

Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection

1111 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457 • (860) 685-8000

LATEST STATISTICS SHOW CRIME IN CONNECTICUT CONTINUES LONG DECLINE

MIDDLETOWN -- The long term trend of a safer Connecticut is continuing, with crimes against property leading the declines for 2024 compared to 2023, a new DESPP report shows.

"Violent crime, including murder, and property crimes such as motor vehicle theft show substantial declines," said DESPP Commissioner Ronnell A. Higgins. "Connecticut is one of the safest among all states and we will use the detailed data that we collect and analyze to guide our future decision making."

DESPP's <u>Crime in Connecticut report</u>, is now updated quarterly and is the state's most comprehensive compilation of crime statistics. The report makes full use of the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), the national standard for reporting crime statistics.

The new report includes three main categories for tracking crime: Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society.

Crimes Against Persons decreased by 2.6%. This includes a 34.1% decline in murder. Quarter 4 statistics represents the lowest quarter since Quarter 1 of 2021.

Crimes Against Property decreased by 16.9%. This includes a 19.2% decline in motor vehicle theft. Another notable decline includes a 66.2% drop in identity theft. We are continuing to assess what might be behind these downward trends.

Crimes Against Society decreased by 4.4%. While this is an overall decline, it also includes a 36.7% increase in animal cruelty crimes.

"We will use this data to drive our decision-making, including the guidance we provide to local law enforcement and police chiefs," Higgins said. "Real-time data analysis is a top priority for DESPP so that law enforcement makes the right decisions to keep Connecticut residents safe."

For more information, including to speak with DESPP Chief Data Officer Dr. Michael Mascari, contact Rick Green, Director of Communications, at 860-539-0159, richard.green@ct.gov.