

The Great Reduction in Crime



For the last several decades, until recently, crime has been falling in the United States. This is [attributed to](#) demographics, decreased lead exposure, longer periods of incarceration, legalized abortion, decreased poverty, and more funding for police officers in the 1990s and then again after 9/11/2001.

Lately, however, crime has been increasing. As I write this, real wages have fallen below the level of wages in 1972. Criminal behavior is increasingly tolerated among leaders and viewed as acceptable behavior. Social contracts collapse as the futility and ultimate demise of [debt-based capitalism](#) becomes more apparent.

Crime is virtually eliminated under [land-based capitalism](#).

The highly unsuccessful U.S. war on drugs [has cost over \\$1 trillion](#) to date. Possession and sale of narcotics accounts for 16% of all arrests. This does not count the increased gang violence over drug turfs plus ancillary gang crimes.

In the [Federation](#), drugs are freely available at the [isolation centers](#), and legal almost everywhere. Crime is reduced 16% by definition, as use and most sales are no longer crimes. Police have 16% more resources to protect and investigate crimes against life and property.

Another 1% savings can be attributed to the elimination of laws against gambling, prostitution, loitering, and vagrancy. Gambling is simply legal. Prostitution must be explicitly outlawed by a 2/3 plurality. Prostitutes must have an updated [VOS](#) on sexually transmitted disease status.

Loitering and vagrancy laws remain on the books, but acceptable reasons for begging are gone. The [Earth Dividend](#)'s food and housing distribution clears the street of vagrants. Remaining panhandlers are seeking drugs or alcohol. The isolation centers provide an alternative that reduces these as well.

Domestic violence-related police calls have been found to constitute the single largest category of calls received by police, accounting for [15 to more than 50](#)

[percent of all calls](#). In the Federation, larger families and voluntary collectives are both the norm and self-policing.

There is one social worker for every 30 families or voluntary collectives. The Earth Dividend ensures that [exit rights](#) can be exercised by anyone. Nobody needs to work at a job they hate and take it out on the family. It is estimated that these cultural changes will reduce domestic violence by 50% or more. In terms of arrests, that is less than a percent, yet saves as much as 33% of police time.

Poverty is a major driver of crime. In [one study of cities](#) with populations over 100,000, every 1% increase in the population below the poverty level led to an increase of about 135 total crimes and about 25 violent crimes.

If extrapolated, it implies poverty is the primary cause of crime. Consider that the crime rate in 2018 was $(368.9 + 2,199) / 100,000$. However, the [percentage of people living below the poverty level](#) was 17.4% in these cities. The average number of crimes from poverty per city according to the study would be $17.4 \times 135 = 2,349$. The average population of these cities is about 230,000, explaining a crime rate from poverty of $2,349 / 230,000 = 1\%$. The total crime rate is 2.6%. About 38% of all crime is caused by poverty.

Here are the ways in which land-based capitalism eradicates crime by at least 38%. The Earth Dividend's housing distribution, food distribution, cash distribution, economies of scale of large families, free unlimited education, and quality medical care put an end to crime caused by:

1. Poverty.
2. Latch-key kids.
3. Lack of educational opportunity.
4. Poor nutrition and hunger.
5. Unsafe, unsanitary, unheated shelter.
6. Lead-based paint.

It is difficult to accurately predict the drop in crime under land-based capitalism, when the category "All Other Offenses" in FBI data is 32%. Some of these will no longer be offenses, such as combination in restraint of trade, trusts, and monopolies; discrimination and unfair competition; possession, repair, manufacture, etc., of burglar's tools; possession of drug paraphernalia; possession or sale of obscene literature and pictures, etc.

Some of these offenses will be difficult because of the VIP, like blackmail and extortion or bribery. Other offenses, like kidnapping, remain very much crimes. A sane reckoning of these “other offenses” leads to an estimated reduction in the crime rate of 15%.

It has long been recognized that repeat offenders commit a large number of the serious and violent crimes. [83% of all prisoners released from jail](#) are arrested at least once during the following 9 years.

In the Federation, prisons provide warm and safe shelter and nutritious meals, unlike today’s hellholes, particularly in the United States and the developing world. Prisoners have the education distribution to help train for a new career. The food, housing, and social worker distributions make the transition to liberty much easier. Penitentiaries are incentivized to reduce recidivism with a \$25/month [no-recidivism](#) annuity.

If the rate of recidivism is cut in half, about 40% of the crime not attributable to poverty, or no longer classified as a crime, will be eliminated.

In the mission to eliminate crime, the VIP plays a critical role. Cash, credit and debit cards are no longer carried on one’s person. All transactions are saved for 100 years. Fraud and white-collar crime are very difficult, if not impossible. There is safe ride-sharing. It is impossible to be a fugitive when any use of the VIP reveals one’s location. The VIP eliminates most robbery, larceny, fraud, embezzlement, and counterfeiting. This is about 11% of all crime.

There are also intangibles in land-based capitalism that should have an impact on crime. Some of them include:

1. The reduction in loneliness due to large families and [voluntary collectives](#).
2. The reduction in child abuse due to large families and voluntary collectives.
3. A better nurturing environment for children due to large family divisions of labor.
4. The end of feelings of class and racial inferiority due to an egalitarian distribution system.
5. A level playing field, [unlimited free education](#), and the end of hopelessness.
6. Better police-community relations through Earth Dividend funding.

It remains to be seen how much these impact the crime rate. Assume a conservative 5%.

How Much Crime is Eliminated Under Land-based Capitalism?		
Crime Rate	Event	Percent Reduction
2.6%	Current	
2.16%	Drug use/sale, prostitution, gambling legal	17%
1.84%	Reduction from "other offenses"	15%
1.14%	Poverty eliminated	38%
0.68%	50% of recidivism eliminated	40%
0.60%	VIP	11%
0.57%	Intangibles	5%

Conservatively, land-based capitalism reduces the 2018 crime rate from 2.6% to 0.57%, or by about 78%.