

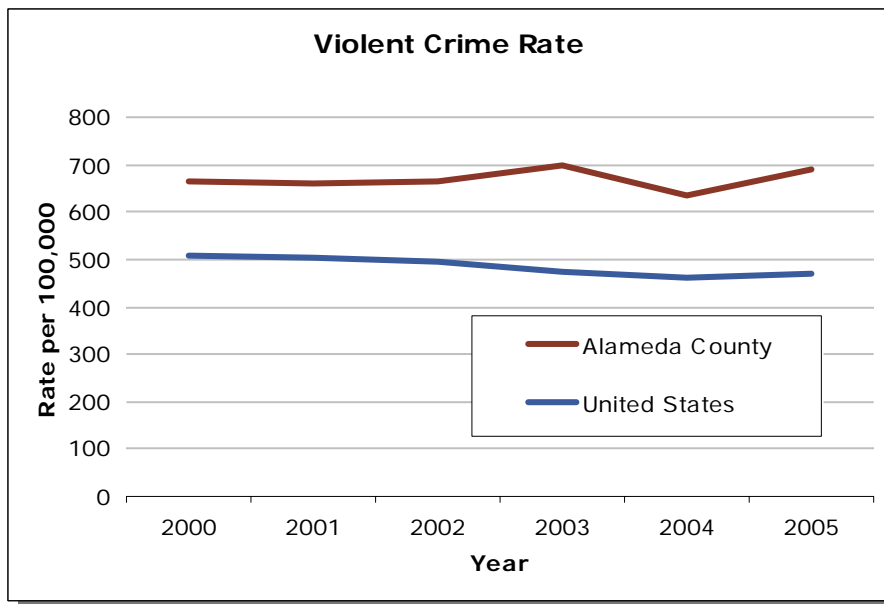
Violent Crimes in Alameda County: A Fact Sheet

The goal of this fact sheet is to gain a general understanding of what violence in Alameda County looks like, how it compares to state and national averages, and how it has changed over the past six years.

Violent crime is defined as the use of threat or force. It includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Violent Crime

- Violent crimes for Alameda County have been consistently higher than the national average.
- From 2000 to 2005, there was an average rate of violent crime of 669/100,000, or 8,938 violent crimes.

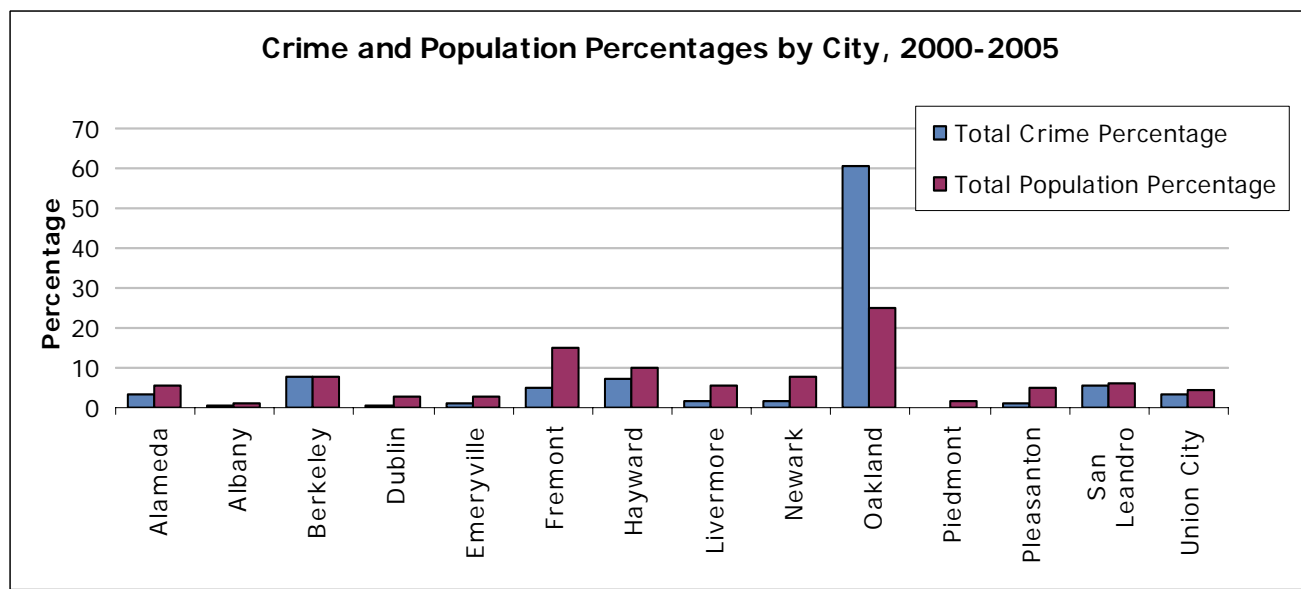


Source for all data: US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Crime in the United States 2000-2005 [Computer Files].

Violence is a learned behavior that can be unlearned or not learned in the first place. Therefore, violence is preventable. Alameda County can be a safer place.

Alameda County Blueprint, 2005

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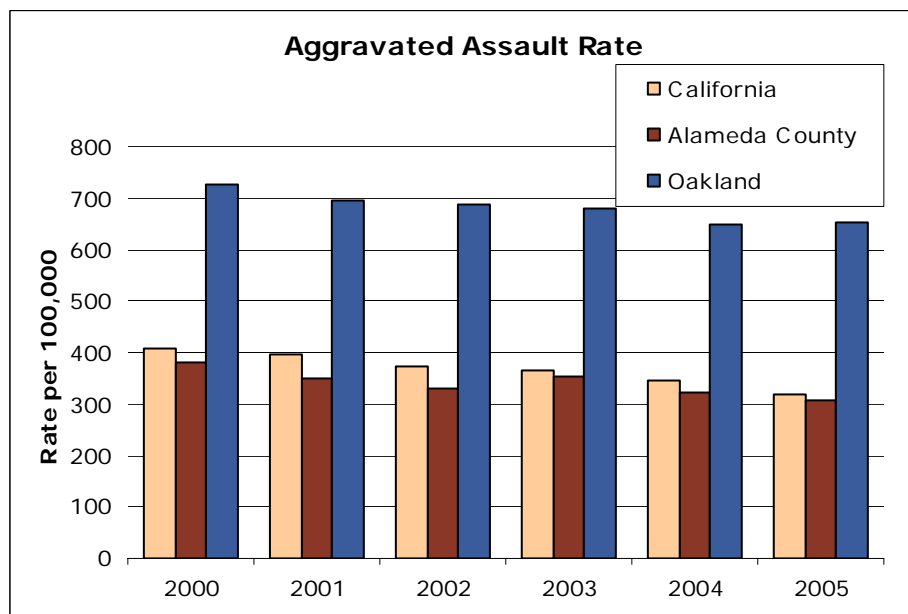


- A disproportionate percentage of the violence in Alameda County occurs in the city of Oakland.
- There are other cities like Fremont, Livermore, and Pleasanton that actually have less crime in proportion to their population percentage in Alameda County.

Aggravated Assault

Aggravated assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Simple assaults are excluded.

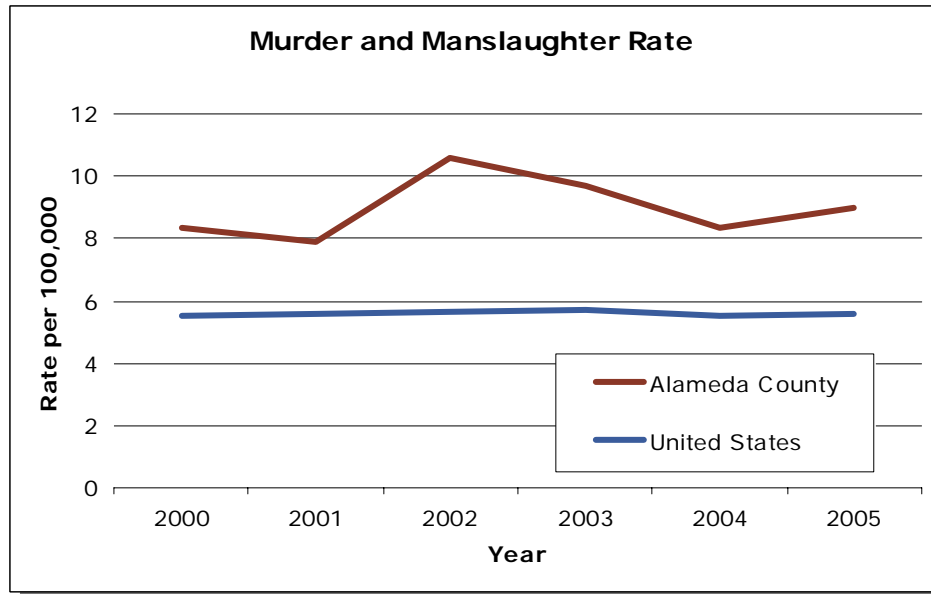
- The rate of aggravated assault in Alameda County has decreased over the past five years, from nearly 4,974 incidents in 2000 to having 4,312 reported incidents in 2005.
- The city of Oakland again is high above the state and county averages, having 2,621 aggravated assaults in 2005.



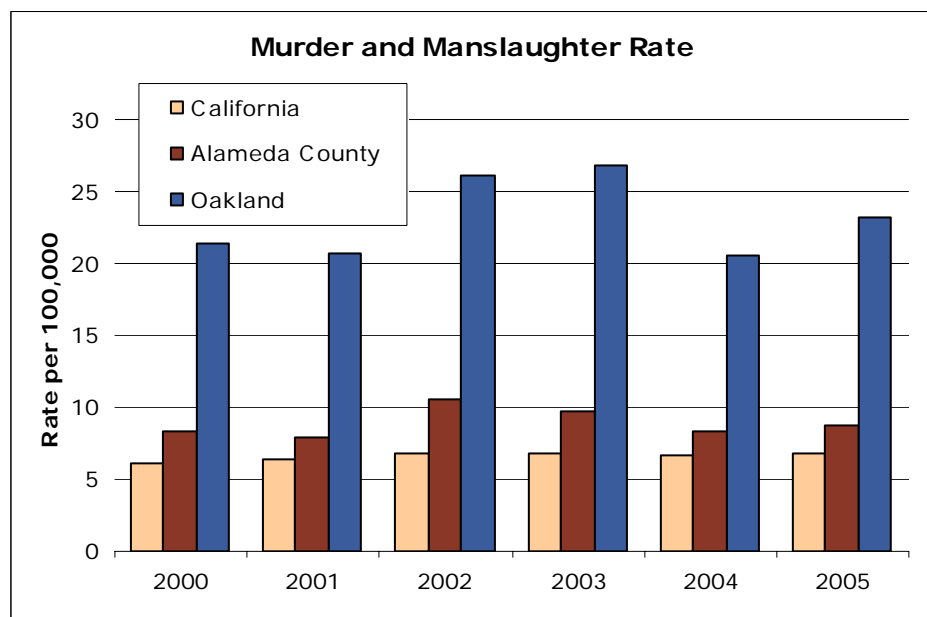
Murder and Manslaughter

Murder and non-negligent manslaughter: The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. Deaths caused by negligence, attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, and accidental deaths are excluded. Traffic fatalities are excluded.

- In the United States, there has been a steady rate of murder and manslaughter.
- While it seemed from 2002 to 2004 that the Alameda County rate was in decline, the 2005 rate increased once again.



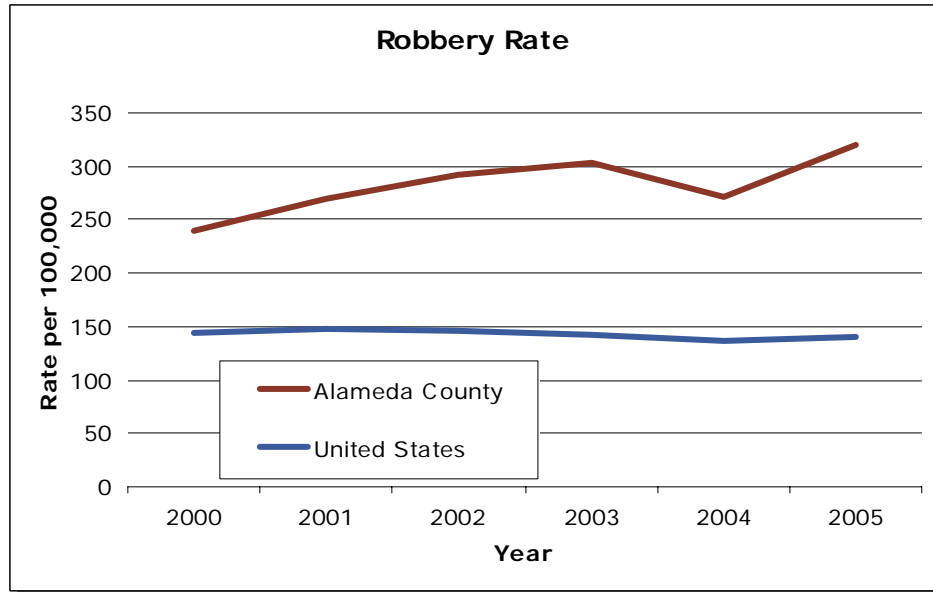
- Oakland averages 97 reported incidents of murder and manslaughter per year.
- California and Alameda County average 7 incidents per 100,000 people.



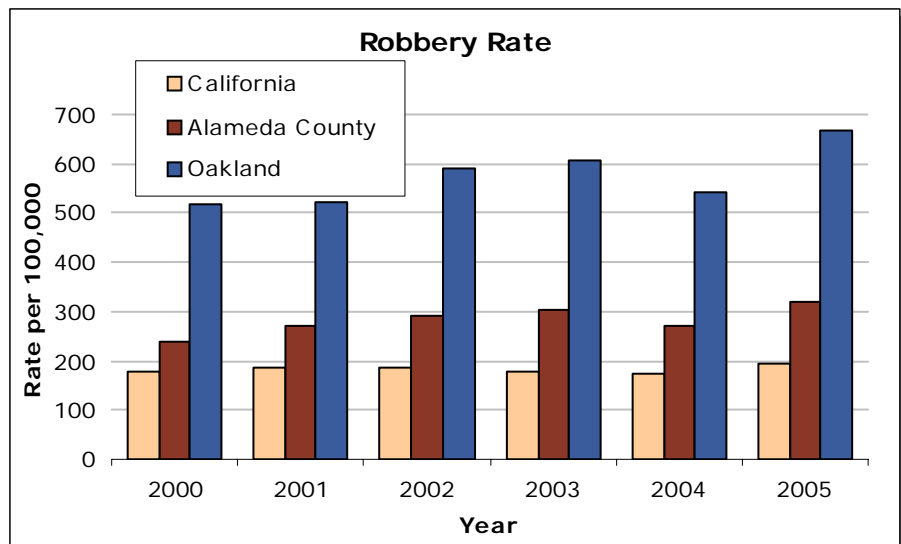
Robbery

Robbery: The taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

- Over the past six years, Alameda County has seen an increase in the rate of robbery.
- Last year there were 4,262 reported cases of robbery in the county.



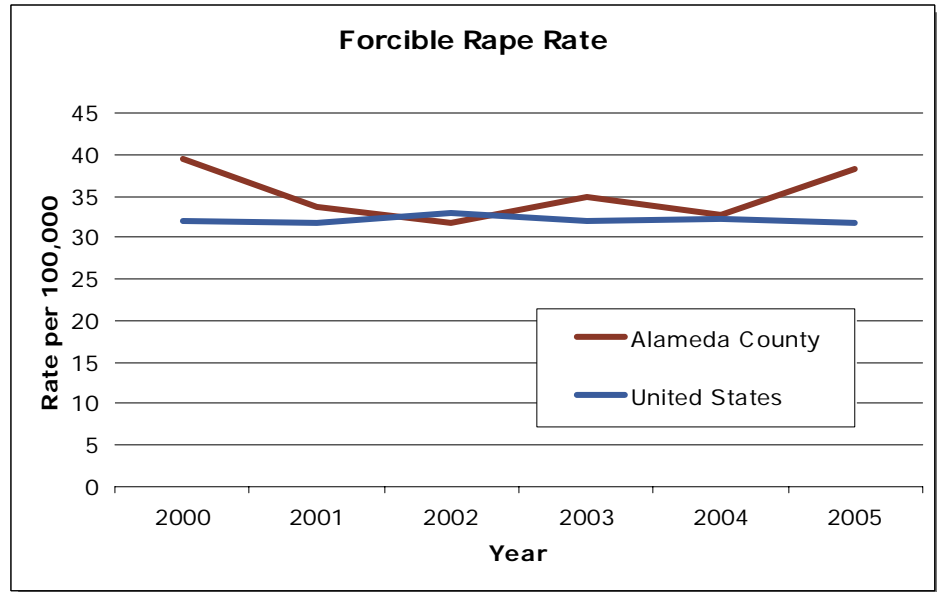
- The rate of robbery in California has stayed steady over the past six years.
- The rate of robbery in Oakland has rose and declined over the past six years.
- In 2005 there were nearly 3,000 cases of robbery in Oakland alone.



Forcible Rape

Forcible rape: The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Rapes by force and attempts or assaults to rape, regardless of the age of the victim, are included. Statutory offenses (no force used—victim under age of consent) are excluded.

- Alameda County had higher rates of rape than the national average, peaking at 518 incidents in the year 2000.



Policy Recommendations

- Data shows Alameda County has higher rates of violence than the national average for all violent crimes.
- Oakland not only incurs most of the violence in Alameda County, but far exceeds the state and national averages.
- Other sources of data are available for analysis but comparability is hard to achieve.
- Further research is needed about the social and economic risk and resilience factors driving these trends, particularly by each city in Alameda County.

Given the complexity of issues, policies, and systems that promote or prevent violence, success beckons for an action plan that coordinates, supports, and strengthens a range of efforts.

Alameda County Blueprint, 2005

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