

Indianapolis: Quality of Life, Poverty, Violent Crime and Murder Stats 2015-2017

A June 2017 *Indianapolis Star* article (Hice, 2017) revealed our city ranked among the 50 worst places to live in the US. Citing a *24/7 Wall St.* list ranking Indianapolis as 39th, the story noted Indy as "...one of the most dangerous cities in the country" where "serious financial hardship is more common" compared to other Indiana cities.

In a February 18, 2015 CBS News "Money Watch" report (Kennedy, 2015), Indy ranked 9th of the 11 poorest US cities. The report also noted: between 2005 and 2013, Indy saw one of the nation's largest increases in the percentage of children living in poverty; we were among the top 10 U.S. cities with the largest increases in income inequality in recent years; and, we ranked near the bottom (#46) in a study of upward income mobility in America's 50 biggest metro regions (Chetty et al, 2015).

In an October 2017 *Indianapolis Business Journal* news story, "Poverty explodes in Indy," (Colombo, 2017) Indy's own Sagamore Institute found in 2015, about 30% of our city's children were impoverished. Also, the number of those living in the circumstances of poverty in Indianapolis increased from 11.8% in 2000 to 21.3% in 2015.

What is also significant is according to Rossi (2018) and Grawert & Cullen (2016; 2017), among America's 30 largest cities, Indianapolis is in the top 10 in violent crime and murder rates for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017. See Appendix A.

References

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Appendix A

Violent Crime and Murder Stats among America's 30 Largest Cities 2015-2017

2015 City Violent crime rate/100,000

1. Detroit 1681
2. Memphis 1660
3. Baltimore 1490
4. *Indianapolis 1210*
5. DC 1129
6. Nashville 1024
7. Philadelphia 945
8. Houston 923
9. Chicago 851
10. Las Vegas 850
11. San Francisco 737
12. Boston 671

2016 City Violent crime rate/100,000

1. Baltimore 1767
2. Memphis 1803
3. Detroit 1617
4. Nashville 1066
5. DC 1006
6. Houston 982
7. Chicago 992
8. *Indianapolis 857*
9. Dallas 703
10. Oklahoma City 713
11. Charlotte 702
12. San Antonio 646

2017 City Violent crime rate/100,000

1. Baltimore 2057
2. Memphis 2019
3. Detroit 1463
4. Nashville 1134
5. Houston 1069
6. Chicago 1008
7. *Indianapolis 703*
8. DC 730
9. Dallas 737
10. San Antonio 666
11. Oklahoma City 662
12. Charlotte 691

2015 City Murders/100,000

1. Baltimore 55.4
2. Detroit 43.8
3. DC 24.1
4. Memphis 20.5
5. Louisville 11.9
6. Philadelphia 17.9
7. Chicago 17.5
8. *Indianapolis 17.4*
9. Nashville 10.9
10. Houston 13.3
11. Oklahoma City 11.6
12. Jacksonville 11.2

2016 City Murders/100,000

1. Baltimore 51.3
2. Detroit 45.4
3. Chicago 28.6
4. Memphis 28.9
5. DC 19.7
6. Louisville 17.2
7. Philadelphia 17.2
8. *Indianapolis 14.2*
9. Dallas 13.0
10. Nashville 12.6
11. Houston 12.6
12. Jacksonville 11.8

2017 City Murders/100,000

1. Baltimore 63.6
2. Detroit 33.8
3. Chicago 27.9
4. Memphis 25.8
5. Louisville 20.5
6. Philadelphia 18.4
7. DC 16.8
8. Nashville 16.4
9. *Indianapolis 13.2*
10. Jacksonville 13.0
11. Dallas 12.8
12. Houston 10.0

References

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