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THE CITY WITH SPIRIT

# TBI report shows crime increase for city, county

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According to numbers compiled by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, there has been an increase in crime reported in the Cleveland/Bradley County area.

The annual TBI Crime in Tennessee Report is put together by the TBI's Statistical Analysis Center and is compiled by gathering data submitted by local law enforcement agencies for the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System.

According to the report, a total of 5,714 crimes were reported by the Cleveland Police Department in 2014. This number is up from the 2013 total of 5,431. The report also shows that the department cleared a total 1,904 or 33.3 percent of cases in 2014, while making 3,057 arrests in the process. This is slightly lower than the 2013 clearance rate of 34.1 percent.

The same report shows that in 2014 the Bradley County Sheriff's Office reported a total of 2,800 offenses in 2014, which is 218 more than the previous year. The study also shows that BCSO cleared a total 1,532, or 54.7 percent of these cases, while making 2,637 arrests. This is a significant increase from the 2013 clearance rate of 49.8 percent.

The number of drug offenses reported by both departments is up, with 489 being reported by the CPD and 463 reported by the BCSO. Last year the CPD and BCSO reported 415 and 421 respectively. The 2104 clearance rate for drug crime was 97 percent for the CPD and 83 percent for the BCSO.

Crimes against persons, which include assaults, intimidation, and sexual assaults, increased in both jurisdictions. In 2014 CPD reported 1,189 crimes against persons, from 1,072 in 2013. The BCSO reported 849 crimes against persons in 2014, up considerably from 652 in 2013. The clearance rate for crimes against persons in 2104 was 44 percent for the CPD and 83 percent for the BCSO.

The reported property crime numbers are up for both departments, which includes thefts, burglaries, shoplifting, various frauds, and embezzlement.

The BCSO reported 849 crimes against property in 2014, close to 2013 figures.

The CDP reported 4,000 crimes against property, up from 3,907 in 2013.

The BCSO 2014 clearance rate is 24 percent, improved from the 13 percent cleared in 2103. The CPD clearance rate for property crime was 23 percent in 2104, down three points from 26 percent in 2013.

Domestic violence reports have also increased at the CPD, with it reporting 565 domestic offenses in 2014, up by 47 from 2013. BCSO reported 570 domestic offenses in 2014, 16 less than reported in 2013.

CPD also reported 13,358 crimes and 7,146.9 arrests per 100,000 people in 2014, making the average number of crimes committed about 1.13 per person. These crimes per population stats were not reported on by BCSO.

The TBI report is part of a larger gathering of crime statistics performed by the FBI, which requires every state to compile crime statistics for its database.