



# GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

*CHIEF OF POLICE*

*RICK ALLEN*

**Date: October 29, 2021**

## **Garden City's Crime Rate Dropped 19% in Two Years**

The Garden City Police Department is proud to announce the crime rate has dropped over 19% in the last two years. As your Chief of Police, I am excited that our S.E.R.V.I.C.E. philosophy, which emphasizes the organization's core values and strong community relationships, has been successful. I am proud of the amazing work that our officers do and wanted to share some comparison statistical data from the Uniform Crime Report.

**The Uniform Crime Report/National Information Based Reporting System:** The UCR consists of NIBRS data reported by most (18,000 law enforcement agencies) throughout the country. The UCR was established in 1930 and allows for the comparison of crime rates of cities of different sizes. However, the UCR has some well-known flaws: 1) Accuracy of crime stats, as they are self-reported by agencies 2) Not all connected crimes are reported 3) Daytime/nighttime population influx and 4) Other issues that have a direct correlation to crime such as socio-economic status, unemployment rates, the number of probationers, parolees, and the number of commercial properties and businesses in a community. For example, the City of Garden City has a population census of approximately 12,000 residents, however we service over 100,000 commuters and patrons daily, as we are surrounded on almost all sides by the largest city in Idaho.

### **Points to note:**

- For comparison purposes the UCR establishes a crime rate based on a population rate of 100,000. Therefore, in order for Garden City's Crime Rate to achieve this standard, the crime rate must be multiplied by 8.3.
- The City of Garden City is distinctively located between the two largest cities in Idaho, generating 100,000 commuters and patrons daily. This is a unique situation, resulting in a service load for our city consistent with departments several times our size.
- Approximately 91% of the department's enforcement contacts involve non-Garden City residents.
- Garden City has 2.06 officers per 1000 residents, that answered 18,642 calls for service in 2020.
- Proactive policing has a direct impact on the crime rates (if an officer is proactively working, making contacts, patrolling, they will detect more crime than officers who are reactive).
  - Statistics show:
    - Garden City officers make more traffic stops on average in comparison to any other law enforcement agency in Ada County.
    - Garden City officers write more reports on average in comparison to any other law enforcement agency in Ada County.
    - Garden City officers make more arrests on average in comparison to any other law enforcement agency in Ada County.
- Garden City's diverse demographics, compact geographical footprint, and level of redevelopment in relationship to its size, are unique in the state.

*Committed to S.E.R.V.I.C.E*

*Safety, Excellence, Respect, Valor, Integrity, Community, Empathy*

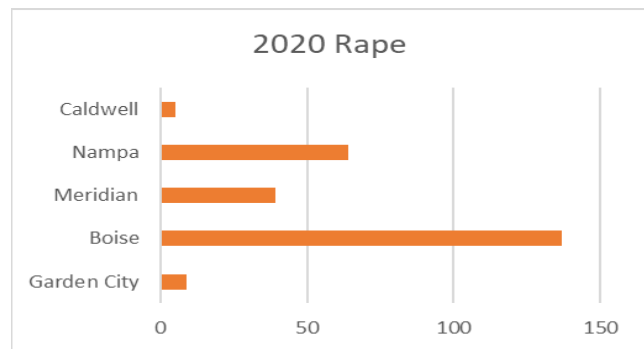
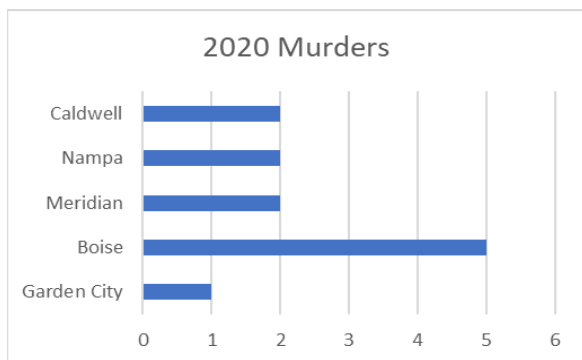
- According to the 2020 UCR, the City of Garden City has experienced a 19.13% drop in crime since 2018.
  - 2018: 1396 Group A Crimes
  - 2019: 1206 Group A Crimes, 13.61% reduction from the previous year
  - 2020: 1129 Group A Crimes, 6.38% reduction from the previous year

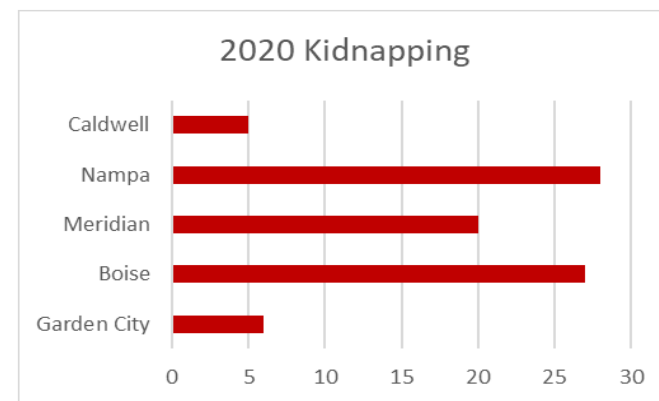
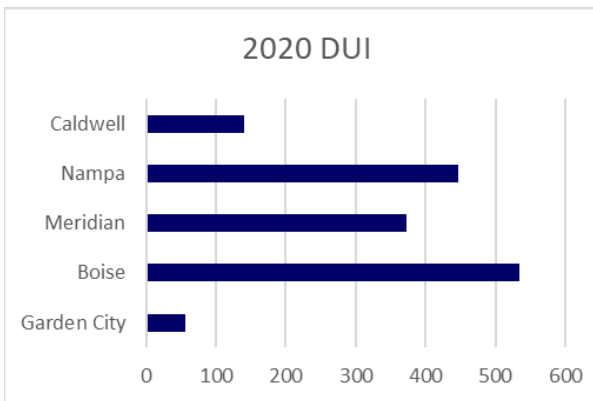
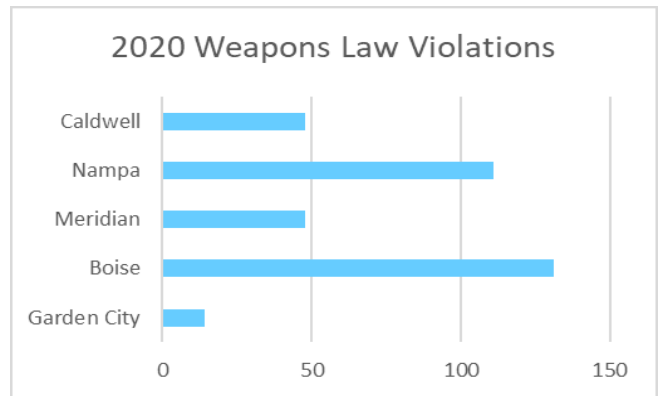
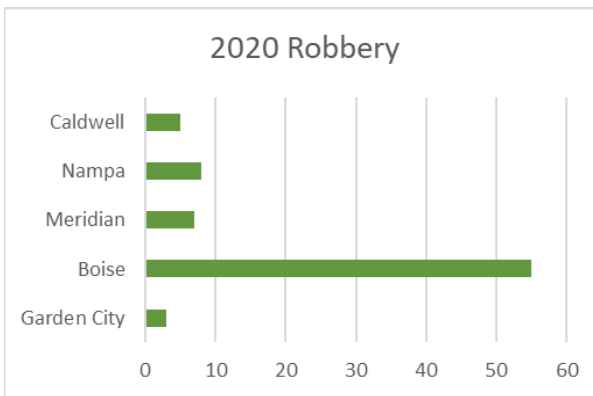
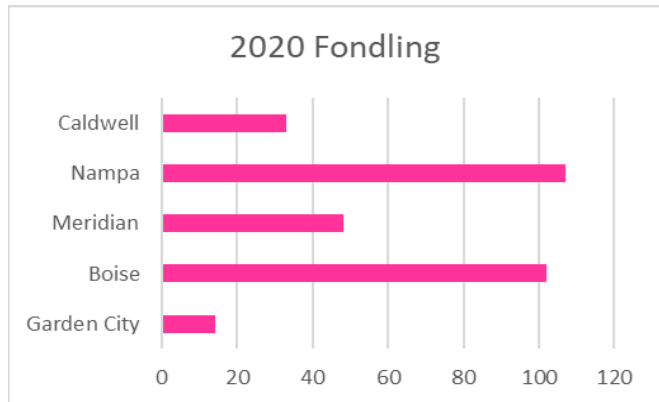
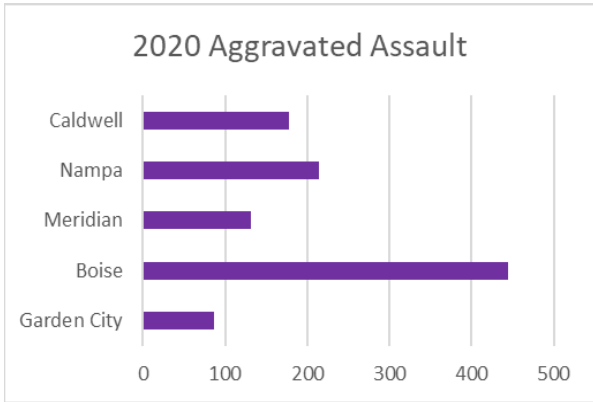
You can be confident that Garden City is a safe place to live, work, and play. As we all know statistical data can be interpreted, or misconstrued, in different ways, and the Uniform Crime Report is unable to account for certain anomalies that I previously noted.

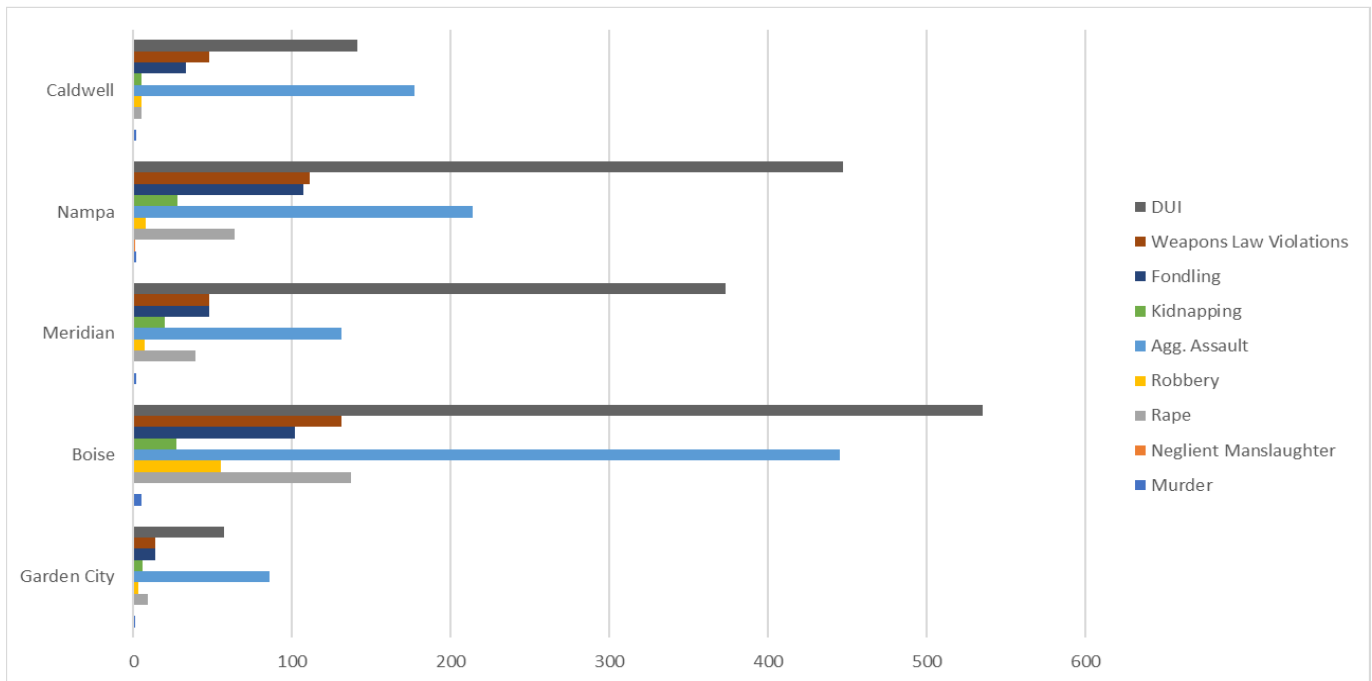
I think we can all agree that violent crime is unacceptable, and the city should take all reasonable and legal steps to minimize criminal activity. However, Idaho is an extremely safe state to begin with, boasting less crime in our entire state than most major cities throughout the country. In order to put this into perspective, in 2020 the state of Idaho had 39 homicides. Yet most major cities (yes cities, not states) throughout the United States suffered more homicides than the entire state of Idaho. For example, Chicago 524, New York 305, Dallas 152, Salt Lake City 103, Seattle 52, Portland 57. As of October 25, 2021, the City of Portland reported a record number of homicides - 72 - in a calendar year (with 2 months remaining). Garden City recorded only 1 homicide in 2020 and 1 homicide in 2021. It is also important to note that the vast majority of violent crime in Garden City is not committed by strangers, but rather involves a pre-existing victim-offender relationship (i.e., family members, friends, parents, dating connection).

**What are the real numbers?**

In an attempt to provide a non-biased perspective of crime in Garden City, I wanted to highlight the actual crime numbers from the 2020 UCR Report in comparison to the other cities in the Treasure Valley.







2020	Garden City	Boise	Meridian	Nampa	Caldwell
<b>Murder</b>	1	5	2	2	2
<b>Negligent Manslaughter</b>	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Rape</b>	9	137	39	64	5
<b>Robbery</b>	3	55	7	8	5
<b>Agg. Assault</b>	86	445	131	214	177
<b>Kidnapping</b>	6	27	20	28	5
<b>Fondling</b>	14	102	48	107	33
<b>Weapons Law Violations</b>	14	131	48	111	48
<b>DUI</b>	57	535	373	447	141
<b>Population</b>	12,167	235,684	117,635	100,200	59,996