



SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT SOUTHWEST PRECINCT CRIME TRENDS

NO: 1

January - April 2009

SOUTHWEST PRECINCT CRIME TRENDS:

As the table below indicates, Southwest Precinct is posting an increase in Major Crimes for the first four months of 2009 when compared with the same period in 2008. Unlike the other precincts, however, the overall crime rise is being driven more by increases in Property Crimes than by Violent Crimes.

Among Property Crimes, both burglaries and larceny/thefts are up, compared to a year ago. Southwest Precinct is also the only precinct posting an increase in vehicle thefts.

While Southwest Precinct has relatively fewer Violent Crimes compared to the other precincts, increases have been posted in both robberies and aggravated assaults. ■

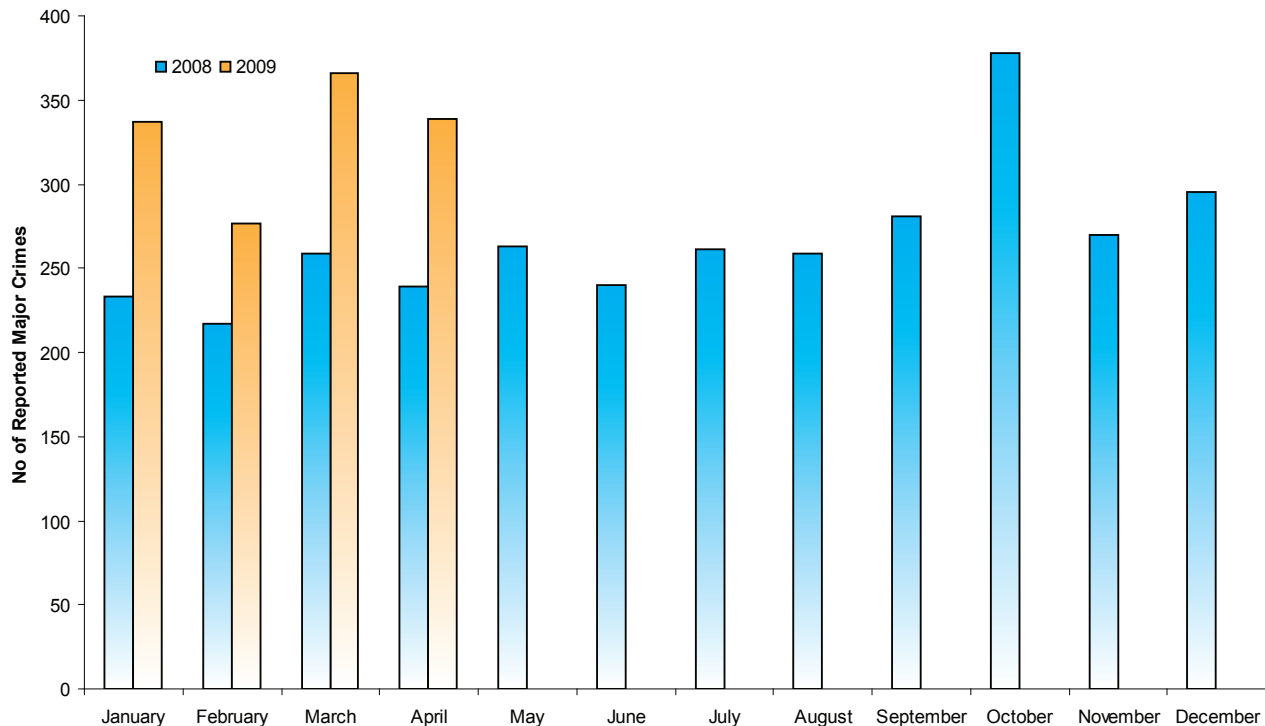
SOUTHWEST PRECINCT MAJOR CRIMES BY MONTH

FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 2009 AND 2008 YEAR TO DATE COMPARISONS

Major Crimes	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Current YTD	Previous YTF
Homicide	0	2	0	0									2	0
Rape	1	0	0	1									2	4
Robbery	10	6	15	12									43	37
Aggrav. Assault	13	12	19	23									67	50
Total Violent	24	20	34	36									114	91
Burglary	73	64	119	88									344	231
Larceny/Theft	207	164	180	189									740	511
Vehicle Theft	33	29	33	26									121	115
Total Property	313	257	332	303									1205	857
Total Major Crimes	337	277	366	339									1319	948

SOUTHWEST PRECINCT MAJOR CRIME TRENDS

2008 COMPARED TO FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 2009



As seen in the chart above, the trend line in Southwest for Major Crimes in 2009 is upward, mirroring the trend in the first four months of 2008 but at a higher level. ■

SOUTHWEST PRECINCT RESPONSE TO CRIME:

- Precinct officers and detectives have been actively addressing property crimes in Southwest Precinct. Video of a break-in at a condominium garage provided a suspect description, leading to a rapid arrest by officers. Surveillance video of a break-in at a senior center was provided to the local media. The suspects were identified and subsequently linked to over 130 burglaries throughout the region. Three arrests have been made in these cases.
- A case involving stolen parts from a classic car was solved when a witness became suspicious about some car parts he purchased. Southwest Precinct detectives were able to identify a suspect and launch an investigation, resulting in the suspect's arrest for trafficking in stolen property. The officers' investigative work on this case was featured on Washington's Most Wanted. In another case, officers responding to a call of a tire rolling across a busy street were able to apprehend a burglary suspect who had broken into a tire store.
- Southwest Precinct detectives and the precinct's Crime Prevention Coordinator are contacting residential burglary victims and doing follow-ups with neighbors in order to identify possible links between break-ins, to develop descriptions of potential suspects and to share crime prevention tips. In neighborhoods where burglaries have occurred and there is not an active Block Watch, the Crime Prevention Coordinator is contacting neighbors to offer assistance in getting one started.