



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 17, 2018

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## **LOCAL VIOLENT CRIME DROPS DURING FIRST QUARTER 2018**

MEMPHIS, TN - During the first quarter of 2018 (January - March), the major violent crime rate dropped in both Memphis and all of Shelby County compared to the first quarter of last year, according to preliminary figures from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) released today by the University of Memphis Public Safety Institute and the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission.

The major violent crime rate actually dropped more in the city of Memphis than in Shelby County as a whole. Memphis had a 5.1 percent drop, with all of Shelby County having a 4.9 percent reduction.

The major violent crime rate is composed of four categories - murders, rapes, robberies and aggravated assaults. The murder rate plummeted 37.8 percent in Memphis and 35.6 percent countywide compared to the first quarter of last year. And the rate of reported robberies dropped 10.6 percent in Memphis and 8.3 percent countywide.

In another indication of a reduction in violence, the rate of reported domestic violence incidents went down 13.8 percent in Memphis and 12.6 percent throughout Shelby County.

The rate of major property crimes (burglaries, auto thefts and other felony thefts) increased 2.8 percent in Memphis and 4.5 percent countywide during the first quarter of 2018 compared to the first quarter of 2017. The increase was driven by a continuing problem with auto thefts (with a 31.1 percent increase in Memphis and a 30.8 percent increase countywide). On the other hand, the burglary rate was down significantly -10.3 percent in Memphis and -7.9 percent countywide.

The overall crime rate measures 54 different categories of crime tracked by the TBI. During the first quarter of this year, compared to last year, the overall crime rate was down 5.4 percent in Memphis and 4.4 percent throughout the county.

"Certainly lives are always more important than property, so I am extremely happy to see in this report a reduction in violent crimes, both in the city and in the county," said Shelby County District Attorney General Amy Weirich. "As for the property crime increase driven by auto theft, I encourage everyone to follow one simple rule: Do not leave your keys in the ignition. Law enforcement officers say that is the case in nearly half of all auto theft cases. Lock it and pocket the key."

Weirich chairs the Operation: Safe Community crime plan initiative, the implementation of which is coordinated by the Crime Commission.

"While it's too early to predict a trend, a lot of the steps in the Operation: Safe Community plan that are designed to impact the violent crime rate are now being implemented. With a focused and sustained effort, we can impact the crime rate significantly," said Bill Gibbons, president of the Crime Commission and executive director of the Public Safety Institute.

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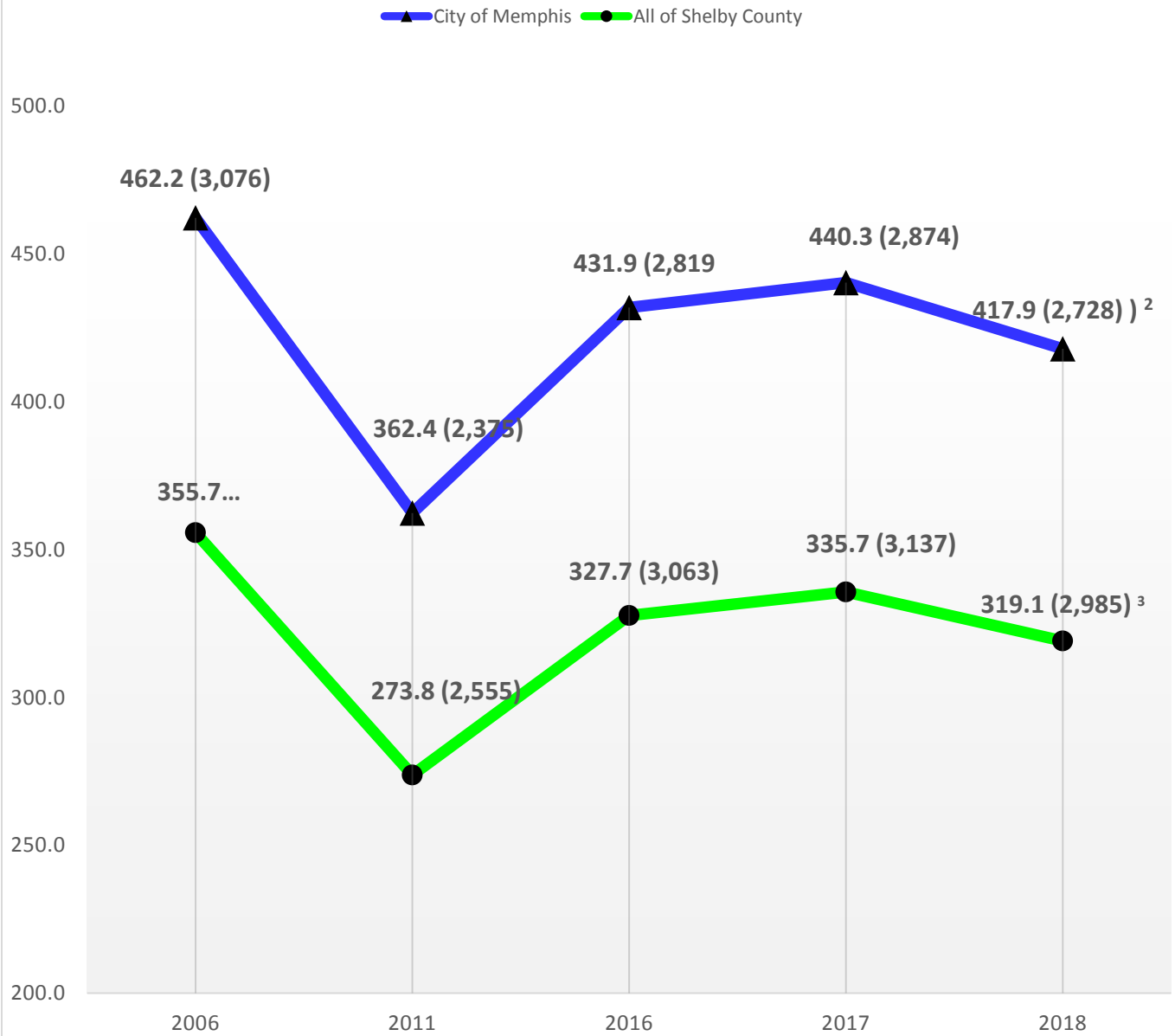
**About the Crime Statistics:** In measuring overall crime rates and trends, the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission and the Public Safety Institute use data reported by local enforcement agencies to the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS), which was developed and is maintained by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. An incident is defined in TIBRS as "one or more offenses committed by the same offender, or group of offenders acting in concert, at the same time and place." Reported major violent crime and domestic violence offenses, however, uniquely refer to a victim count versus an incident count. All rates are calculated based on per 100,000 population.

**About the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission ([www.memphiscrime.org](http://www.memphiscrime.org)):** Memphis Shelby Crime Commission is an independent, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization that "quarterbacks" the work of the Operation: Safe Community (OSC) plan and its partners. It is funded through the generous contributions of many private sector donors. Ben Adams, CEO of Baker Donelson law firm, serves as chair of the board, and Bill Gibbons serves as president of the Commission.

**About Operation: Safe Community ([www.operationsafecommunity.org](http://www.operationsafecommunity.org)):** Launched in 2007, Operation: Safe Community (OSC), spearheaded by the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, is a community-based crime reduction initiative. Operation: Safe Community is chaired by Shelby County District Attorney General Amy Weirich.

**About the Public Safety Institute ([www.memphis.edu/psi/](http://www.memphis.edu/psi/)):** The Public Safety Institute of the University of Memphis is an interdisciplinary part of the University community committed to identifying and advancing best practices in the field of public safety. It is housed in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy. Bill Gibbons serves as executive director.

## MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME JANUARY - MARCH (Incidents Per 100,000 Population and Numbers)<sup>1</sup>



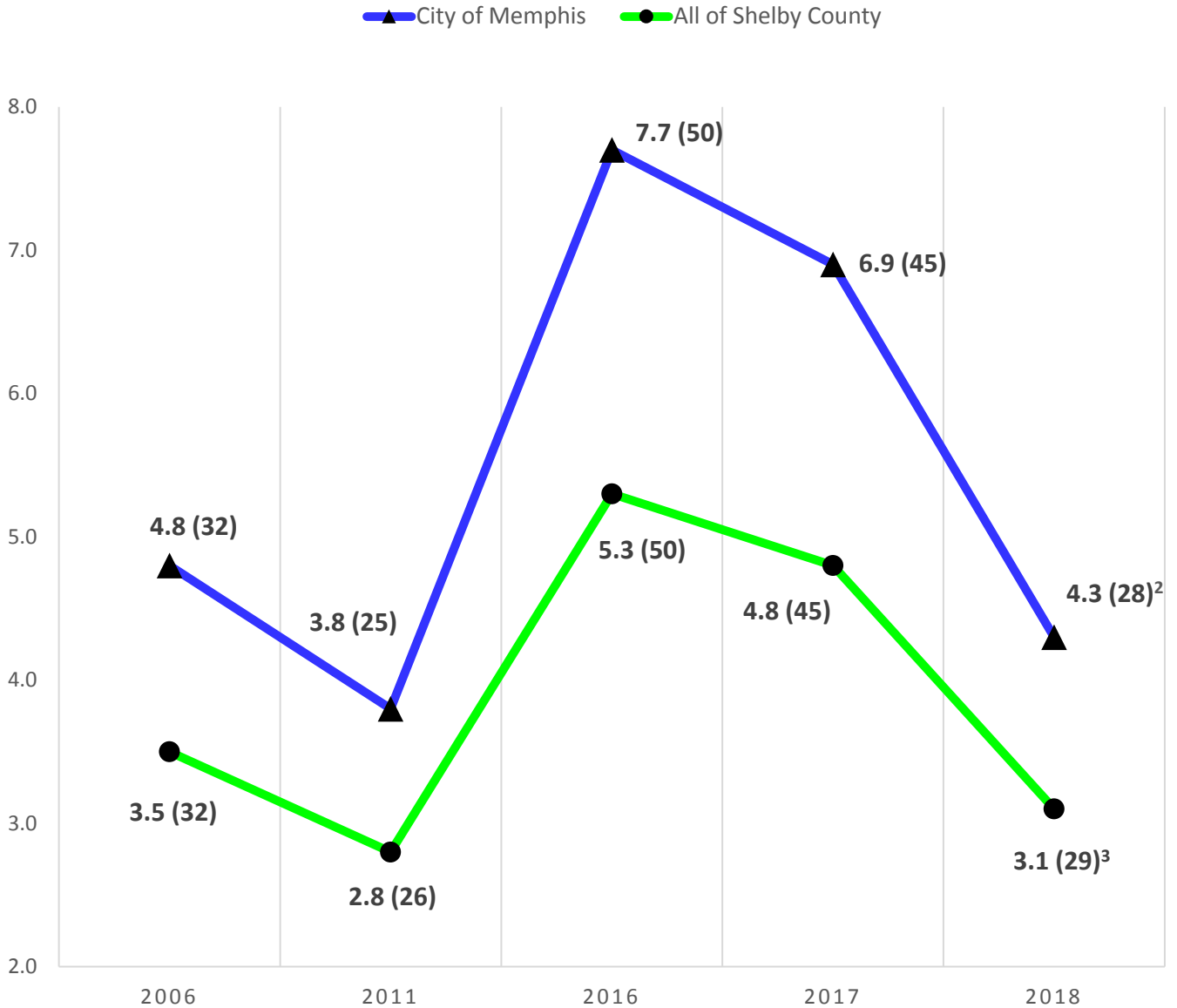
<sup>1</sup> Includes murders, forcible rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults.

Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 9.6 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 5.1 percent from 2017 in the City of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 10.3 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 4.9 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

## REPORTED MURDERS JANUARY - MARCH (RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION AND NUMBERS)<sup>1</sup>

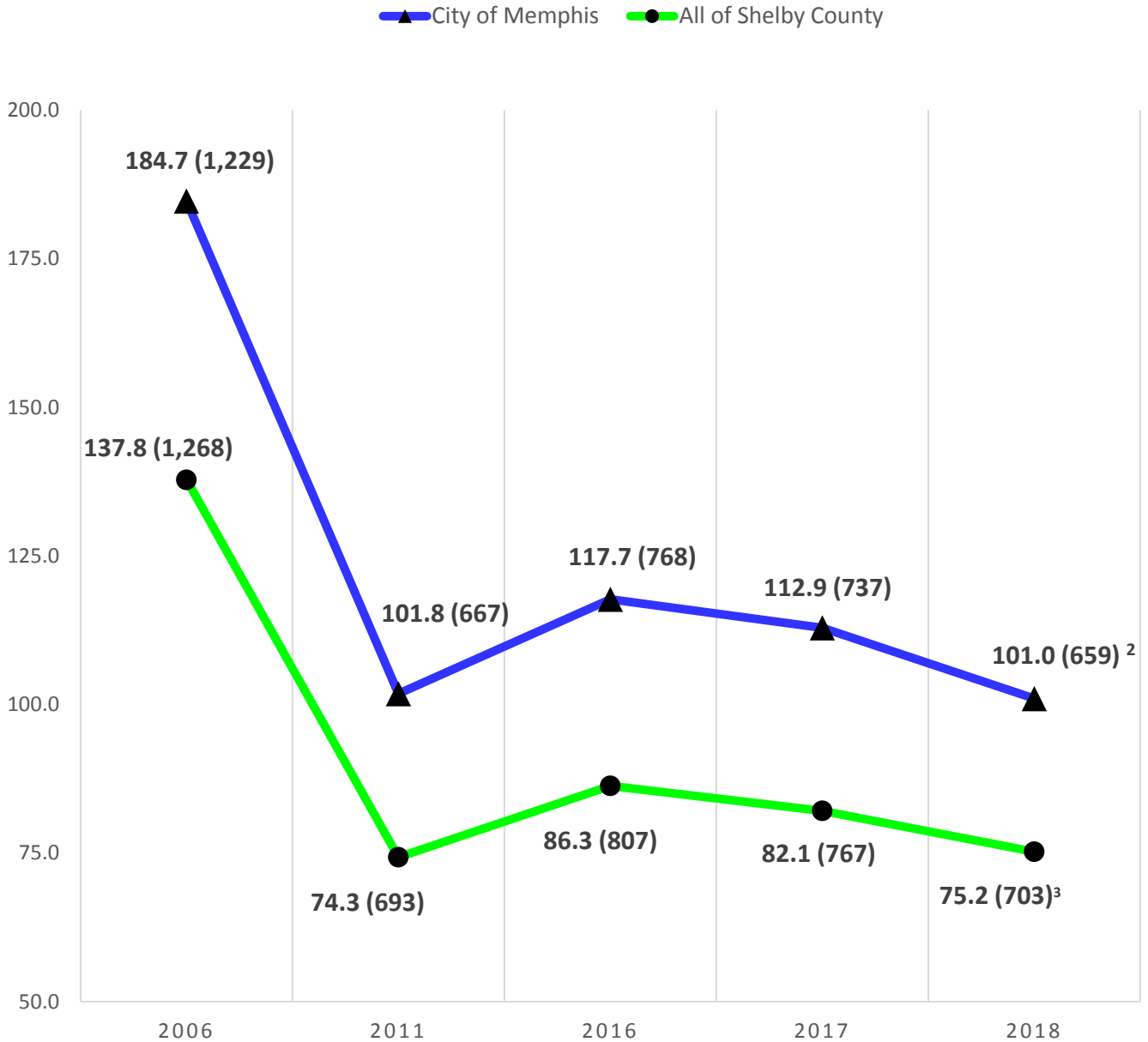


<sup>1</sup> Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 10.8 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 37.8 percent from 2017 in the City of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 10.8 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 35.6 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

## REPORTED ROBBERIES JANUARY - MARCH (RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION AND NUMBERS)<sup>1</sup>

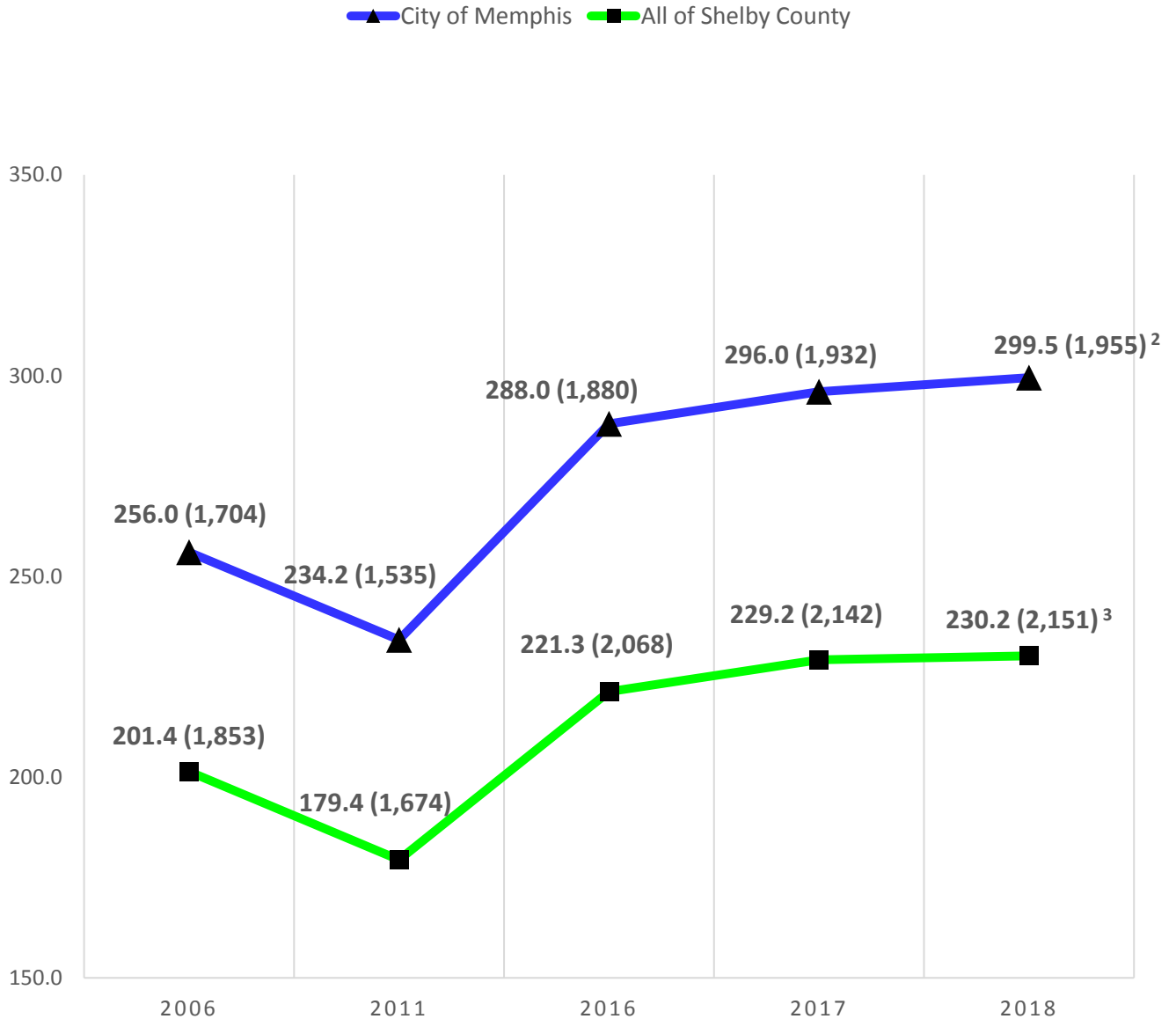


<sup>1</sup> Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 45.3 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 10.6 percent from 2016 in the City of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 45.4 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 8.3 percent from 2016 in all of Shelby County.

## REPORTED AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS JANUARY - MARCH (RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION AND NUMBERS)<sup>1</sup>

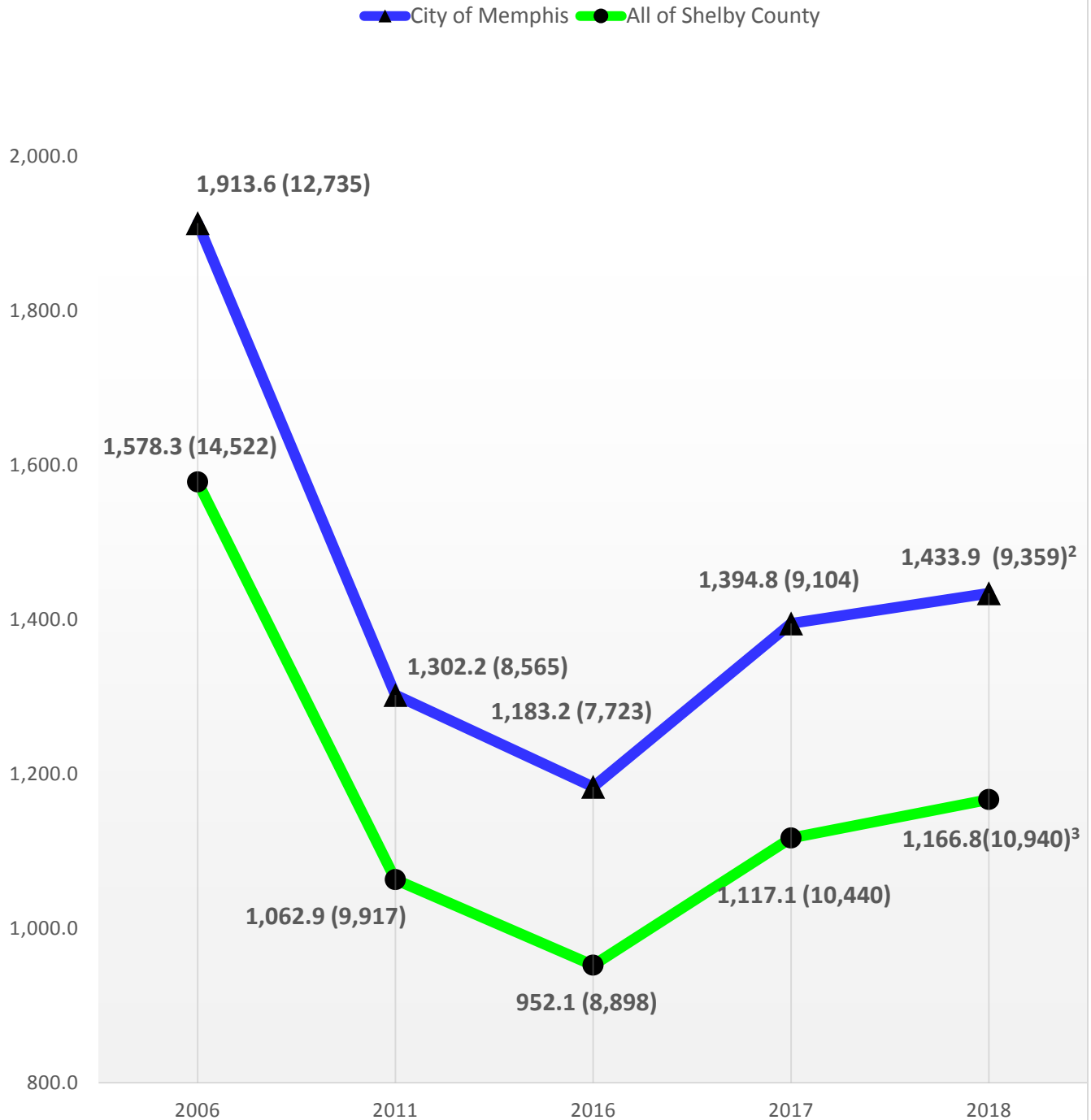


<sup>1</sup> Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is an increase of 17.0 percent from 2006 and an increase of 1.2 percent from 2017 in the City of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is an increase of 14.3 percent from 2006 and an increase of .04 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County. Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2017 TBI figures are preliminary.

# MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME JANUARY - MARCH (Incidents Per 100,000 Population and Numbers)<sup>1</sup>



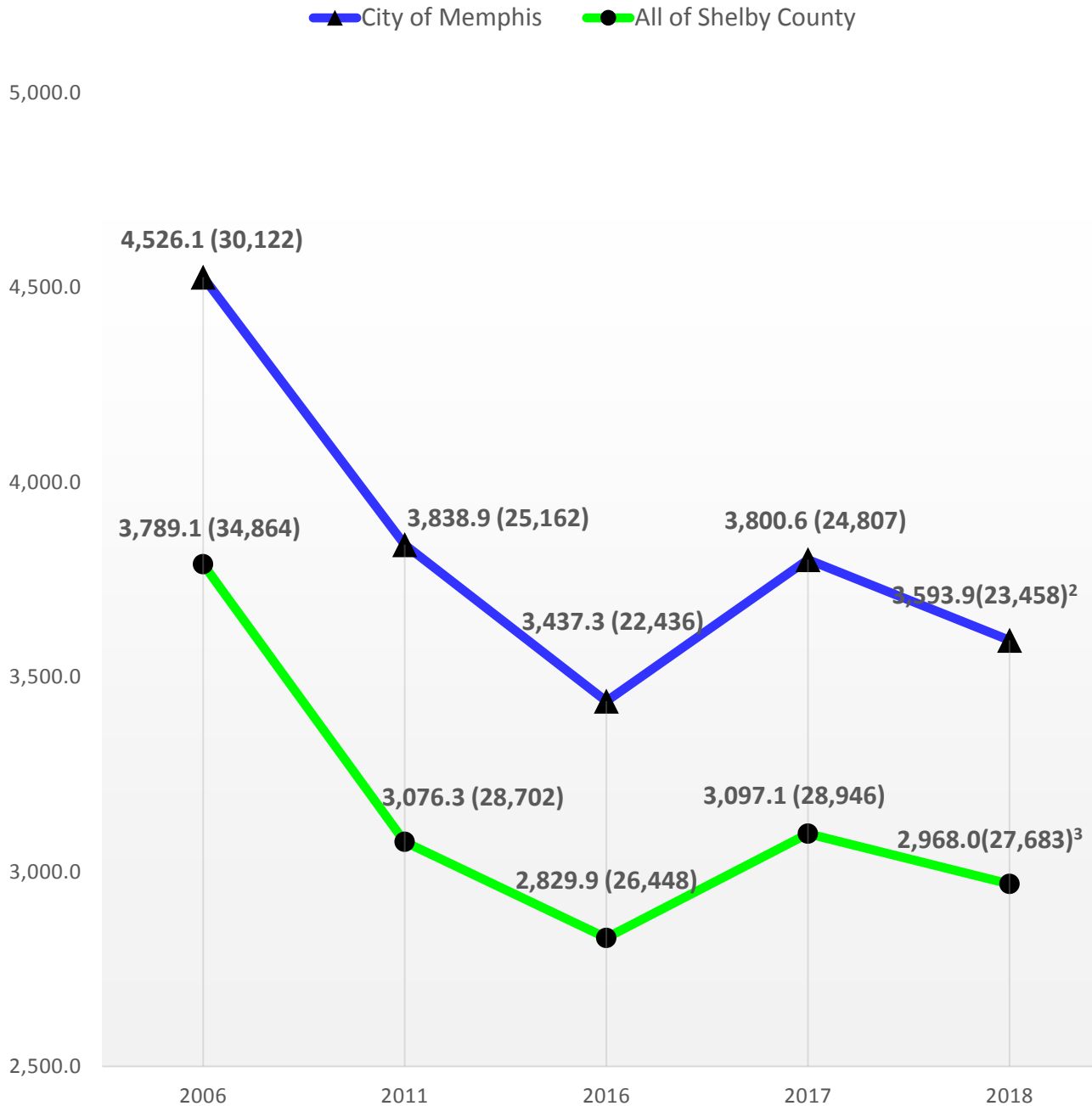
<sup>1</sup> Includes burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, and other felony thefts.

Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a 26.5 percent decrease from 2006 and a 2.8 percent increase from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a 26.1 percent decrease from 2006 and a 4.5 percent increase from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

## OVERALL CRIME JANUARY - MARCH (Incidents Per 100,000 Population and Numbers)<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> The overall crime rate is measured by 54 separate categories of “Group A crimes” tracked by the T.B.I.  
Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a 20.6 percent decrease from 2006 and a 5.4 percent decrease from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a 21.8 percent decrease from 2006 and a 4.4 percent decrease from 2017 for all of Shelby County.



Table 2.2 Memphis, TN: Crime Rates: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Memphis, TN - TIBRS <sup>1</sup> GROUP A OFFENSES									
CRIME RATES (Offenses per 100,000 Population <sup>*</sup> )									
January 1 - March 31, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	4.8	3.8	7.7	6.9	4.3	-10.8%	12.5%	-44.0%	-37.8%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	16.7	22.6	18.5	24.5	13.2	-21.0%	-41.6%	-28.9%	-46.3%
Aggravated Assault <sup>2</sup>	256.0	234.2	288.0	296.0	299.5	17.0%	27.9%	4.0%	1.2%
Robbery	184.7	101.8	117.7	112.9	101.0	-45.3%	-0.8%	-14.2%	-10.6%
<b>MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>462.2</b>	<b>362.4</b>	<b>431.9</b>	<b>440.3</b>	<b>417.9</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>	<b>-5.1%</b>
Burglary	531.8	402.5	303.5	312.7	280.4	-47.3%	-30.3%	-7.6%	-10.3%
Theft Offenses	1154.6	798.4	783.6	930.4	954.6	-17.3%	19.6%	21.8%	2.6%
Motor Vehicle Theft	227.2	101.3	96.1	151.7	198.9	-12.5%	96.3%	107.0%	31.1%
<b>MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<b>1913.6</b>	<b>1302.2</b>	<b>1183.2</b>	<b>1394.8</b>	<b>1433.9</b>	<b>-25.1%</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>21.2%</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	782.3	840.7	630.6	676.3	589.8	-24.6%	-29.8%	-6.5%	-12.8%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	205.4	226.1	156.3	142.3	136.5	-33.5%	-39.6%	-12.6%	-4.1%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	64.0	47.8	47.2	48.3	47.8	-25.3%	0.1%	1.3%	-1.0%
Domestic Violence	669.3	736.1	606.4	675.9	582.8	-12.9%	-20.8%	-3.9%	-13.8%
<b>Total Group A Offenses</b>	<b>4526.1</b>	<b>3838.9</b>	<b>3437.3</b>	<b>3800.6</b>	<b>3593.9</b>	<b>-20.6%</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>

\* Population figures are based on 2006, 2011, and 2016 Census Estimates. The latest estimates available, 2016 Estimates, are used to calculate rates for 2016, 2017, and 2018.

POPULATION	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018
	665,512	655,440	652,717	652,717	652,717

Table 2.1 Memphis, TN: Number of Offenses: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Memphis, TN - TIBRS <sup>1</sup> GROUP A OFFENSES									
January 1 - March 31, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	32	25	50	45	28	-12.5%	12.0%	-44.0%	-37.8%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	111	148	121	160	86	-22.5%	-41.9%	-28.9%	-46.3%
Aggravated Assault <sup>2</sup>	1,704	1,535	1,880	1,932	1,955	14.7%	27.4%	4.0%	1.2%
Robbery	1,229	667	768	737	659	-46.4%	-1.2%	-14.2%	-10.6%
MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME <sup>3</sup>	3,076	2,375	2,819	2,874	2,728	-11.3%	14.9%	-3.2%	-5.1%
Burglary	3,539	2,638	1,981	2,041	1,830	-48.3%	-30.6%	-7.6%	-10.3%
Theft Offenses	7,684	5,233	5,115	6,073	6,231	-18.9%	19.1%	21.8%	2.6%
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,512	664	627	990	1,298	-14.2%	95.5%	107.0%	31.1%
MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME	12,735	8,535	7,723	9,104	9,359	-26.5%	9.7%	21.2%	2.8%
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	5,206	5,510	4,116	4,414	3,850	-26.0%	-30.1%	-6.5%	-12.8%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	1,367	1,482	1,020	929	891	-34.8%	-39.9%	-12.6%	-4.1%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	426	313	308	315	312	-26.8%	-0.3%	1.3%	-1.0%
Domestic Violence	4,454	4,825	3,958	4,412	3,804	-14.6%	-21.2%	-3.9%	-13.8%
Total Group A Offenses	30,122	25,162	22,436	24,807	23,458	-22.1%	-6.8%	4.6%	-5.4%

Table 1.2 Shelby County, TN: Crime Rates: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Shelby County, TN - TIBRS' GROUP A OFFENSES									
CRIME RATES (Offenses per 100,000 Population*)									
January 1 - March 31, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	3.5	2.8	5.3	4.8	3.1	-10.8%	11.3%	-42.0%	-35.6%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	13.0	17.4	14.8	19.6	10.6	-18.8%	-39.0%	-28.3%	-45.9%
Aggravated Assault <sup>2</sup>	201.4	179.4	221.3	229.2	230.2	14.3%	28.3%	4.0%	0.4%
Robbery	137.8	74.3	86.3	82.1	75.2	-45.4%	1.3%	-12.9%	-8.3%
<b>MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>355.7</b>	<b>273.8</b>	<b>327.7</b>	<b>335.7</b>	<b>319.1</b>	<b>-10.3%</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>-2.6%</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>
Burglary	431.8	319.6	237.1	240.5	221.5	-48.7%	-30.7%	-6.6%	-7.9%
Theft Offenses	967.3	663.7	641.4	759.1	791.8	-18.1%	19.3%	23.4%	4.3%
Motor Vehicle Theft	179.2	79.6	73.5	117.4	153.5	-14.3%	92.8%	108.9%	30.8%
<b>MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<b>1578.3</b>	<b>1062.9</b>	<b>952.1</b>	<b>1117.1</b>	<b>1166.8</b>	<b>-26.1%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	644.3	660.5	531.2	554.7	494.6	-23.2%	-25.1%	-6.9%	-10.8%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	206.3	190.0	153.8	140.0	141.5	-31.4%	-25.6%	-8.0%	1.1%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	53.7	38.2	42.9	43.8	43.9	-18.3%	15.0%	2.2%	0.2%
Domestic Violence	538.7	570.8	486.6	527.7	461.5	-14.3%	-19.2%	-5.2%	-12.6%
<b>Total Group A Offenses</b>	<b>3789.1</b>	<b>3076.3</b>	<b>2829.9</b>	<b>3097.1</b>	<b>2962.0</b>	<b>-21.8%</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>

\* Population figures are based on 2006, 2011, and 2016 Census Estimates. The latest estimates available, 2016 Estimates, are used to calculate rates for 2016, 2017, and 2018.

POPULATION	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018
	920,106	933,011	934,603	934,603	934,603

Table 1.1 Shelby County, TN: Number of Offenses: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Shelby County, TN - TIBRS <sup>1</sup> GROUP A OFFENSES									
January 1 - March 31, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	32	26	50	45	29	-9.4%	11.5%	-42.0%	-35.6%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	120	162	138	183	99	-17.5%	-38.9%	-28.3%	-45.9%
Aggravated Assault <sup>2</sup>	1,853	1,674	2,068	2,142	2,151	16.1%	28.5%	4.0%	0.4%
Robbery	1,268	693	807	767	703	-44.6%	1.4%	-12.9%	-8.3%
<b>MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>2,555</b>	<b>3,063</b>	<b>3,137</b>	<b>2,982</b>	<b>-8.9%</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>-2.6%</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>
Burglary	3,973	2,982	2,216	2,248	2,070	-47.9%	-30.6%	-6.6%	-7.9%
Theft Offenses	8,900	6,192	5,995	7,095	7,400	-16.9%	19.5%	23.4%	4.3%
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,649	743	687	1,097	1,435	-13.0%	93.1%	108.9%	30.8%
<b>MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<b>14,522</b>	<b>9,917</b>	<b>8,898</b>	<b>10,440</b>	<b>10,905</b>	<b>-24.9%</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	5,928	6,163	4,965	5,184	4,623	-22.0%	-25.0%	-6.9%	-10.8%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	1,898	1,773	1,437	1,308	1,322	-30.3%	-25.4%	-8.0%	1.1%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	494	356	401	409	410	-17.0%	15.2%	2.2%	0.2%
Domestic Violence	4,957	5,326	4,548	4,932	4,313	-13.0%	-19.0%	-5.2%	-12.6%
<b>Total Group A Offenses</b>	<b>34,864</b>	<b>28,702</b>	<b>26,448</b>	<b>28,946</b>	<b>27,683</b>	<b>-20.6%</b>	<b>-3.6%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>