



# NEAR CAMPUS CRIME DATA

Quality of Life

## ABSTRACT

Prepared for the University of Oregon Senate

**Matt Carmichael**

Chief of Police

## Introduction

In response to a formal request from the University of Oregon Senate, this review seeks to capture data used to assess quality-of-life issues for UO students living in Eugene neighborhoods west of campus. The data cited in this review was obtained from a public-facing website that the Eugene Police, UO Police, and Springfield Police all use to provide daily crime data to our communities.<sup>1</sup> Crime data was then compared to a map created by UO's Campus GIS & Mapping Program which identifies UO student residences in the Eugene/Springfield metro area as of fall 2018 (a model they generate annually).

My review will focus on three categories of crime data:

1. Violent crimes against persons
2. Property crimes
3. Quality-of-life-related calls for service

## About CrimeReports and Other Related Data

CrimeReports is a website that provides communities with daily access to crime data affecting their communities. Police agencies upload crime data daily, typically via their records management systems (RMS). Community members can then review crime data related to their neighborhoods and sign up to receive crime alerts based on this data.

UOPD subscribes to this service and utilizes the maps to provide staff a visual depiction of crime in and around campus and to identify areas that may require specific attention. CrimeReports is also a valuable tool for parents and prospective students when choosing a college.

While we have the opportunity to review raw data, we typically use the map view for an overall presentation. In reviewing data associated with the City of Eugene there are other open-source systems that we can access to help identify quality-of-life issues affecting UO students living off-campus, such as NeighborhoodScout, which aggregates raw data to produce a general overview of a city focusing on quality of life.<sup>2</sup>

In the past, agencies have had to devote a substantial amount of resources to crime analytics. However, public access to regularly posted law enforcement data has improved substantially in recent years, making services such as CrimeReports not only reliable for the public, but for law enforcement agencies as well.

Lastly, UOPD reviewed the specific statistical data provided by Eugene Police<sup>3</sup> noting that the most current data is found at CrimeReports. In response to the crime rate in Eugene and the impact felt by UO students both on- and off-campus, UOPD has collaborated with its partners at the Eugene Police Department, an agency that has been grossly understaffed for many years now.

Providing support to our students in the city is a priority for UOPD, recognizing the primary responsibility is still campus property. Balance and interagency cooperation are guiding principles for UOPD in trying to address the full safety experience of UO students.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.crimereports.com/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.neighborhoodscout.com/or/eugene/crime>

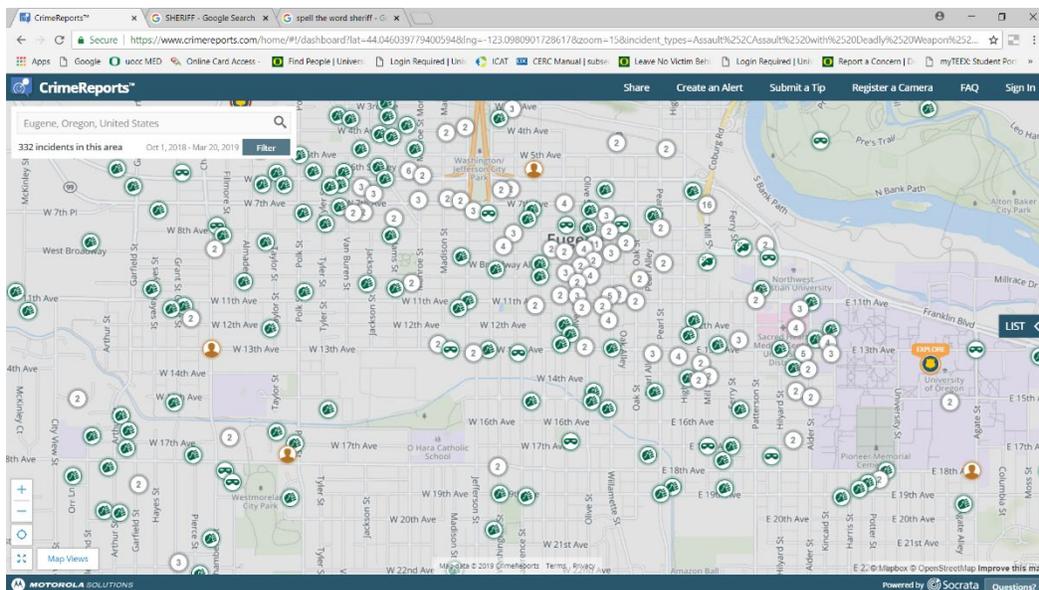
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.eugene-or.gov/542/Crime-Statistics>

## Violent Crimes

For the purposes of the Senate request, violent crimes are classified as follows:

1. Assault
2. Assault with a deadly weapon
3. Homicide
4. Kidnapping
5. Robbery
6. Other sexual offenses
7. Sexual assault
8. Sexual offense

Comparing the student population map to the crime map in the same or general area revealed there were 332 violent crimes reported for a six-month period (October 2, 2018-March 20, 2019):



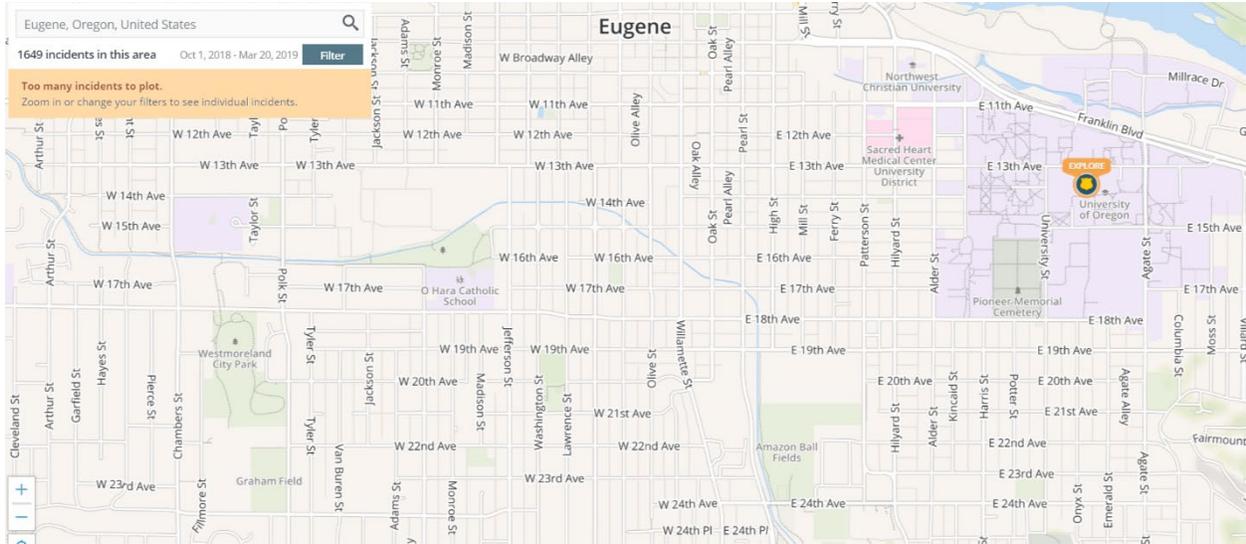
## Property Crimes

For the purposes of the Senate request property crimes are classified as follows:

1. Breaking and entering
2. Property crime
3. Property crime commercial
4. Property crime residential
5. Theft
6. Theft from vehicle
7. Theft of vehicle

These categories were taken directly from the CrimeReports website to ensure consistent reporting. The data is provided by any local law enforcement agencies who took reports of relevant crimes for the designated geographic area.

For the six-month time period the system was unable to plot property crimes on the map as there were too many. For this same general area 1649 property crimes were reported.



In an effort to provide some context to the issues related to property crimes here is a closer view to campus for the same time frame based on the Senate's request: 347 property crimes were reported and plotted on the map below.

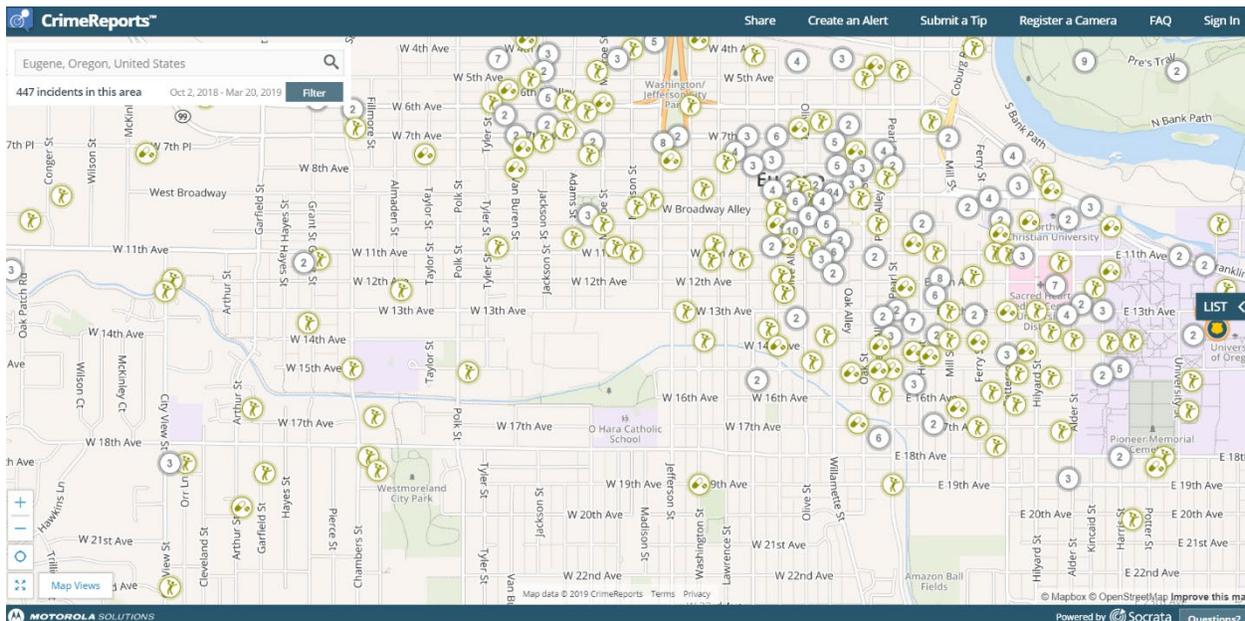


## Quality of Life

Police have reported statistical data related to what are classified as “quality-of-life” issues impacting our communities for years. This statistical data presented to the Senate focuses on laws related to preserving the quality of life in our community.

For the purposes of the Senate request, quality-of-life incidents are classified as follows:

1. Disorder
2. Quality of life
3. Drugs
4. Liquor



As shown above, 447 incidents were reported during the specified six-month period.

## Response

As campus police we are reviewing ways to improve the quality of life for our students both on- and off-campus. We are fortunate to have a good partner like the Eugene Police Department who demonstrates on a daily basis their care for protecting our community. We have partnered with EPD on many initiatives which directly impact on- and off-campus life. I can provide further details on our efforts if the Senate so requests or I would be more than happy to provide an in-person presentation.