

List of examples: **News stories about local crime data**

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Reporting responsibly on local crime data can be very complex. As part of our [toolkit on how to responsibly cover local police crime data](#), The Marshall Project has identified a handful of strong local news stories as examples to potentially emulate in your own community.

Story: [Beyond the Headlines: How to Read NYC Crime Stats Like a Pro](#)

Outlet: [The City Reporter](#)

Date: Jan. 16, 2026

What we like: The reporter interviewed several criminology and data experts to synthesize key findings. The story includes context about what crime rates looked like in the '90s and answers common questions, like what it means when crime data goes up or down and how crimes can be underreported.

Story: [Philadelphians Want Another Record Drop in Gun Violence in 2026](#)

Outlet: [The Trace](#)

Date: Feb. 2, 2026

What we like: This story focuses on prevention and offers statistics for specific crimes, including shootings, robberies with guns, and assaults with guns. It also contains several local perspectives.

Story: [Fact check: Are violent crime rates in Reno surging?](#)

Outlet: [KARNV](#)

Date: Oct. 7, 2022

What we like: The reporter used multiple years of data to explain how claims made in a political ad were overblown. The story also provides helpful context by explaining how the local police department switched over to a new crime tracking system a few years prior, which expanded the definition of sex offenses and may have impacted crime rates.

Story: [Scoop: San Diego e-bike crashes surge](#)

Outlet: [Axios San Diego](#)

Date: May 6, 2026

What we like: The story looks at a very specific type of crime and reports the actual underlying numbers rather than just saying there's been a percentage increase. The story also mentions legislation under consideration and looks at five years of data to show a surge.