

# JUST THE FACTS: PUBLIC SAFETY

Winter 2026

Chicago closed out 2025 with meaningful, measurable progress toward its goal of becoming the safest big city in the United States. The city recorded sustained declines across major categories of violent crime. While public safety trends can change quickly, year-end data indicate that recent improvements reflect more than short-term fluctuation.

Chicago's "all-in" public safety approach reflects a coordinated strategy that aligns enforcement, prevention, and opportunity—bringing together smarter, data-driven policing, stronger coordination across the justice system, and effective community-based interventions. Supported by technology, accountability, and targeted investment, this integrated framework is designed to deliver measurable results while building long-term stability. While continued vigilance remains essential, the year-end data signals real momentum.

## KEY FACTS & TRENDS

- **Chicago recorded its fewest murders in 60 years**, with homicides down nearly **30% year over year**.
- **Violent crime declined across major categories**, continuing a sustained, multi-year downward trend.
- **Shooting incidents fell sharply**, extending significant reductions achieved in 2024.
- **Robberies declined by nearly 50% from their 2023 peak**, with 2025 totals approximately **2,000 fewer than 2019 levels**.
- **Carjackings fell by roughly 50% since 2024**, reflecting sustained improvement.
- **Homicide clearance rates remain among the highest in more than a decade**, supported by improved forensic tools, investigative staffing, and coordination.
- **Intelligence-driven policing and targeted deployment** have focused resources on the small number of neighborhoods where violence has historically been concentrated.

## FOUR STRATEGIC PILLARS:

**Smarter Policing & Prosecution:** Strengthening law enforcement with modern tools, data, and coordination.

**Community Engagement:** Building trust through programs that connect residents to resources and support.

**Youth-Focused Interventions:** Reaching at-risk individuals with targeted, preventative efforts.

**Neighborhood Investment:** Driving economic growth in areas most impacted by violence.

- **Stronger collaboration between police, prosecutors, and community partners** has improved outcomes and accountability.
- **Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs are operating at scale**, supported by stable funding, trained workforces, and evidence-based methods.
- **Youth employment, prevention, and officer wellness investments** continue to reduce risk factors and support safer communities.

For additional information and context, visit: [Chicago.gov](https://Chicago.gov) and search "Violence Reduction Dashboard"

