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State’s violent crime rate down

John Oliva
Corpus Christi Caller Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Violent crime rates in Texas declined from 2024 to 2025, in line with a national trend that represented the largest year-to-year drop since the FBI began estimating crime trends in 1936. In an email on Aug. 20, the FBI released detailed data tables on more than 13 million criminal offenses reported to the FBI by participating law enforcement agencies, focused on murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape offenses, aggravated assaults and robbery offenses. From the national data, murder and nonnegligent manslaughter decreased by 18.1%, rape offenses by 7.6%, aggravated assaults by 7.2% and robbery offenses by 18.5% nationwide. The state with the highest numbers of reported violent crimes and property crimes is California, with 170,300 violent crimes reported and 705,345 property crimes reported.

See CRIME, Page 3A

CORPUS CHRISTI ISD

Middle schools will start 20 minutes later



A Corpus Christi ISD school bus drops off students near King High School on Aug. 11. OLIVIA GARRETT/CALLER-TIMES

District will revert to original bell schedule starting Sept. 21

Olivia Garrett
Corpus Christi Caller Times
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

Corpus Christi ISD has announced an abrupt change to bell schedules at middle schools starting Sept. 21. At the start of the 2026-27 school year, the Corpus Christi Independent School District implemented a new, earlier bell schedule due to a bus driver shortage. However, on Sept. 3, the district announced it will revert to the original schedule for middle schools starting Sept. 21. Beginning Sept. 21, middle schools will start school at 8:50 a.m. and end at 4:10 p.m. "While conditions have improved since the start of the school year, we unfortunately continue to experience challenges with buses arriving late to school as well as delays in picking up students after school," the district announced in a letter to parents. "In an effort to consistently improve on-time service, we will return to our previous schedule, starting with the second six weeks of the school year." Students can enter school 20 minutes before the bell. According to the letter to parents, individual schools and coaches will communicate any changes to after-school activities that may be needed. The letter states the district will communicate any additional bus route changes, distributing notification letters with new routes and times to affected campuses and bus riders' parents. Updated routes will also be shared on the district's website ahead of time. The letter also advertises the district's open bus driver positions, inviting interested individuals to apply at ccisd.us. Olivia Garrett reports on education and community news in South Texas. Contact her at olivia.garrett@caller.com.

Felicia Guajardo
Corpus Christi Caller Times
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

The Texas Department of Public Safety has recorded more than 800 traffic stops along State Highway 361 since a safety initiative took effect on Aug. 23. These are the traffic statistics from Aug. 23 to noon on Sept. 1: • Traffic stops: 849 • Citations: 216

See DPS, Page 2A



Watering by hand with a hose and shut-off nozzle is permitted anytime during Stage 1 drought restrictions in Corpus Christi. ANGELA PIAZZA/CALLER-TIMES FILE

City in Stage 1 drought restrictions

Kirsten Crow
Corpus Christi Caller Times
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

What will your lawn, vehicle and foundation look like under the latest stage of Corpus Christi drought restrictions? For your lawn, likely much, much greener. However, there are still limitations

See DROUGHT, Page 2A

DPS reports traffic stops on SH 361

Felicia Guajardo
Corpus Christi Caller Times
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

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