3	Los Angeles	19	9.74	1	13	200,065	2.6	54.2	15.5	12.8
Allentown	PA	1.5		21	19.69	10	12	106,992	0.3	64.4	18.5	13.6
Flint	MI	-11.2	Detroit	48	38.42	9	12	118,551	-5.1	40.0	26.4	15.2
Richmond	VA	-2.6		84	42.47	-9	12	193,777	-2.0	37.7	21.4	12.9
Lancaster	CA	22	Los Angeles	16	13.48	1	11	134,032	12.9	52.4	16.4	17.8
Stockton city	CA	15.6		41	16.82	1	11	286,926	17.7	32.2	23.9	18.0
Little Rock	AR	4.2		41	22.39	1	10	184,564	0.8	54.0	14.3	13.3
Moreno Valley	CA	19.9	Los Angeles	11	7.73	2	10	178,367	25.3	32.2	14.2	21.0
North Las												
Vegas	NV	142.1	Las Vegas	20	17.32	6	10	176,635	52.9	37.1	14.8	15.5
Oxnard	CA	19.8	Los Angeles	19	11.15	1	10	183,628	7.8	20.6	15.1	16.7
Springfield	MA	-3.1		18	11.84	1	10	151,732	-0.2	48.8	23.1	16.3
AVERAGE					21.71					41.4	20.3	15.2

Notes:

10 to 19 is based on 2000 Census and is a proxy for 2005 population of 15 to 24 year olds

White is "white alone" excluding Latinos

Poverty is individuals below poverty: national rate is 12.4%

Murder in Midsize Cities

		Population Change		MSA	Murders by Year			Homicides per 100,000, 2005	One Year	Five Year
		2000 Population	% Since 1990		2000	2004	2005			
Newark city	NJ	273,546	-0.6	New York	58	84	97	35.5	13	39
San Bernardino city	CA	185,401	12.9	Los Angeles	32	50	58	31.3	8	26
Birmingham city	AL	242,820	-8.7		79	59	104	42.8	45	25
Jersey City city	NJ	240,055	5	New York	17	23	38	15.8	15	21
Buffalo city	NY	292,648	-10.8		39	51	56	19.1	5	17
Portsmouth city	VA	100,565	-3.2	Norfolk	6	8	22	21.9	14	16
St. Petersburg city	FL	248,232	4	Tampa	14	19	30	12.1	11	16
Mobile city	AL	198,915	1.3		20	27	35	17.6	8	15
Norfolk city	VA	234,403	-10.3		44	35	58	24.7	23	14
Rochester city	NY	219,773	-5.1		39	36	53	24.1	17	14
Glendale city	CA	194,973	8.3	Los Angeles	6	18	19	9.7	1	13
Allentown city	PA	106,632	1.5		9	11	21	19.7	10	12
Flint city	MI	124,943	-11.2	Detroit	36	39	48	38.4	9	12
Richmond city	VA	197,790	-2.6		72	93	84	42.5	-9	12
Lancaster city	CA	118,718	22	Los Angeles	5	15	16	13.5	1	11
Stockton city	CA	243,771	15.6		30	40	41	16.8	1	11
Little Rock city	AR	183,133	4.2		31	40	41	22.4	1	10
Moreno Valley city	CA	142,381	19.9	Los Angeles	1	9	11	7.7	2	10
North Las Vegas city	NV	115,488	142.1	Las Vegas	10	14	20	17.3	6	10
Oxnard city	CA	170,358	19.8	Los Angeles	9	18	19	11.2	1	10
Springfield city	MA	152,082	-3.1		8	17	18	11.8	1	10
Bakersfield city	CA	247,057	41.3		23	23	32	13.0	9	9
Greensboro city	NC	223,891	22		21	14	30	13.4	16	9
Palmdale city	CA	116,670	69.5	Los Angeles	6	10	15	12.9	5	9
Hartford city	CT	121,578	-13		17	16	25	20.6	9	8
Laredo city	TX	176,576	43.7		10	15	18	10.2	3	8
Norwalk city	CA	103,298	9.6	Los Angeles	3	2	11	10.6	9	8
Rockford city	IL	150,115	7.7		11	8	19	12.7	11	8
Columbus city	GA	186,291	3.9		19	25	26	14.0	1	7
Durham city	NC	187,035	36.9	Raleigh	28	30	35	18.7	5	7
Glendale city	AZ	218,812	47.7	Phoenix	12	5	19	8.7	14	7
Pueblo city	CO	102,121	3.5		6	7	13	12.7	6	7
Anchorage	AK	260,283	15		10	15	16	6.1	1	6
Chattanooga city	TN	155,554	2		17	12	23	14.8	11	6
Chesapeake city	VA	199,184	31.1	Norfolk	8	12	14	7.0	2	6
Elizabeth city	NJ	120,568	9.6	New York	11	10	17	14.1	7	6

McAllen city	TX	106,414	26.7		2	4	8	7.5	4	6
West Valley City city	UT	108,896	25.2	Salt Lake City	4	3	10	9.2	7	6
Aurora city	CO	276,393	24.4	Denver	23	13	28	10.1	15	5
Cape Coral city	FL	102,286	36.4		0	4	5	4.9	1	5
Carrollton city	TX	109,576	33.4	Dallas	0	2	5	4.6	3	5
Fort Wayne city	IN	205,727	18.9		20	22	25	12.2	3	5
Hampton city	VA	146,437	9.5	Norfolk	6	14	11	7.5	-3	5
Lafayette city	LA	110,257	16.7		3	6	8	7.3	2	5
Mesquite city	TX	124,523	22.7	Dallas	2	5	7	5.6	2	5
Modesto city	CA	188,856	14.6		3	19	8	4.2	-11	5
Peoria city	IL	112,936	-0.5		9	14	14	12.4	0	5
Santa Clara city	CA	102,361	9.3	San Jose	0	2	5	4.9	3	5
Spokane city	WA	195,629	10.4		8	8	13	6.6	5	5
Abilene city	TX	115,930	8.7		1	6	5	4.3	-1	4
Boise City city	ID	185,787	47.8		1	0	5	2.7	5	4
Chandler city	AZ	176,581	95	Phoenix	4	3	8	4.5	5	4
Independence city	MO	113,288	0.9	Kansas City	2	1	6	5.3	5	4
Lexington-Fayette	KY	260,512	15.6		11	24	15	5.8	-9	4
Oceanside city	CA	161,029	25.4	San Diego	3	8	7	4.3	-1	4
Pasadena city	TX	141,674	18.7	Houston	1	8	5	3.5	-3	4
Pembroke Pines city	FL	137,427	110	Miami	2	1	6	4.4	5	4
St. Paul city	MN	287,151	5.5	Minneapolis	20	20	24	8.4	4	4
Vancouver city	WA	143,560	209.5	Seattle	4	9	8	5.6	-1	4
West Covina city	CA	105,080	9.4	Los Angeles	2	5	6	5.7	1	4
Clearwater city	FL	108,787	10.1	Tampa	6	7	9	8.3	2	3
Columbia city	SC	116,278	18.6		12	18	15	12.9	-3	3
Dayton city	OH	166,179	-8.7		29	32	32	19.3	0	3
Downey city	CA	107,323	17.4	Los Angeles	4	0	7	6.5	7	3
Eugene city	OR	137,893	22.4		2	1	5	3.6	4	3
Garland city	TX	215,768	19.4	Dallas	4	6	7	3.2	1	3
Hollywood city	FL	139,357	14.5	Miami	3	8	6	4.3	-2	3
Inglewood city	CA	112,580	2.7	Los Angeles	23	26	26	23.1	0	3
Livonia city	MI	100,545	-0.3	Detroit	0	1	3	3.0	2	3
Paterson city	NJ	149,222	5.9	New York	17	10	20	13.4	10	3
Provo city	UT	105,166	21.1		0	0	3	2.9	3	3
Santa Clarita city	CA	151,088	36.6	Los Angeles	0	2	3	2.0	1	3
Arvada city	CO	102,153	14.5	Denver	0	0	2	2.0	2	2
Bellevue city	WA	109,569	26.1	Seattle	0	0	2	1.8	2	2
Burbank city	CA	100,316	7.1	Los Angeles	1	4	3	3.0	-1	2
Cambridge city	MA	101,355	5.8	Boston	1	0	3	3.0	3	2
Chula Vista city	CA	173,556	28.4	San Diego	3	15	5	2.9	-10	2

Fort Collins city	CO	118,652	35.2		0	0	2	1.7	2	2
Fort Lauderdale city	FL	152,397	2	Miami	13	15	15	9.8	0	2
Garden Grove city	CA	165,196	15.5	Los Angeles	4	10	6	3.6	-4	2
Knoxville city	TN	173,890	5.3		23	22	25	14.4	3	2
Lakewood city	CO	144,126	14	Denver	3	5	5	3.5	0	2
Manchester city	NH	107,006	7.5	Boston	2	5	4	3.7	-1	2
Pasadena city	CA	133,936	1.8	Los Angeles	4	9	6	4.5	-3	2
Sunnyvale city	CA	131,760	12.4	San Jose	1	2	3	2.3	1	2
Athens-Clarke County ¹¹	GA	101,489	121.9		5	5	6	5.9	1	1
Clarksville city	TN	103,455	37		3	5	4	3.9	-1	1
Costa Mesa city	CA	108,724	12.8	Los Angeles	2	3	3	2.8	0	1
Daly City city	CA	103,621	12.3	San Francisco	1	3	2	1.9	-1	1
Erie city	PA	103,717	-4.6		5	1	6	5.8	5	1
Grand Prairie city	TX	127,427	27.9	Dallas	8	9	9	7.1	0	1
Henderson city	NV	175,381	170.1	Las Vegas	8	7	9	5.1	2	1
Huntington Beach city	CA	189,594	4.4	Los Angeles	0	6	1	0.5	-5	1
Irvine city	CA	143,072	29.7	Los Angeles	1	2	2	1.4	0	1
Lincoln city	NE	225,581	17.5		3	6	4	1.8	-2	1
Orlando city	FL	185,951	12.9		21	17	22	11.8	5	1
Springfield city	MO	151,580	7.9		4	8	5	3.3	-3	1
Syracuse city	NY	147,306	-10.1		18	16	19	12.9	3	1
Tallahassee city	FL	150,624	20.7		8	12	9	6.0	-3	1
Wichita Falls city	TX	104,197	8.2		5	9	6	5.8	-3	1
Worcester city	MA	172,648	1.7	Boston	5	11	6	3.5	-5	1
Ann Arbor city	MI	114,024	4	Detroit	0	2	0	0.0	-2	0
Bridgeport city	CT	139,529	-1.5	New York	19	14	19	13.6	5	0
Cedar Rapids city	IA	120,758	11		1	0	1	0.8	1	0
Gilbert town	AZ	109,697	275.8	Phoenix	0	1	0	0.0	-1	0
Hayward city	CA	140,030	25.6	San Francisco	9	9	9	6.4	0	0
Hialeah city	FL	226,419	20.4	Miami	8	12	8	3.5	-4	0
Naperville city	IL	128,358	50.4	Chicago	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Orange city	CA	128,821	16.4	Los Angeles	2	1	2	1.6	1	0
Salt Lake City city	UT	181,743	13.6		10	15	10	5.5	-5	0
Santa Rosa city	CA	147,595	30.3	San Francisco	2	5	2	1.4	-3	0
South Bend city	IN	107,789	2.2		12	10	12	11.1	2	0
Sterling Heights city	MI	124,471	5.7	Detroit	0	5	0	0.0	-5	0
Amarillo city	TX	173,627	10.2		11	11	10	5.8	-1	-1
Aurora city	IL	142,990	43.6	Chicago	15	17	14	9.8	-3	-1
Beaumont city	TX	113,866	-0.4		12	8	11	9.7	3	-1
Berkeley city	CA	102,743	0	San Francisco	4	4	3	2.9	-1	-1
Evansville city	IN	121,582	-3.7		9	0	8	6.6	8	-1

Lubbock city	TX	199,564	7.2		12	16	11	5.5	-5	-1
Madison city	WI	208,054	8.8		3	2	2	1.0	0	-1
Reno city	NV	180,480	34.8		9	9	8	4.4	-1	-1
Simi Valley city	CA	111,351	11.1	Los Angeles	1	3	0	0.0	-3	-1
Springfield city	IL	111,454	5.9		6	10	5	4.5	-5	-1
Thousand Oaks city	CA	117,005	12.1	Los Angeles	3	0	2	1.7	2	-1
Torrance city	CA	137,946	3.6	Los Angeles	2	0	1	0.7	1	-1
Waco city	TX	113,726	9.8		13	17	12	10.6	-5	-1
Brownsville city	TX	139,722	41.2		6	1	4	2.9	3	-2
Corona city	CA	124,966	64.2	Los Angeles	6	5	4	3.2	-1	-2
El Monte city	CA	115,965	9.2	Los Angeles	6	7	4	3.4	-3	-2
Fremont city	CA	203,413	17.3	San Jose	3	5	1	0.5	-4	-2
Montgomery city	AL	201,568	7.7		31	25	29	14.4	4	-2
Pomona city	CA	149,473	13.5	Los Angeles	23	21	21	14.0	0	-2
Salem city	OR	136,924	27	Portland	5	3	3	2.2	0	-2
San Buenaventura (Ventura) city	CA	100,916	9	Los Angeles	3	3	1	1.0	-2	-2
Tacoma city	WA	193,556	9.6	Seattle	15	13	13	6.7	0	-2
Concord city	CA	121,780	9.4	San Francisco	4	5	1	0.8	-4	-3
Coral Springs city	FL	117,549	48	Miami	3	0	0	0.0	0	-3
Escondido city	CA	133,559	22.9	San Diego	5	3	2	1.5	-1	-3
Fontana city	CA	128,929	47.3	Los Angeles	13	9	10	7.8	1	-3
Fullerton city	CA	126,003	10.4	Los Angeles	3	1	0	0.0	-1	-3
Ontario city	CA	158,007	18.6	Los Angeles	15	7	12	7.6	5	-3
Peoria city	AZ	108,364	114.1	Phoenix	4	9	1	0.9	-8	-3
Plano city	TX	222,030	72.5	Dallas	5	5	2	0.9	-3	-3
Lowell city	MA	105,167	1.7	Boston	6	5	2	1.9	-3	-4
Rancho Cucamonga city	CA	127,743	26	Los Angeles	6	4	2	1.6	-2	-4
Scottsdale city	AZ	202,705	55.8	Phoenix	8	4	4	2.0	0	-4
Winston-Salem city	NC	185,776	29.5	Greensboro	20	21	16	8.6	-5	-4
Lansing city	MI	119,128	-6.4		14	9	8	6.7	-1	-6
Raleigh city	NC	276,093	32.8		26	16	20	7.2	4	-6
Fayetteville city	NC	121,015	59.9		21	14	14	11.6	0	-7
Riverside city	CA	255,166	12.7	Los Angeles	17	17	10	3.9	-7	-7
Yonkers city	NY	196,086	4.3	New York	16	15	9	4.6	-6	-7
Irving city	TX	191,615	23.6	Dallas	10	10	2	1.0	-8	-8
Corpus Christi city	TX	277,454	7.8		17	25	8	2.9	-17	-9
Gary city	IN	102,746	-11.9	Chicago	67	54	58	56.4	4	-9
Tempe city	AZ	158,625	11.8	Phoenix	13	8	4	2.5	-4	-9
Providence city	RI	173,618	8		30	17	20	11.5	3	-10
Salinas city	CA	151,060	38.9		18	17	7	4.6	-10	-11

Topeka city	KS	122,377	2.1		18	8	7	5.7	-1	-11
Shreveport city	LA	200,145	0.8		54	33	39	19.5	6	-15
Newport News city	VA	180,150	5.9	Norfolk	44	18	20	11.1	2	-24
TOTAL AND AVERAGE		25,025,450			1868	2017	2282	8.5	265	414

Not Comparable or Missing Data

Akron city	OH	217,074	-2.7	Cleveland		14	27	12.4	93	
Alexandria city	VA	128,283	15.4		6	2	3	2.3		
Augusta-Richmond County	GA	199,775	347.5					0.0		
Baton Rouge city	LA	227,818	3.8			47	49	21.5	4	
Des Moines city	IA	198,682	2.8		14	8	6	3.0		
Grand Rapids city	MI	197,800	4.6		17	12	8	4.0		
Green Bay city	WI	102,313	6.1		1			0.0		
Huntsville city	AL	158,216	-1		8	6	22	13.9		
Jackson city	MS	184,256	-6.3			53	38	20.6	-28	
Joliet city	IL	106,221	38.2	Chicago		9	11	10.4	22	
Kansas City city	KS	146,866	-1.9			37	37	25.2	0	
Louisville city	KY	256,231	-4.8		36	66	55	21.5		
New Haven city	CT	123,626	-5.2	New York	18			0.0		
Overland Park city	KS	149,080	33.4	Kansas City		2	2	1.3	0	
Savannah city	GA	131,510	-4.4		31		31	23.6		
Sioux Falls city	SD	123,975	23		2	3	4	3.2		
Stamford city	CT	117,083	8.4	New York	1	3	4	3.4		
Vallejo city	CA	116,760	6.9	San Francisco	12			0.0		
Warren city	MI	138,247	-4.6	Detroit		6	5	3.6		
Waterbury city	CT	107,271	-1.6	New York		3	6	5.6	100	
Westminster city	CO	100,940	35.3	Denver		5	2	2.0	-60	

Appendix B – Murder in Large Cities

		2000		Murders			Homicides per 100,000,	One Year	Five Year
		Population	% Since 1990	2000	2004	2005	2005	Change	Change
Las Vegas city	NV	478,434	85.2	90	131	144	30.1	13	54
Cleveland city	OH	478,403	-5.4	71	79	109	22.8	30	38
San Francisco city	CA	776,733	7.3	59	88	96	12.4	8	37
Columbus city	OH	711,470	12.4	67	88	102	14.3	14	35
Boston city	MA	589,141	2.6	39	61	73	12.4	12	34
Pittsburgh city	PA	334,563	-9.5	37	46	63	18.8	17	26
Tulsa city	OK	393,049	7	33	48	58	14.8	10	25
Nashville-Davidson	TN	569,891	11.6	72	59	95	16.7	36	23
Albuquerque city	NM	448,607	16.6	33	41	53	11.8	12	20
Oklahoma City city	OK	506,132	13.8	38	39	54	10.7	15	16
Toledo city	OH	313,619	-5.8	12	22	28	8.9	6	16
Mesa city	AZ	396,375	37.6	15	22	29	7.3	7	14
Kansas City city	MO	441,545	1.5	113	89	126	28.5	37	13
Oakland city	CA	399,484	7.3	80	83	93	23.3	10	13
Sacramento city	CA	407,018	10.2	39	50	52	12.8	2	13
Indianapolis city	IN	791,926	6.7	96	109	108	13.6	-1	12
Jacksonville city	FL	735,617	15.8	79	104	91	12.4	-13	12
Charlotte city	NC	540,828	36.6	74	59	85	15.7	26	11
Arlington city	TX	332,969	27.2	14	14	24	7.2	10	10
Virginia Beach city	VA	425,257	8.2	11	15	19	4.5	4	8
St. Louis city	MO	348,189	-12.2	124	113	131	37.6	18	7
San Jose city	CA	894,943	14.4	19	24	26	2.9	2	7
Portland city	OR	529,121	21	19	29	20	3.8	-9	1
Santa Ana city	CA	337,977	15.1	17	25	17	5.0	-8	0
Fort Worth city	TX	534,694	19.5	61	52	60	11.2	8	-1
Anaheim city	CA	328,014	23.1	11	10	10	3.0	0	-1
Minneapolis city	MN	382,618	3.9	50	53	47	12.3	-6	-3
Colorado Springs city	CO	360,890	28.4	15	14	12	3.3	-2	-3
Honolulu	HI	371,657	1.7	20	26	15	4.0	-11	-5
Long Beach city	CA	461,522	7.5	49	48	42	9.1	-6	-7
Memphis city	TN	650,100	6.5	146	107	136	20.9	29	-10
Seattle city	WA	563,374	9.1	36	24	25	4.4	1	-11
Miami city	FL	362,470	1.1	66	69	54	14.9	-15	-12
Tampa city	FL	303,447	8.4	38	30	20	6.6	-10	-18
Washington city	DC	572,059	-5.7	239	198	195	34.1	-3	-44
Atlanta city	GA	416,474	5.7	134	111	90	21.6	-21	-44
TOTAL AND AVERAGE		17,488,610		2116	2180	2402	13.7	222	286

Non Comparable or Missing Data

Austin city	TX	656,562	41	30	26	26
Baltimore city	MD	651,154	-11.5	261	276	269
Cincinnati city	OH	331,285	-9	15	64	79
Denver city	CO	554,636	18.6	32	87	59
Detroit city	MI	951,270	-7.5	396	385	359
El Paso city	TX	563,662	9.4	20	11	13
Fresno city	CA	427,652	20.7	24	53	49
Milwaukee city	WI	596,974	-5	122	87	122
Omaha city	NE	390,007	16.1	37	20	31
Tucson city	AZ	486,699	20.1	60	55	55
Wichita city	KS	344,284	13.2			
New Orleans city	LA	484,674	-2.5			
		6,438,859		997	1064	1062

Appendix C – Murder in Cities with Population of More than One Million

	2000 Population	Population Change Since 1990	Murders 2000	2004	2005	2005 Murders Per 100000	One Year Change	Five Year Change	2005 Pop	Population Change % Since 2000	White	Poverty	10 to 19 Year Olds
Chicago	2,896,016	4	628	448	447	15.4	-1	-181	2,842,518	-1.8	31.2	19.6	13.8
Dallas	1,188,580	18	231	248	202	17.0	-46	-29	1,213,825	2.1	34.6	17.8	13.6
Houston	1,953,631	19.8	230	272	334	17.1	62	104	2,016,582	3.2	30.8	19.2	14.3
Los Angeles	3,694,820	6	550	518	489	13.2	-29	-61	3,844,829	4.1	29.7	22.1	13.7
New York	8,008,278	9.4	673	570	539	6.7	-31	-134	8,143,197	1.7	35.0	21.2	13.1
Philadelphia	1,517,550	-4.3	319	330	377	24.8	47	58	1,463,281	-3.6	42.5	22.9	14.7
Phoenix	1,321,045	34.3	152	202	220	16.7	18	68	1,461,575	10.6	55.8	15.8	14.9
San Antonio	1,144,646	22.3	85	94	86	7.5	-8	1	1,256,509	9.8	31.8	17.3	15.6
San Diego	1,223,400	10.2	54	62	51	4.2	-11	-3	1,255,540	2.6	49.4	14.6	13.5
	22,947,966		2922	2744	2745	13.6	1	-177			37.9	18.9	14.1

Community Research Council
201 Forest Avenue
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37405
423-267-7766
www.researchcouncil.net