



March, 2026

2025 WDDNA area crime statistics

Vandalism was one of the leading crimes reported in the WDDNA service area in 2025. A total of 13 vandalism incidents were reported, or 20% of all crimes in our neighborhood. That total reflects a rash of front door kicks perpetrated by teenage boys last spring.

Each year, WDDNA keeps track of crimes reported in our neighborhood. A total of 66 incidents were reported here last year, 11 more than in 2024. However, except for the 13 cases of vandalism, crime in our neighborhood would have been about the same as in 2024. A total of 66 incidents of all types were reported in our neighborhood last year, compared to 55 in 2024.

2025 WDDNA CRIME STATISTICS					
Offense	Penal Code	Total Per Offense	% of Annual Total	Month	Crimes/ Month
Destruction damage vandalism	594(a)	13	20%		
All other larceny	484	13	20%	Dec	5
Burglary	459	13	20%	Nov	3
Theft from motor vehicle	484(a)	10	15%	Oct	8
Get credit card	530.5(a)	6	9%	Sep	7
False pretense	530	3	5%	Aug	7
Resisting a peace officer	148	1	2%	Jul	4
Contempt of court	166(a)(4)	1	2%	Jun	2
False pretense	368(d)(1)	1	2%	May	4
Homicide	187	1	2%	Apr	8
Aggravated assault	245(a)	1	2%	Mar	5
Counterfeit	470(a)	1	2%	Feb	11
Intimidation	653m(a)	1	2%	Jan	2
Disorderly conduct	314(1)	1	2%	Total	66
		66	100%		

2024 WDDNA CRIME STATISTICS					
Offense	Penal Code	Total Per Offense	% of Annual Total	Month	Crimes/ Month
Burglary residential	459	16	29%		
All other larceny	484	10	18%	Dec	6
Destruction damage vandalism	594(a)	5	9%	Nov	7
Theft from motor vehicle	484(a)	3	5%	Oct	7
Weapon law violation	296.10(a)	2	4%	Sep	2
Embezzlement	484(a)	2	4%	Aug	6
Theft from building	484(a)	2	4%	Jul	5
False pretense	530.5(a)	2	4%	Jun	6
Get credit card	530.5(a)	2	4%	May	2
Aggravated assault	245(a)	2	4%	Apr	3
Possession of controlled substance	11364 (n46)	1	2%	Mar	6
Failure to appear	1320 (b)	1	2%	Feb	2
All other larceny	484	1	2%	Jan	3
Contempt of court	166(a)(4)	1	2%		
Simple assault on spouse	243(b)	1	2%	Total	55
Impersonation	368(d)(1)	1	2%		
Speed contest	23109(a) VC	1	2%		
Burglary commercial	459	1	2%		
Identity theft	530.5(b)(2)	1	2%		
	Total	55	100%		

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In both years, the category of "all other larceny" represented the second largest number of incidents. There were 13 such reports in 2025, or 20% of all crimes in the neighborhood.

And, if you are wondering what constitutes "all other larceny," it refers to theft offenses that do not fit into specific, defined categories and do not include using force or breaking into a home or building. It would include theft of bicycles, lawnmowers and equipment, as well as stealing items from fenced areas.

The third largest number of incidents last year were residential burglaries. A total of 13 cases were reported, down from 16 in 2024.

A total of 10 thefts from motor vehicles were reported here last year, up from 3 in 2024. None of those cases involved damage to the vehicle because the car doors were unlocked. There was no need to smash a window. All of those thefts could have been avoided if the owners had taken their valuables into the house or simply locked them in the trunk and then locked the doors of their vehicle.

How to prevent car burglaries

- Deputies strongly urge that, even if you are parked in front of your house or in your driveway, you should lock your vehicle doors. Criminals frequently walk down the street and look to see if a car is unlocked. If it is, they open the door and take

whatever is visible. However, if the door is locked, they are more likely to move on.

- Even if your car is locked, it is important not to leave valuables in plain sight. Almost any item that's visible from the outside – even if you think it is worthless – could be seen as valuable to a thief. A cell phone charger, a pair of cheap sunglasses, an empty grocery bag can attract a thief. Leave nothing loose or visible in your car
- Garage door openers are easy to forget about, but thieves are on the lookout for them. If they find one in your car in your driveway, they may open the garage door and help themselves to whatever is inside. Worse yet, they may open the door from the garage into your home and burglarize that, too.
- Stow your electronics and accessories well out of sight or take them with you. The sight of an accessory might be enough to interest thieves, including items such as power cords, adapters and GPS windshield suction-cup mounts. If you remove the suction cup, make sure to wipe the ring off the windshield; it's a dead giveaway that you own a GPS device.
- Get in the habit of putting items you want hidden in the trunk of your car before you arrive at your destination. Thieves will linger in busy parking lots looking for you to stash your valuable items.

Stop 'vampire' energy drains

SMUD routinely reminds us that everything from electric toasters and can openers to toaster ovens and slow cookers gobble up electricity even when they are not running.



Countertop appliances often consume "vampire" energy – typically 1 to 6 watts each – even when not in use, if left plugged in. This standby power keeps digital clocks, timers and indicator lights running, accounting for 5-10% of residential energy use. Unplugging them saves money and reduces fire hazards.

- **Common culprits:** Coffee makers, microwaves, toasters, blenders, and digital scales.
- **Energy usage:** While individual appliances use a small amount, the cumulative effect in an average home adds up.
- **Impact on bills:** "Vampire" devices can increase monthly electricity bills by up to 10%.
- **Safety benefits:** Unplugging reduces the risk of electrical fires, especially with appliances that have heating elements.

Manual plug-ins

Wall plug-in devices that allow for manual, on-demand shutdown of electrical power to countertop appliances include power strips, single-outlet switches, safety outlets and smart plugs. These devices act as a bridge between the wall outlet and the appliance, providing a physical or digital button to completely cut power without having to unplug the device.

There are a number of wall plug-in devices for this purpose. Manual on/off outlet switches are easy and inexpensive to use. You simply plug them into your wall outlet and then plug your appliances into the device. You can use single switches, one for each device, or you can expand your wall outlet's capacity by using devices with multiple plugs.

Leviton single switch plugs are available at Home Depot for about \$7. Maxxima offers a set of 4 three-plug adapters for \$20. A set of three Cable Matters single plugs is available on Amazon for \$8.

Auto Shut-Off Safety Outlets

These devices allow you to set a timer, but often have a "manual" or "always on" mode, or provide a "simple touch" option that cuts power after a set time to prevent fire hazards from left-on appliances. Simple Touch and Teklectric single outlet devices can be found on Amazon for about \$12 on Amazon.

Smart Plugs (Manual Override Capability)

While intended for voice/app control, smart plugs also feature a physical button on the side or front, allowing you to manually cut power immediately.

TP-Link Tapo Smart Plug Mini that is fully compatible with Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant offers the hands-free convenience of scheduling and controlling any home electronic appliances with your voice. A set of four of them is available for \$30 on Amazon. To add voice control, an Alexa device is required for a total price of \$110.

The Amazon Smart Plug works with Alexa to add voice control to any outlet. It is compatible with many household devices with a physical on/off switch. No smart home hub required. You can manage it through the Alexa app on your phone. You can even set up routines that automate everyday tasks, such as turning on your coffee maker. A single pack is available on Amazon for \$25. A four pack is \$75.

Things to consider

- **Amperage rating:** Ensure the switch is rated for 15 Amps to handle high-power kitchen appliances (air fryers, toasters).
- **Grounded:** For most kitchen countertop appliances, ensure the switch is 3-prong grounded for safety.
- **Outlet blockage:** Look for "non-blocking" designs that allow the switch to be plugged in without covering the second outlet in a duplex receptacle.

Automatic appliance shutoff devices

Automatic shut-off kitchen appliances enhance safety by preventing fires and accidents, featuring sensors that power down devices like cooktops, ovens, toasters and kettles when they overheat, detect smoke or remain inactive. Popular options include smart stoves with motion sensors, auto-shutoff toaster ovens and specialized fire-prevention devices.



These safety devices are especially useful to help senior citizens with memory issues or homes with children who may turn on burners and cause a fire.

An internet search revealed the following options:

Automatic shut-off appliance types:

- **Stoves & ovens:** [CookStop](#) and [FireAvert](#) provide devices for electric and gas stoves that turn off burners after a set period of inactivity or if smoke is detected.
- **Toaster ovens & toasters:** Models from brands like [Breville](#) and Black+Decker often feature automatic shut-off when toast is done or the timer expires.
- **Coffee makers & kettles:** Nespresso machines and [Hamilton Beach kettles](#) include automatic shut-off to prevent overheating.
- **Cookers:** Many electric pressure cookers, slow cookers and rice cookers (e.g., Ninja, Hamilton Beach, MegaChef) shut off automatically when the cooking cycle finishes.

Top features to look for:

- **Motion sensors:** Detects movement in the kitchen, shutting down the stove if no one is present for a set duration.

- **Smoke/Heat sensors:** Triggers shut-off if excessive heat or smoke is detected.
- **12-Hour shut-off:** Standard on many modern, self-cleaning ovens for safety.
- **Easy installation:** Devices like FireAvert often plug into existing outlets without requiring complex wiring.

Other companies

[**iGuard Home Inc.**](#) produces the iGuardStove. It is a smart home device that shuts-off the power to the heating elements of your stove when it doesn't detect anyone in the kitchen for a full five minutes. Every time the iGuard detects someone in the kitchen during the five-minute countdown it resets the countdown timer back to five minutes. When cooking a roast or simmering a sauce you can increase the countdown timer for longer times.

[**CTS Safe Smart Cooking**](#) produces sensor systems for electric stoves that can automatically shut off the stove when danger is detected. The full-service version of the device, which cuts off power to the stove, is \$380. A device with a sensor only is \$200.

[**Pioneering Technologies**](#) has several fire-prevention devices, including SmartBurner, SmartRange and SmartMicro.

- **SmartBurner** replaces the electric coil element in a stovetop and uses patented (TLC) technology to prevent fires from starting. It prevents cooking fires from starting without the user even knowing they were at risk of a fire in the first place. A set of two 6" burners and two 8" burners costs \$280.
- **SmartRange** provides cooking fire protection for glass top electric ranges. It will detect the potential of a cooking fire starting and a pre-alarm will alert occupants of the issue. If the alarm is left unattended, the range will automatically shut off. SmartRange uses an intelligent heat sensor installed above the range and a control unit that cuts off the range's power supply when a cooking fire risk is detected. The price is \$280.

Gas range option

At this time, there are no smart sensors that monitor and shut off gas stoves. However, there is a device that attaches to gas burner knobs to remind you that a burner is on. This device is [**BurnerAlert**](#).

You might want to check out BurnerAlert if you have ever experienced the following:

- Forgotten that the tea kettle was on and cooked it dry, scorching it?
- Yelled, "Who left the burner on?"
- Were distracted by a phone call while cooking on the gas stove?
- Picked up a pot from a burner you thought was off and burned yourself?
- Worried that someone you know will forget the stove is on?
- Have you been multi-tasking and nearly caused a stove fire?

BurnerAlert™ is a thin plastic disc that attaches behind a stove/range knob. It emits audio and visual alerts anytime the stove knob has been turned "ON." Alexa also can send you a text message alerting you your stove is on. The alerts are a preset sequence of audio beeps and visual blinks. The sequence of alerts continues until the knob has been turned to the "OFF" position. The beeping intervals occur at startup and then at 3 minutes, 9 minutes, 15 minutes, and then every 15 minutes until the knob is turned OFF. The blinking alert occurs every 7 1/2 minutes. Each beeping alert is a series of 3 beeps repeated 3 times followed by 30 seconds of blinking.

For example: If you remove your food from the stove burner after 12 minutes and forget to turn the burner "OFF," the BurnerAlert will emit an audio alert at the preset 15-minute interval and will be followed with 30 seconds of blinking.

BurnerAlert can be monitored with Amazon Alexa and Alerts can be sent to your phone, email, or TV.

You can purchase the devices one at a time or in groups. A package of four is \$80.

DA hosts Citizen's Academy

DA hosts another Citizen's Academy

March 13 is the deadline to apply for the Sacramento County District Attorney's 2026 Citizen's Academy. The first class will be held on April 7.

The DA hosts the Citizen Academy in partnership with the Sacramento Police Department, Sacramento County Sheriff's Office and Sacramento County Probation Department.

The 10-week program is designed to engage citizens from all backgrounds and communities in discussion about public safety and criminal justice issues.

Participants learn about the local criminal justice system – including the roles of law enforcement, prosecutors and the courts. Topics include the anatomy of a criminal case; specialized areas of prosecution; CSI and crime lab analysis; use of force; innovative programs and partnerships and community-focused public safety partnerships and initiatives.

There is also an opportunity for a field trip to the District Attorney's Crime Lab and Sacramento Police Department's 911 Communications Center.

Representatives from the District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, Public Defender's Office, law enforcement, the judiciary and community organizations will provide information, answer questions and address community concerns.

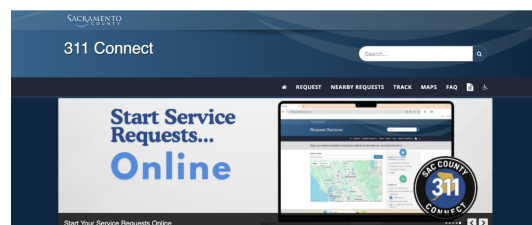
Participants must be 18 years of age or older.

Go to <https://www.sacda.org/in-the-community/citizens-academy/> for more information.

[CLICK HERE](#) to apply.

County announces new 311 website

Sacramento County has launched an [improved 311 Connect](#) online portal designed to make it easier for residents to manage service requests and access county services.



Residents can access the [upgraded 311 Connect portal](#) using a single Sacramento countywide user profile — the same account many already use for services such as My Utilities and Revenue Recovery.

According to county officials, the portal offers a more seamless, secure and user-friendly experience, with new features that include:

- **Simplified access:** A single, easy-to-use website to manage 311 Connect services.
- **Service request management:** The ability to view, update and submit new service requests.
- **Multi-account support:** Manage multiple accounts from one centralized portal.
- **Cami,** Sacramento County 311's new digital assistant. Cami can help answer questions. To learn more, watch a [video Introducing Cami - 311 Digital Assistant](#).

What to expect

As part of the transition, existing usernames will remain the same. Residents will receive an email with a password reset link to activate their new countywide profile. The link will expire seven days after it is sent. If the link expires, users can simply select "Forgot Password" on the login page to reset it.

All existing profile information and service request history will automatically transfer to the new portal, allowing residents to pick up right where they left off.

How to prepare

To ensure a smooth transition, residents can:

- Log into your current [Sacramento County 311 Connect account](#).
- Verify that your email address and phone number are up to date.

Once users receive the emailed link, they need to:

1. Click the password reset link in their email.
2. Enter their existing username.
3. Update their new Sacramento County profile with any missing contact details.

Residents should watch their inboxes for the password reset email and prepare to explore the new 311 Connect portal.

Member Q&A

Q: How can I arrange for a deputy to do a security inspection of my home and offer suggestions for improvement?

A: You may contact our Sheriff's Deputy liaison, Brian Smith, by sending an email to wilhaggin4@gmail.com or email him directly at casigns28@outlook.com. He can arrange to have a deputy stop by, inspect your home and offer helpful security tips. There is no charge for this WDDNA service.

HOW TO CALL FOR HELP

IN AN EMERGENCY

If you have an immediate emergency - if your life or property is in immediate danger, if you feel threatened by someone on or near your property, if you have just become the victim of a crime or if you are witnessing a crime in progress:

- CALL 911 from a land line.
- Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call (916) 874-5111.

TO REPORT A CRIME

There are two ways to report a crime to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department:

1. Call the Sheriff's Department NON-EMERGENCY LINE at (916) 874-5115. To bypass the recorded messaging when you call, dial 0 after the line is answered.
2. File a report online through the Sheriff's Department website. Click on this link to begin the process: https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY (Not an emergency)

If you see someone engaged in suspicious activity but it is not an emergency, call 916-874-5115 (Sheriff's Department non-emergency line).

GENERAL CONCERNS, REPORTS OR QUESTIONS

If you have an issue that can be addressed later, you may contact our neighborhood patrol officers about it. The best way is via EMAIL at wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com.

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