

# New FBI Data Confirms Falling Crime Rates in Arizona

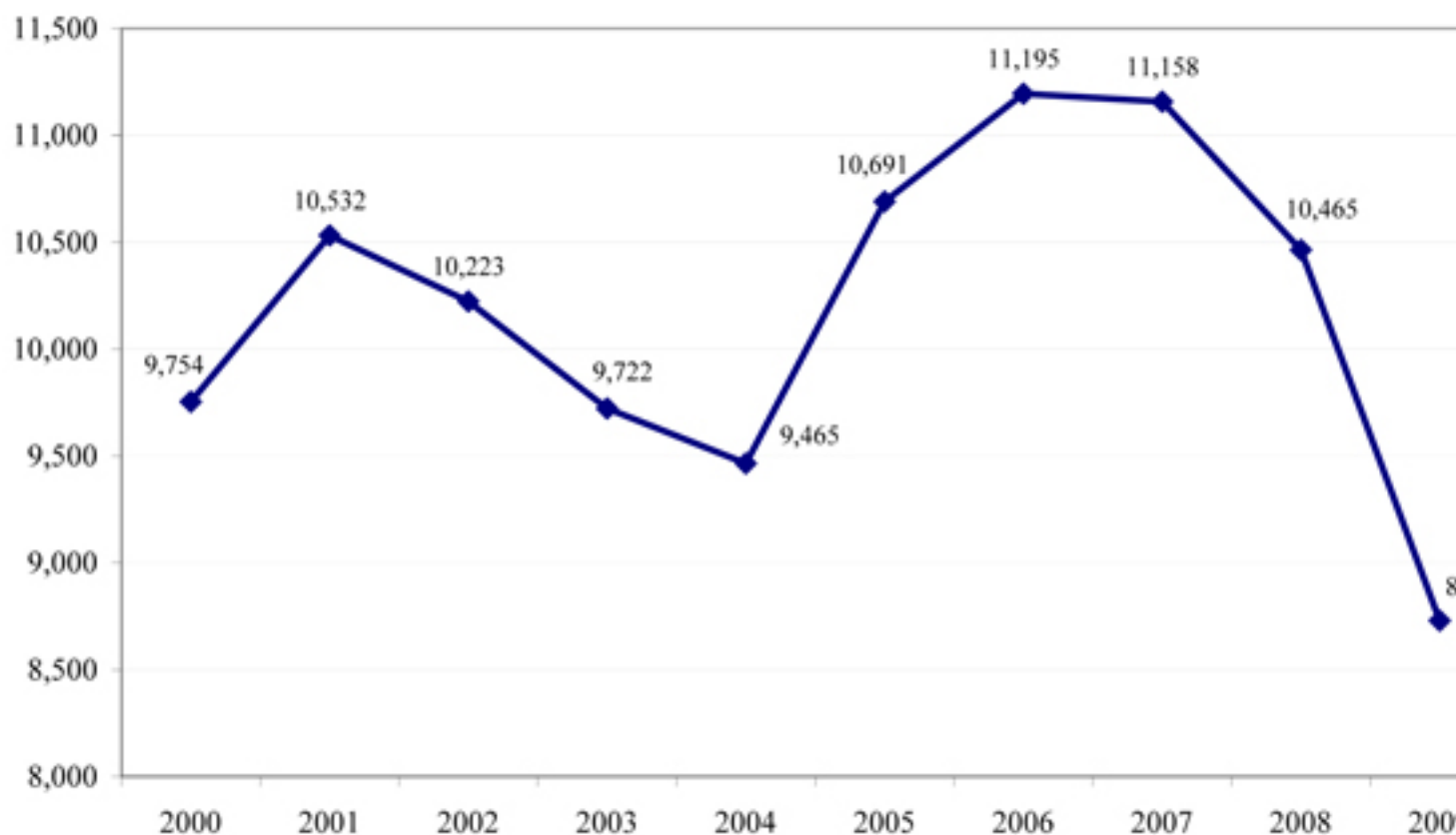
### *Violent Crimes Are Down in the State's Three Largest Cities*

Many supporters of Arizona's harsh new anti-immigrant law, [SB 1070](#) [1], continue to insist that the law is, in part, a crime-fighting measure. However, the latest crime statistics released by the FBI confirm what [previous data](#) [2] had already indicated: that Arizona is in the midst of a years-long decline in violent crime that pre-dates SB 1070, despite the [growing number](#) [3] of unauthorized immigrants in the state during those same years. Specifically, [preliminary data](#) [4] released by the FBI on May 24, when compared to data from [previous years](#) [5], reveals that the numbers of violent crimes as a whole, and murders in particular, have been trending downwards for years in Arizona's three largest cities: Phoenix, Tucson, and Mesa. Arizona's falling crime rates, together with a century's worth of evidence indicating that immigrants are [less likely](#) [6] to commit serious crimes than the native-born, cast serious doubt on the claims of some SB 1070 supporters that the law is in any way a useful crime-fighting tool.

### **Phoenix**

- The total number of violent crimes in Phoenix has fallen every year since 2006 {Figure 1}.

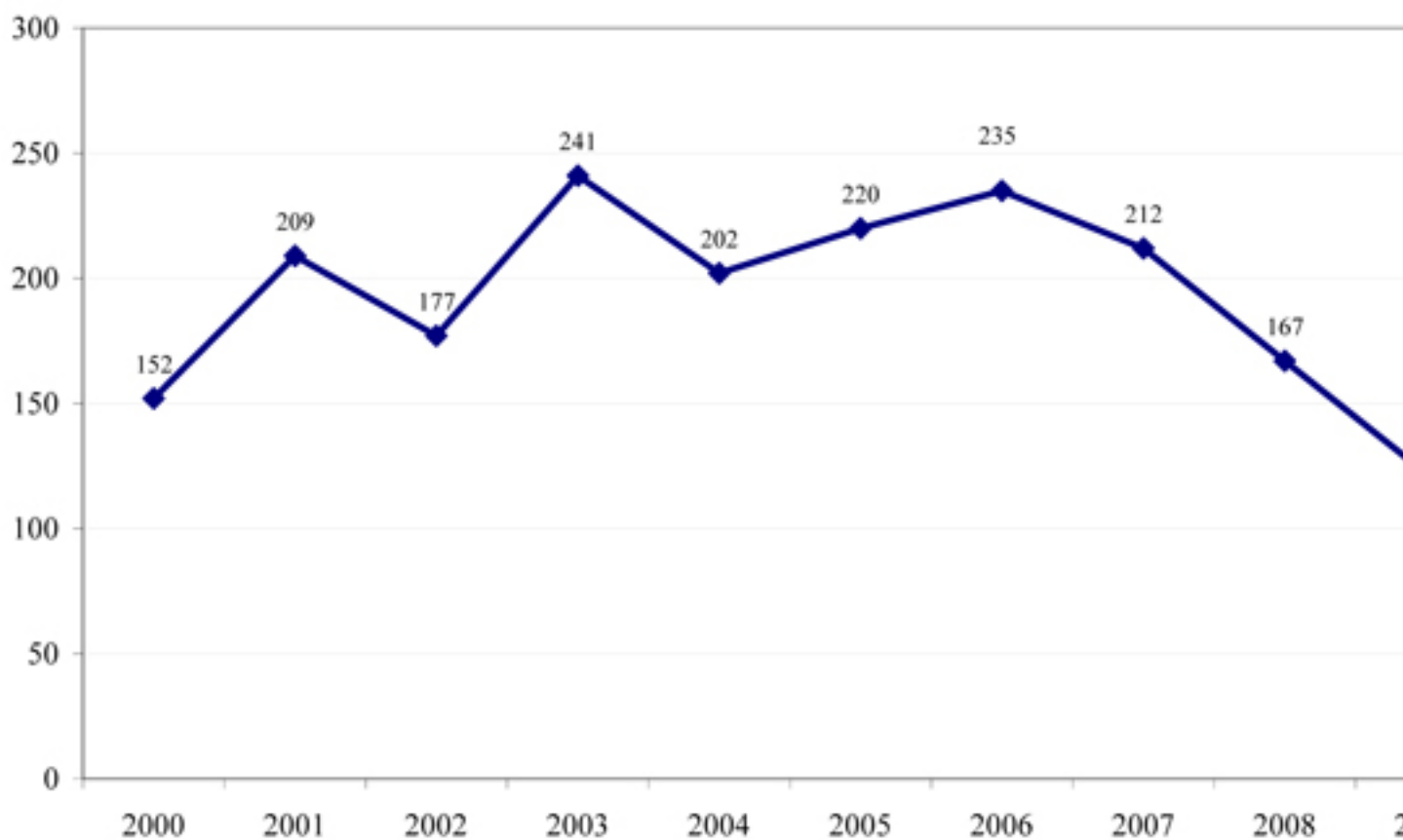
**Figure 1: Total Number of Violent Crimes in Phoenix, Arizona, 2000-2009**



Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

- The number of murders in Phoenix has fallen every year since 2006 {Figure 2}.

**Figure 2: Number of Murders Committed in Phoenix, Arizona, 2000-2009**

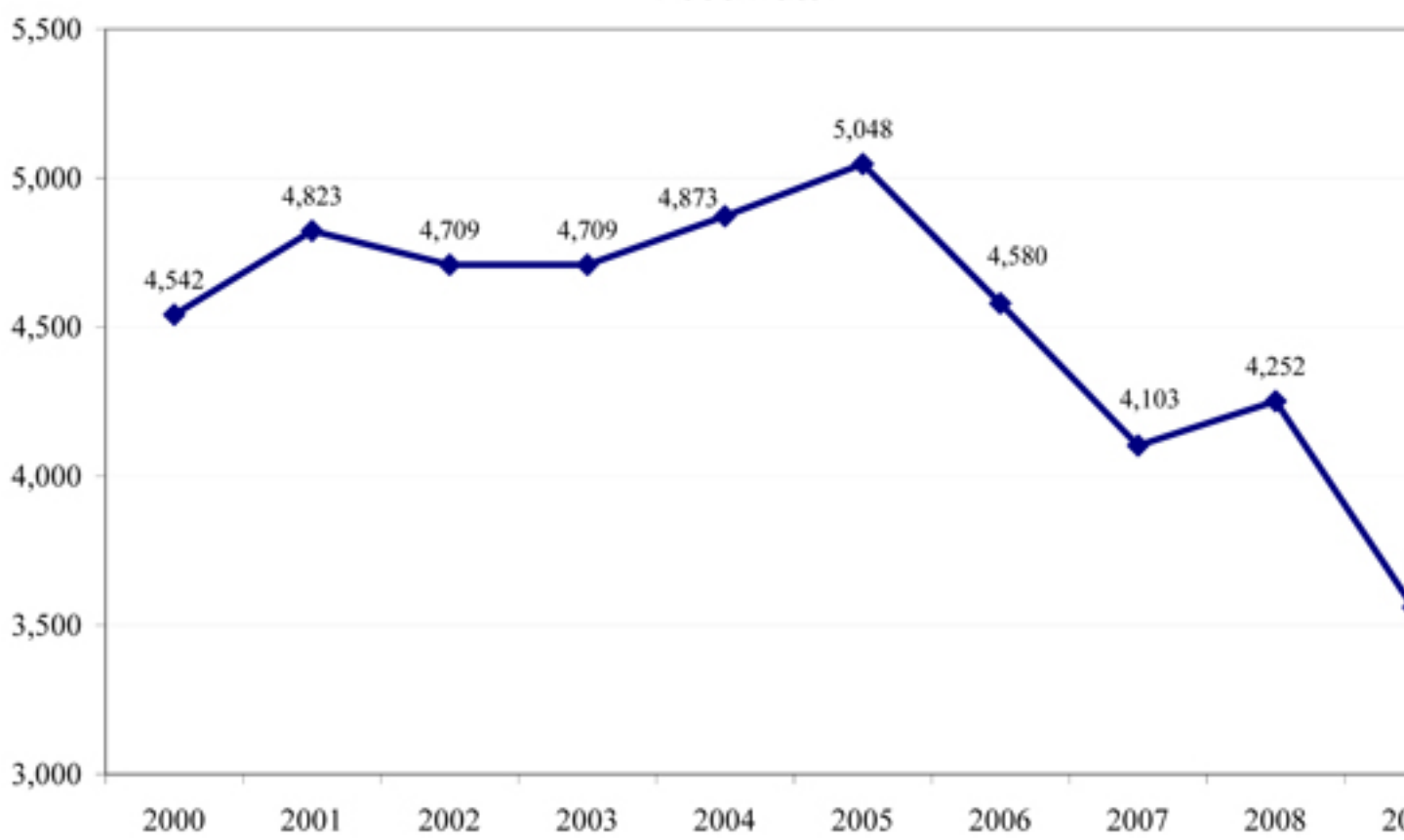


Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

### **Tucson**

- The total number of violent crimes in Tucson fell from 2005 to 2007, rose slightly in 2008, and then dropped significantly in 2009 {Figure 3}.

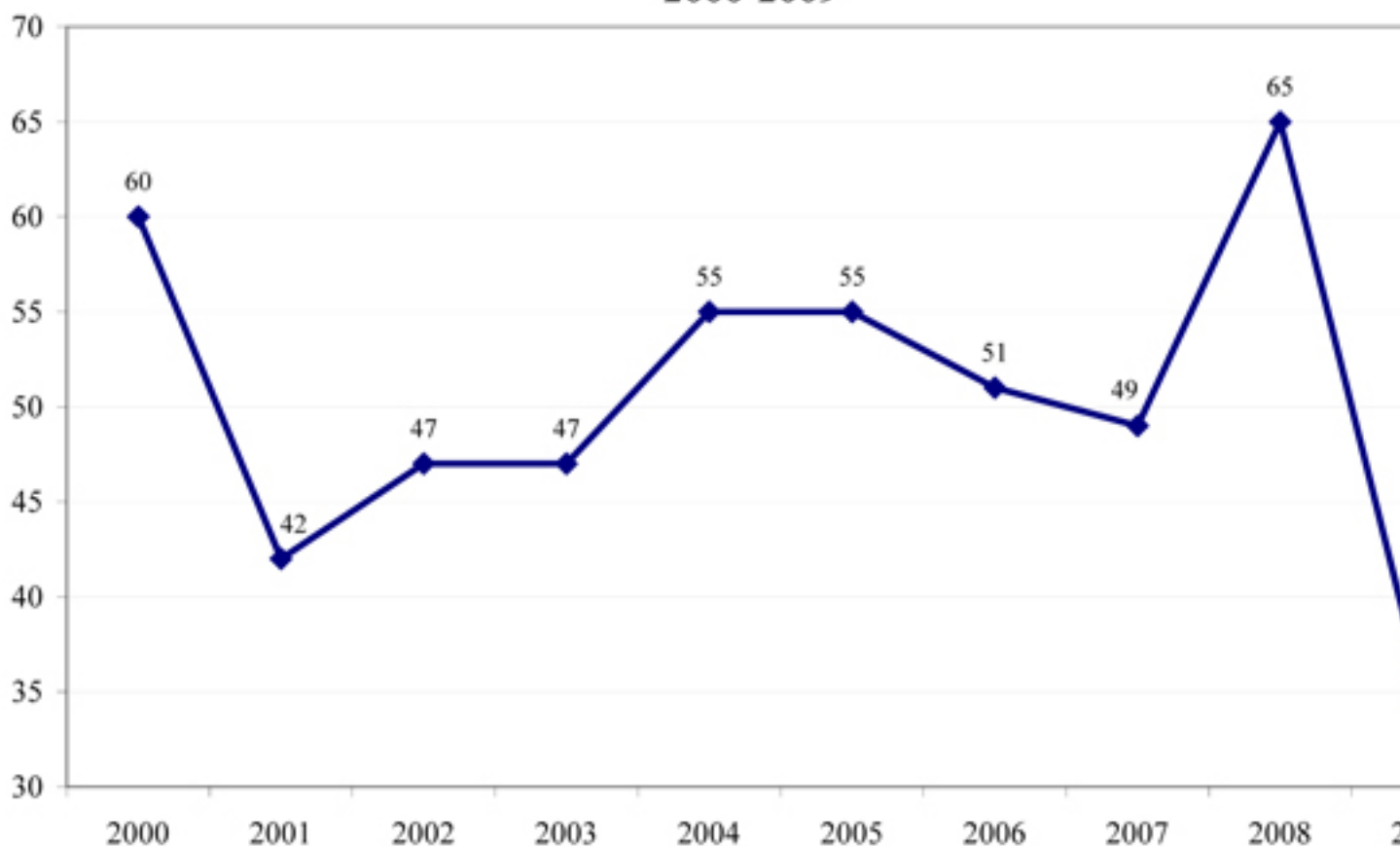
**Figure 3: Total Number of Violent Crimes in Tucson, Arizona, 2000-2009**



Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

- The number of murders in Tucson fell from 2005 to 2007, jumped in 2008, and then dropped dramatically in 2009 {Figure 4}.

**Figure 4: Number of Murders Committed in Tucson, Arizona, 2000-2009**

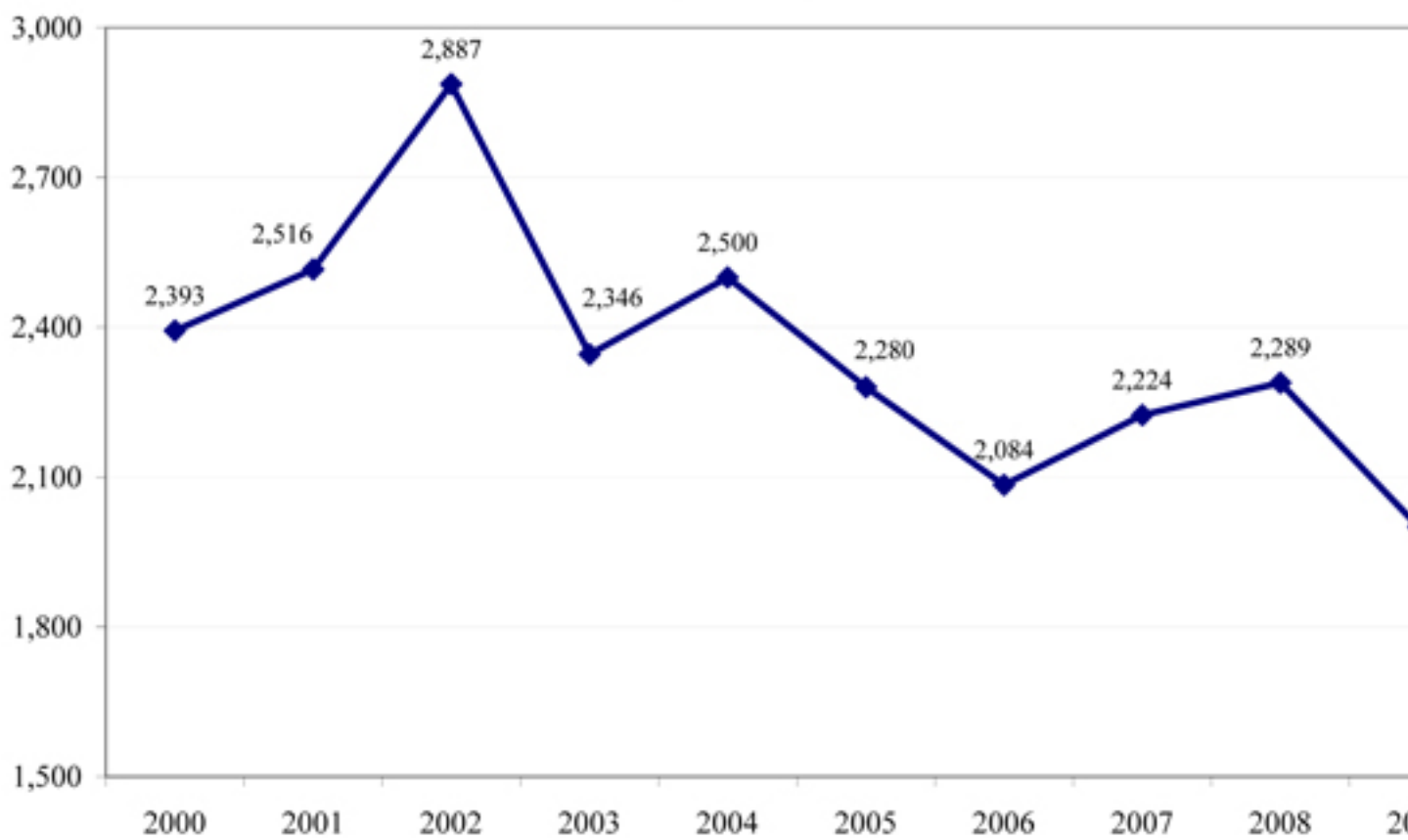


Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

### **Mesa**

- The total number of violent crimes in Mesa fell from 2004 to 2006, rose somewhat in 2007 and 2008, and then dropped significantly in 2009 {Figure 5}.

**Figure 5: Total Number of Violent Crimes in Mesa, Arizona, 2000-2009**



Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

- The number of murders in Mesa has fallen every year since 2005 {Figure 6}.

A line graph showing the number of deaths from malaria in the United States from 2000 to 2009. The x-axis represents the years from 2000 to 2009, and the y-axis represents the number of deaths, ranging from 0 to 35 in increments of 5. The data points are connected by a dark blue line, and each point is labeled with its corresponding value.

Year	Deaths
2000	15
2001	17
2002	22
2003	14
2004	22
2005	29
2006	26
2007	22
2008	16
2009	14

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<http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/new-fbi-data-confirms-falling-crime-rates-arizona>

[1] [http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/SB1070\\_Guide\\_060210\\_1.pdf](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/SB1070_Guide_060210_1.pdf)

[2]  
[http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/.../default/files/docs/Arizona\\_Punishment\\_Doesnt\\_Fit\\_the\\_Crime\\_042810\\_0.pdf](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/.../default/files/docs/Arizona_Punishment_Doesnt_Fit_the_Crime_042810_0.pdf)

[3] <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/107.pdf#page=39>

[4] [http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/prelimsem2009/table\\_4a1-ca.html](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/prelimsem2009/table_4a1-ca.html)

[5] <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/dataonline/Search/Crime/Local/LocalCrimeLarge.cfm>

[6] <http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/.../default/files/docs/Crime%20Fact%20Check%2012-12-07.pdf>

[7] [http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/Arizona and Crime 061710.pdf](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/docs/Arizona%20and%20Crime%20061710.pdf)

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