

Wadsworth Police Department 2020 Annual Report

RANDALL REINKE, CHIEF OF POLICE
MATTHEW HISCOCK, SAFETY DIRECTOR



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<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Hire</u>
Chief of Police	Reinke, Randall	August 12, 1992
Lieutenant	Dorland, David	January 10, 1994
Sergeant	Elchlinger, James	August 27, 1999
Sergeant	Chafin, Daniel	February 1, 2010
Sergeant	Rose, Joe	February 21, 2006
Sergeant	Patterson, Michael	December 8, 2003
Sergeant	Schismenos, Dawn	April 29, 2002
Patrol Officer	Spoerke, Peter	September 16, 1996
Patrol Officer	Cooper, Joshua	August 23, 1999
Patrol Officer	Sipos, Katie	December 15, 2000
Patrol Officer	Walser, James	January 2, 2001
Patrol Officer	Shannon, Sean	November 14, 2001
Patrol Officer	Blubaugh, Andrew	January 9, 2003
Detective	Markley, Matthew	November 8, 2004
Patrol Officer	Innocenti, Adam	September 2, 2008
Patrol Officer	Shonk, Daniel	August 10, 2009
Patrol Officer	Studer, Heath	April 26, 2010
Patrol Officer	Petit, Seth	February 21, 2011
Patrol Officer	Haas, Kyle	March 21, 2011
Detective	Allenby, James	January 2, 2013
Patrol Officer	Godwin, Keith	August 11, 2014
Patrol Officer	Reed, Tim	March 2, 2015
Patrol Officer	Lamielle, Dakota	May 3, 2016
Patrol Officer	Wanchisn, Ashley	August 1, 2016
Patrol Officer	Feke, Vivian	January 30, 2017
Patrol Officer	Smith, Ben	March 27, 2018
Patrol Officer	Seiler, Cody	January 7, 2019
Patrol Officer	Ball, Nathan	April 1, 2019
Patrol Officer	McFadden, Corey	May 6, 2019
Patrol Officer	Durbin, Rachel	February 10, 2020
Patrol Officer	Yehnert, Luke	July 23, 2020
Communications Officer	Dodge, Brian	May 20, 1998
Communications Officer	Emrick, Wendy	May 26, 1999
Communications Officer	Covil, Nicole	May 30, 2003
Communications Officer	Sonntag, Heidi	February 14, 2005
Communications Officer	Culver, Olivia	March 30, 2009
Communications Officer	Brown, Richard	September 6, 2016
Communications Officer	Bennett, Julie	December 12, 2016
Communications Officer	Weese, Courtney	September 22, 2020
Police Administrative Assist/Dispatch	Cindia, Kathryn	June 8, 2009
Auxiliary Patrol Officer	Neil, Matthew	January 12, 1997
Auxiliary Patrol Officer	King, David	December 31, 2001
Auxiliary Patrol Officer	Blubaugh, Melissa	April 2, 2019

An Overview of The Wadsworth Police Department's Personnel Structure



WPD 2020 Rank/Structure:

1 Chief of Police, 1 Lieutenant, 5 Shift Sergeants, 24 Patrol Officers, 8 Communications Officers, 3 Auxiliary Officers, 1 Admin Assistant/Dispatch.

		% of Whole Department
Sworn Full Time Officers	32	73%
Communications Officers	8	18%
Auxiliary Officers	3	7%
Administrative Employees	1	2%

		% of Whole Department
Sworn Full Time Officers		
Admin	2	6%
First-line Supervisors	5	16%
Detectives	2	6%
Patrol	21	66%
Special Assignments (SRO)	2	6%

2020 PERSONNEL CHANGES

The Wadsworth Police Department underwent several personnel changes during 2020.

Retirement – Patrol Officer John Ahern

Ptl. John Ahern was hired by the Wadsworth Police Department on March 31, 2003. In January of 2020 he retired after 17 years of service with the department. We congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his years of dedication and service to the Wadsworth community.



New Hire – Patrol Officer Rachel Durbin

Ptl. Durbin was hired on October 8, 2018 as a Communications Officer for the Wadsworth Police Department. On February 10, 2020 she was sworn in as a Patrol Officer and subsequently attended OPOTA training at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy. She has completed her field training and is currently assigned to 2nd shift patrol.

New Hire – Patrol Officer Luke Yehnert

Ptl. Yehnert was sworn in by the Wadsworth Police Department on July 23, 2020 after completing his OPOTA training through the University of Akron Police Academy. He has completed the field training program and is currently assigned to 2nd shift patrol.



New Hire – Communications Officer Courtney Weese

Courtney Weese was hired by the Wadsworth Police Department on September 22, 2020. She is currently in the field training program and looking forward to joining the other Full-Time Communication Officers in the WPD dispatch center upon completion of her training in 2021.

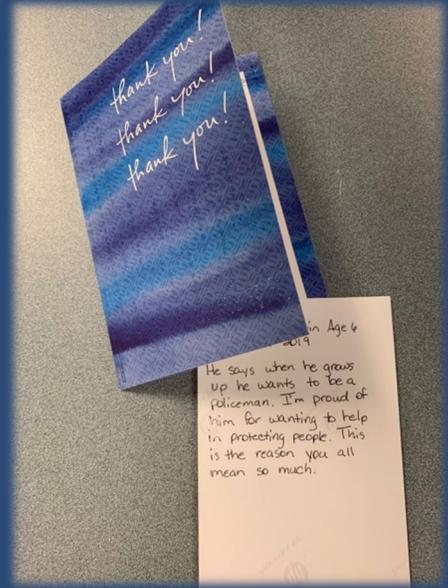


2020 was a challenging year for law enforcement across the United States. The impact of negative views on law enforcement, public protests and targeting attacks on police officers had a dramatic effect on all members of the law enforcement community and the Wadsworth Police Department was no exception.

We are here to serve, to provide support, to help those who need us and to keep the community safe. It is a privilege to serve this community and its citizens. This year brought its share of struggles and through it all, the Wadsworth Community rallied around the Wadsworth Police Department with messages of support, kindness and encouragement.

We are thankful to you all.





WPD COMMUNITY RELATIONS

One of our biggest regrets for 2020 due to the COVID pandemic was the unfortunate cancellation of many community events that our Department and its employees look forward to each and every year.

Toward the end of 2020, while using social distancing protocols, we were able to host a few community events to include:

Safety Forces Food Drive

No Shave November

Cops and Kids





NO SHAVE NOVEMBER DON'T SHAVE DECEMBER



This is the fourth year that the Wadsworth Police Department and the Wadsworth FOP Lodge 45 have taken part in 'No Shave November,' and we are grateful for this opportunity to help Andrew Moore, who was recently diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. We raised \$4,409 for the Moore family!

We would also like to give a special shout out to Wadsworth Cub Scout Pack 3402, who reached out to us in December about our fundraiser. The Pack banded together and dropped off Christmas presents for the entire Moore family, and we thank them for their generosity and giving spirit.

We would also like to thank the City of Wadsworth - City Hall for their continued support of our fundraiser, as well as the entire Wadsworth community, and everyone who donated or took part in sharing our posts. We will be keeping Andrew and his family in our thoughts, and wishing them well through the New Year.



COPS & KIDS

Things looked a little bit different this year, but we are happy to report that 63 children from our community received toys and gifts with an organized drive-thru at the Fire Department. The Cops & Kids event is organized through the Wadsworth FOP Lodge 45, which collects donations year-round to fund presents for the kids. Officers, firefighters, and paramedics all take part in this special day full of holiday cheer.



PTL. PETIT AND K9 ZORO

2020 has certainly been a unique year for law enforcement with COVID-19 restrictions putting a damper on proactive patrol. Even with this consideration, Ptl. Petit and Zoro had quite a productive year.

Drug Investigations:

Ptl. Petit and Zoro were involved in 41 felony drug seizures in 2020 (55 in 2019), which included Methamphetamine, Heroin, Fentanyl, Carfentanyl, Cocaine, Crack, and Psilocybin mushrooms. In 2020, Ptl. Petit personally produced 26 felony drug cases (20 in 2019), and seized 5 illegally possessed firearms (4 in 2019). Marijuana seizures were not recorded due to varying enforcement guidelines (CBD Legalization), but a significant amount of Marijuana was seized. The most notable seizure was 114 grams of Crack Cocaine and a firearm. The two suspects in that case were indicted in federal court and are facing charges of Aggravated Trafficking in Drugs, Possession of a firearm in furtherance of trafficking, and Felon in possession of a firearm.

Deployments:

In 2020, Ptl Petit deployed Zoro for 41 narcotics sniffs, 2 Tracks, 1 Area Search, 1 K9 Presence, and 1 Criminal Apprehension.

Community Engagement:

1/9/20- K9 Presentation, Overlook Elementary
2/18/20- K9 Presentation/Demo, The Village of St. Edward

Special Details:

Narcotics Sniff of Wadsworth High School and Middle School



S.R.O. – SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS PTL. INNOCENTI - PTL. SHONK – PTL. SMITH

2020 marked the 8th year of collaboration between the Wadsworth Police Department and the Wadsworth City Schools with the placement of a full time School Resource Officer. Ptl. Innocenti has served as SRO to the schools since the beginning of the program in 2013 and 2020 was his final year serving in this position. After 8 years in the schools, Ptl. Innocenti has alternated to a new position within the Wadsworth Police Department’s Detective Bureau. Ptl. Ben Smith was selected to replace Ptl. Innocenti as SRO.

Ptl. Smith now joins Ptl. Shonk in serving as liaisons between the Police Department and the Schools. They provide training to staff, safety related programs to students, security and a safer learning environment for all. The SRO officers are also responsible for handling all police calls related to the schools.



The COVID pandemic had a great effect on our schools with closures, online learning and the return to school buildings in 2020. The SRO officers worked diligently with the schools to ensure a safe transition and learning environment for the students. They continued to handle all juvenile calls related to the schools and students. Unfortunately, the Safety Forces Camp which is organized and run by the SRO officers in conjunction with the other members of the Wadsworth Police, Fire & EMS departments, had to be cancelled in 2020. We are looking forward to a return to the program in 2021!



S.W.A.T.

Wadsworth Police Department has 4 Officers assigned as members of the Medina County S.W.A.T. team, 2 of which serve as team leaders. The S.W.A.T. team can be deployed for incidents throughout the county of various high risk situations such as barricaded suspects, hostage situations, high risk search warrants, open area search and arrest situations, building searches, active shooters or any other high risk situation deemed necessary by department supervision.

The SWAT team trained for all but two months in 2020. The two missed training months were due to COVID. The SWAT team was able to conduct a 2 day training at Tactical Defense Training facility and utilize their live fire 360 degree shoot house. They also trained at some empty houses in the City of Wadsworth that the City had purchased for the new fire station.



The SWAT team was deployed for six (6) callouts in 2020.

March - Suicidal Male with a gun in Medina City who eventually gave himself up to the SWAT team.

March- A suspect with guns who was suffering from mental illness barricaded himself in his front yard and fired multiple shots through the floor of his truck. He was inside his truck and eventually surrendered to SWAT officers.

March- A suspect made threats towards his employer after being terminated, as well as co-workers and a court judge. The suspect was arrested without incident by SWAT

June-Standby for the BLM protest in Medina Square.

August - Call out for a double murder/manhunt in Medina City that led into West Salem where the suspect was eventually apprehended by a Wayne County Deputy at Dragway 42 raceway.

November - An intoxicated suspect in Chippewa Lake shot rounds through his house. He surrendered to SWAT officers.



W.P.D. and Medina County Drug Task Force

In 2020, a total of 181 drug related criminal investigations were conducted by the Medina County Drug Task force (MCDTF) within Medina County. Out of the 181 criminal investigations , 198 criminal charges were sought.



	2020	2019
1 st Degree Felony	2	0
2 nd Degree Felony	5	22
3 rd Degree Felony	10	22
4 th Degree Felony	1	49
5 th Degree Felony	9	47
Misdemeanors	6	0
Arrest Warrants	0	4
Total	33	144

In May of 2020, MCDTF, Wadsworth Police Department and the US Postal Service collaborated in an investigation within the City of Wadsworth. A search warrant was issued for a residence within the City and 976.9 grams of Marijuana was located. Through this investigation, one subject was indicted on one (1) count of possession of drug - marijuana.

On June 18, 2020, Wadsworth Police made a traffic stop on a vehicle, ultimately locating 114.86 grams of (crack) cocaine. Through a collaborative investigation between Wadsworth Police and MCDTF, two subjects were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in Cleveland, OH for possession with intent to deliver cocaine, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug crime and felon in possession of a firearm.

In June of 2020, Davayaire Rogers was convicted for the 2019 overdose death of a Wadsworth resident in the city of Wadsworth. Rogers was also involved in a 2019 armed robbery in Akron, OH. The combined efforts of Wadsworth PD, Akron PD, MCDTF and the ATF led to the sentencing of Rogers to 22 years in Federal prison for the overdose death and armed robbery charges.

Type of Drug	Quantity of Drug	Unit of Measure
Cocaine	6.3	Grams
Crack	114.86	Grams
Fentanyl	12.6	Grams
Psilocybin	6.9	Grams
Marijuana	16	Grams
THC Vapes	1	Unit Doses
RX Drugs	3	Unit Doses

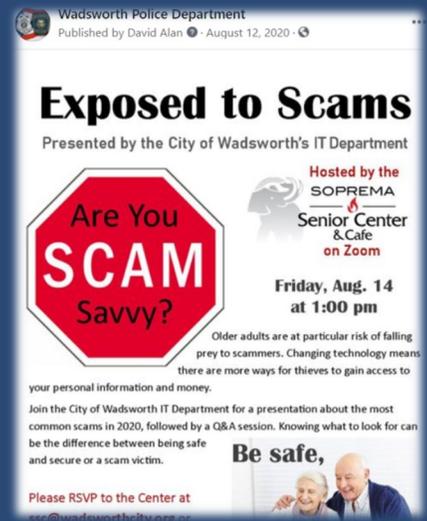
D.U.M.P. BOX



The DUMP program allows citizens to properly dispose of unused medications. There is a DUMP box available to the public within Wadsworth’s City Hall building. The Wadsworth Police Department collected a total of 605.5 lbs. of unwanted medications from the Wadsworth DUMP box in 2020. Within all of Medina County, a total of 5,941 lbs. of unused medication was collected in 2020 according to the Medina County Drug Task Force. Since the initiative began in Medina County, a total of 40,681 lbs. of unwanted prescription medications have been collected and properly disposed of.

WPD and Social Media

The spread of COVID-19 and the implementation of social distancing procedures further demonstrated the importance of social media as an enormously useful tool in the policing profession. The Wadsworth Police Department utilizes social media platforms to connect with the public for non-emergency related questions and concerns. Social media is also used to request assistance from the public in locating and identifying subjects, finding owners of lost pets, making people aware of scams or other crime related matters and advising of current road closures or severe weather. In years past, it has served as an effective way to connect and engage with the community, keeping them informed of the various activities and community related events that WPD is participating in and provide public service announcements regarding safety related issues. These social media tools could not have been more important than they were in 2020, the year of social distancing.



WPD TRAINING

Wadsworth Police personnel participated in various continuing educational classes throughout the year. Although most of the in-person training courses were forced to cancel or postpone due to COVID, the Wadsworth Police Department made every effort to continue with online training courses wherever available. Here is some of the notable training conducted by Wadsworth Police Officers in 2020:

-Jan. 27-30: Corey McFadden and Cody Seiler completed their Crisis Intervention Training through Alternative Paths at Montville PD.

CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM TRAINING (CIT)



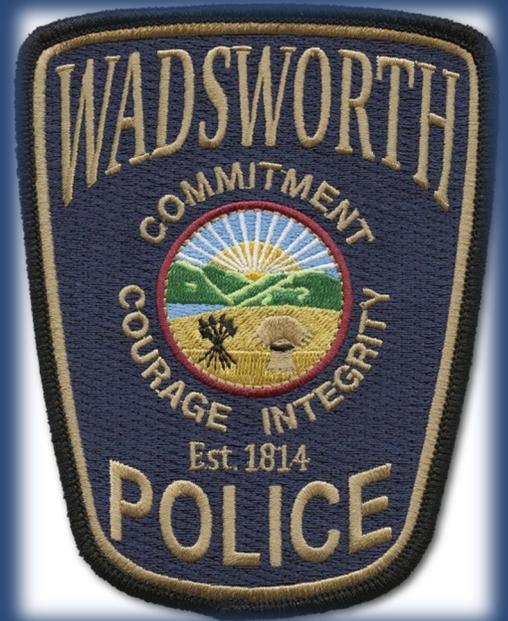
CIT is a collaborative effort between law enforcement and the mental health community in an effort to help law enforcement and emergency responders handle incidents involving people with mental illness. CIT is a community-based collaborative between law enforcement, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Medina County, The Medina County ADAMH Board, Alternative Paths, and mental health consumers. Officers and emergency personnel receive 32 hours of training on mental illness, crisis intervention, de-escalation techniques, and the local behavioral health system.

Attendees learn to integrate their police and emergency responder training with new skills and approaches when responding to a person they believe is exhibiting signs of having mental illness or persons experiencing a psychiatric crisis.

-Feb. 10: Patrol officers received electrical safety training from Wadsworth Electric.

-January: Departmental Taser training

This training was conducted by WPD Taser instructors and covered classroom-based topics on Taser operation and applicable legal principles. Following the classroom instruction, the officers participated in realistic scenarios involving the deployment of the Taser against an actual role player wearing a protective suit.



-Mar 9-13: Ptl. Ashley Wanchisn received her Gracie Survival Tactics Level 2 certification at OPOTA (London).

Gracie Survival Tactics (GST) is a revolutionary defensive tactics system based on Gracie Jiu-Jitsu that incorporates time-tested techniques into an easy-to-learn system designed to help officers humanely prevail against larger and stronger opponents. GST was developed for its tactical effectiveness, its leverage-based techniques are less likely to cause serious injury to both the officer and arrestee.



-Sgt. Dan Chafin attended PELC (Police Executive Leadership College)



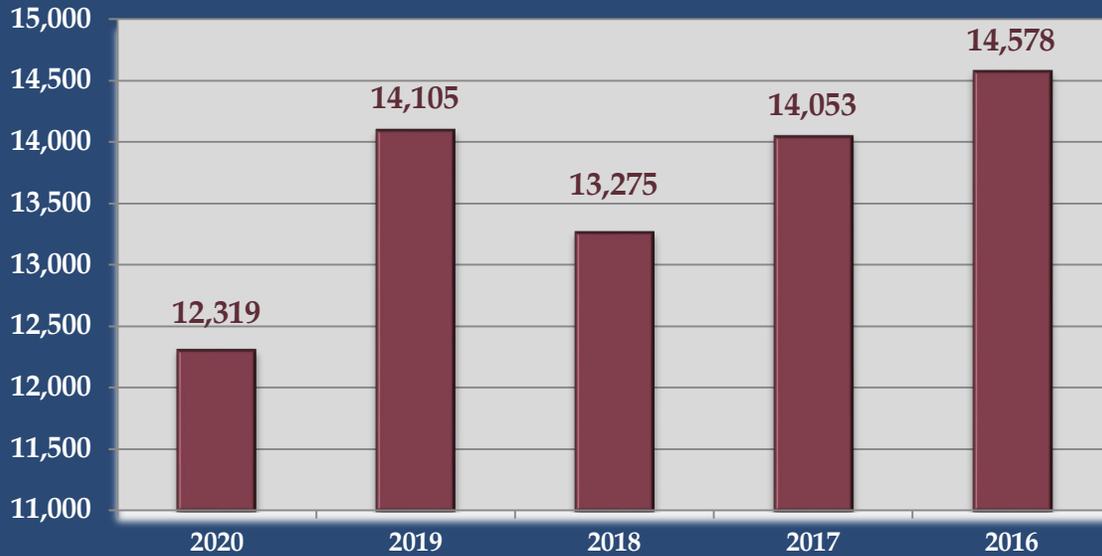
PELC is a three-week executive leadership training program. It is spread out over three months for three separate sessions. It is an intensive learning experience focused on leadership skills vital to long term personal success and change in the organization. PELC is based on the premise that leadership skills can be learned, and that given the opportunity for feedback and practice, executives can substantially improve their abilities to lead.

-Week of July 6

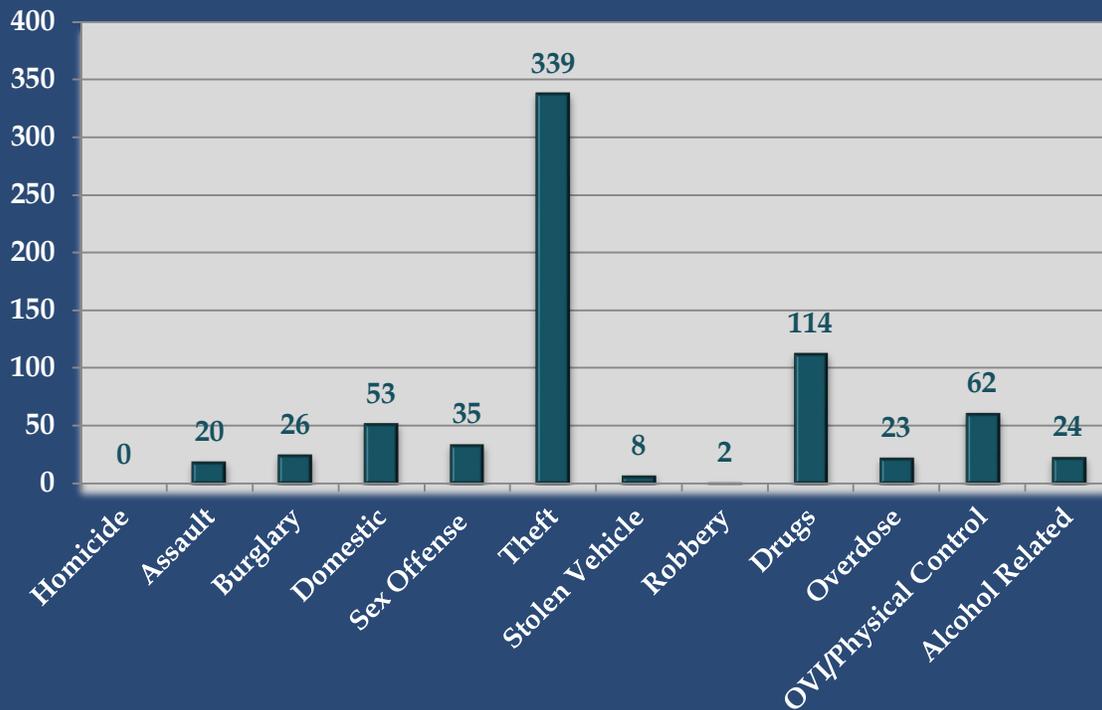
WPD officers participated in Active Killer Response training at Sacred Heart School. This training was conducted by WPD firearms instructors and allowed officers to practice their tactics of responding to situations involving an active shooter in a school environment or other public place. These tactics, which are applicable in any situation involving a violent subject, involve officers coordinating tactics to quickly engage and eliminate a threat to safeguard innocent persons. This training involved the officers tracking a role player "suspect" in a hectic and unfamiliar environment, then using their decision-making skills to appropriately engage the suspect to quickly stop their violent actions. The officers were equipped with firearms outfitted with training ammunition, which allowed them actively to engage the suspect with non-lethal projectiles in a 'force on force' situation. This allows the officers to demonstrate their abilities in a stressful and highly realistic environment.

DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

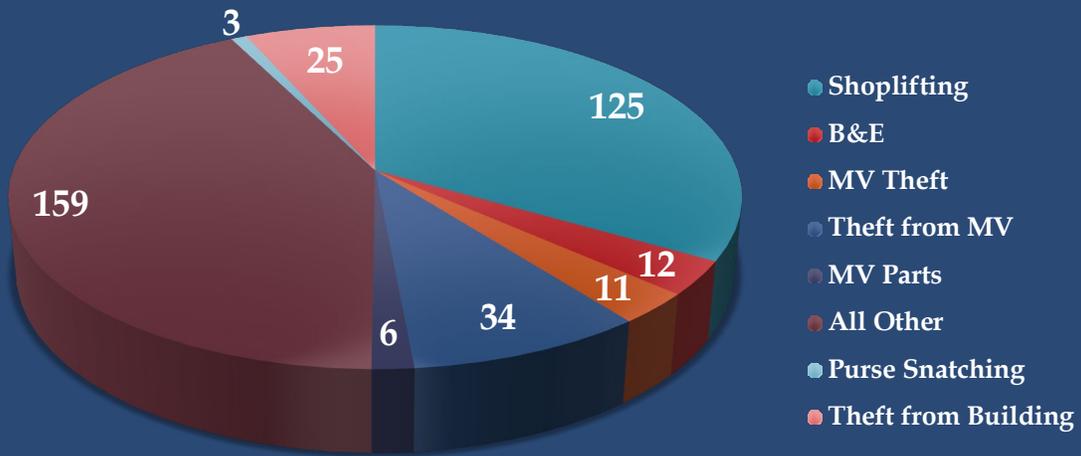
Police Calls for Service



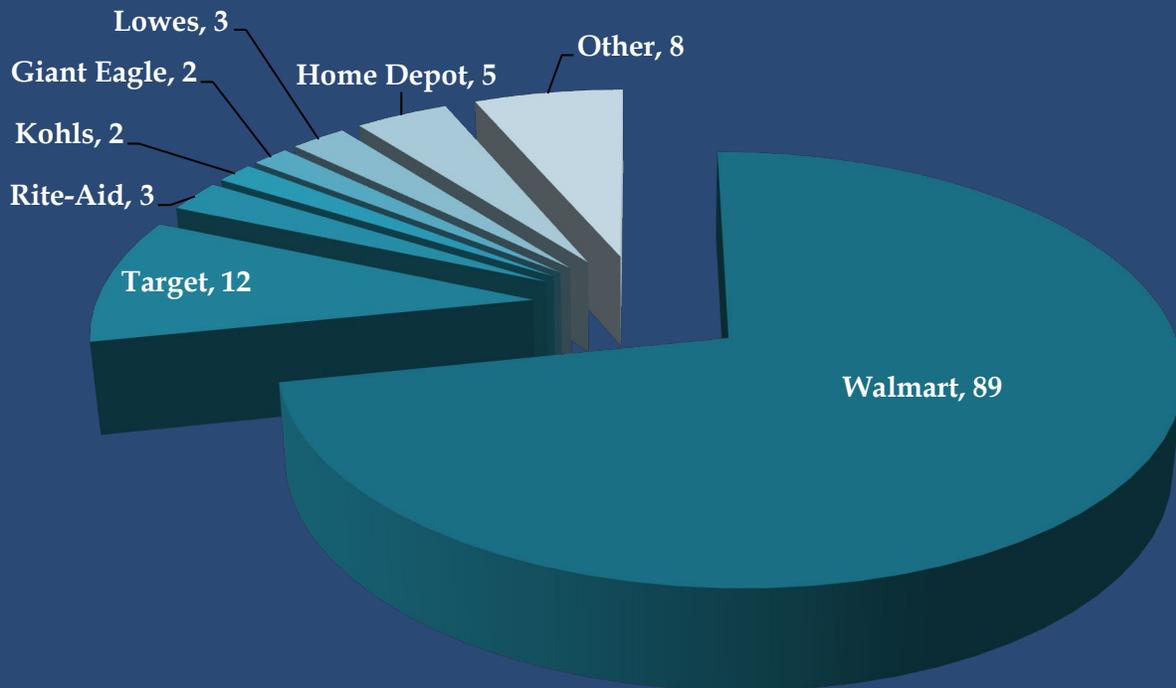
Major Offense Incident Reports Investigated



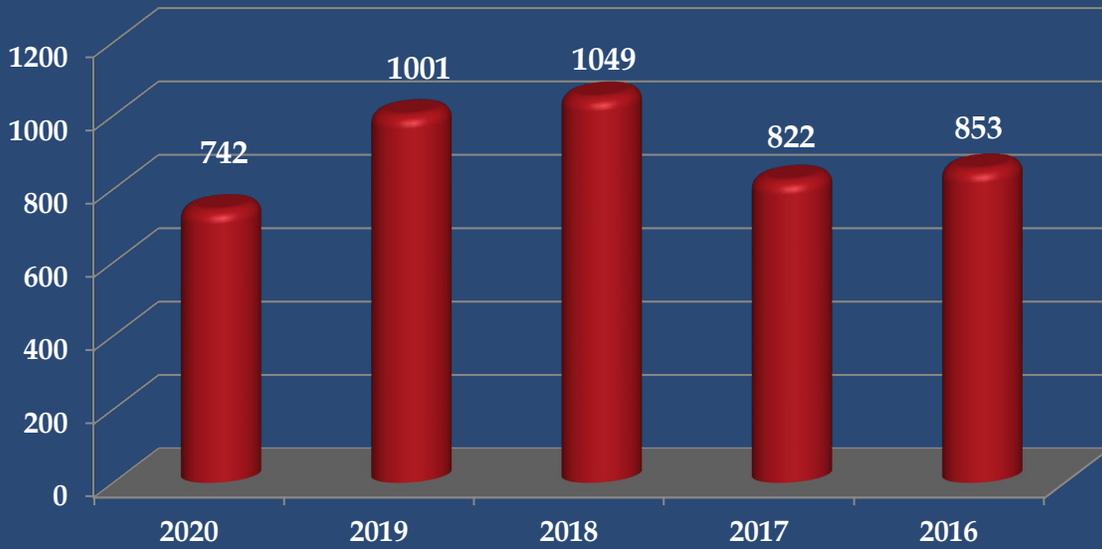
2020 Burglary/Theft by Larceny Type



Shoplifting Incidents by Store



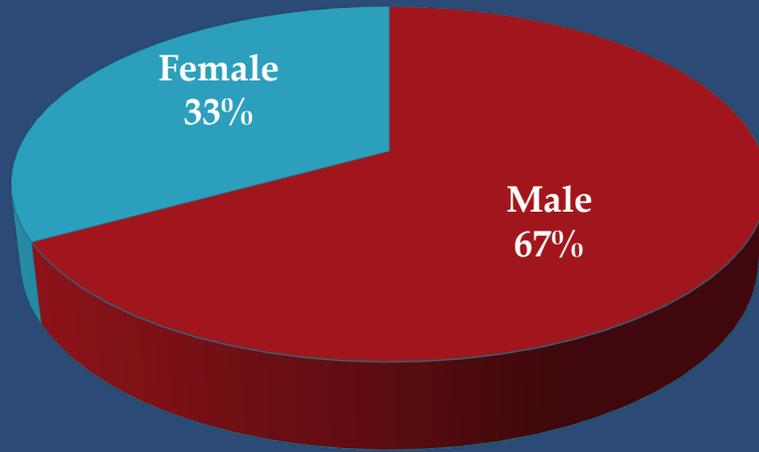
Five Year Arrest Totals Comparison



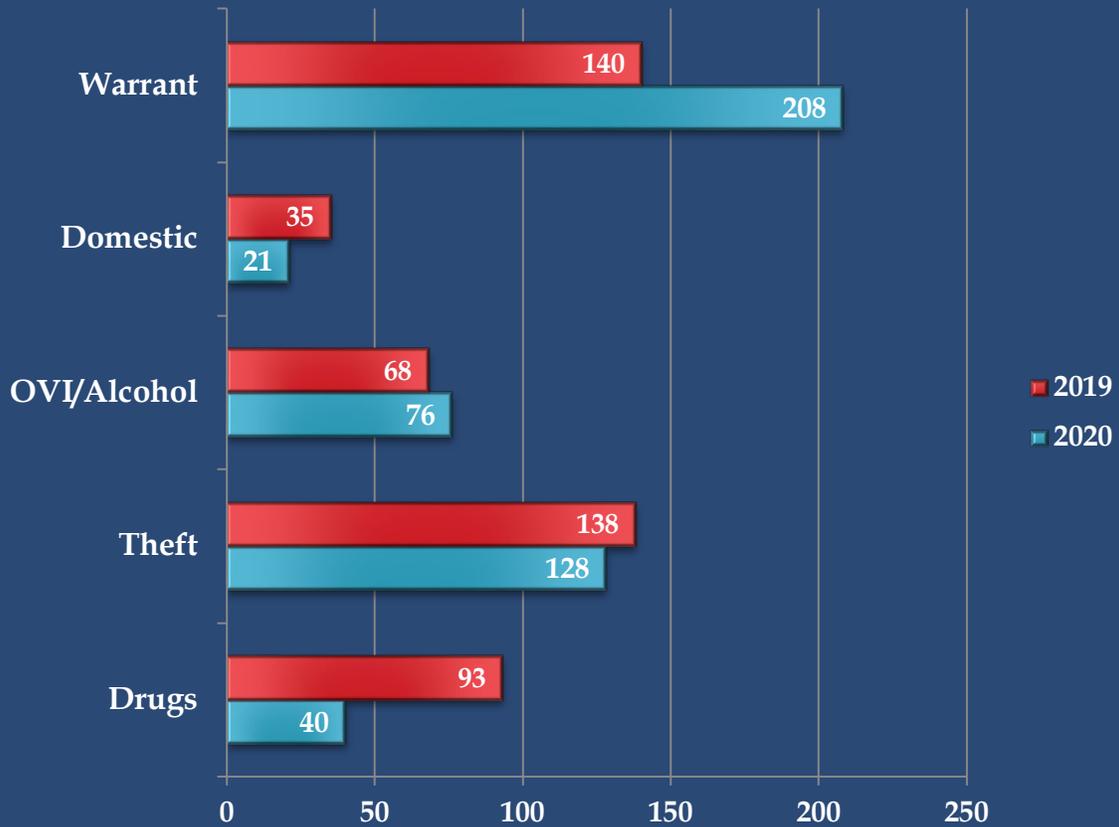
2020 v. 2019 Adult and Juvenile Arrest Comparison



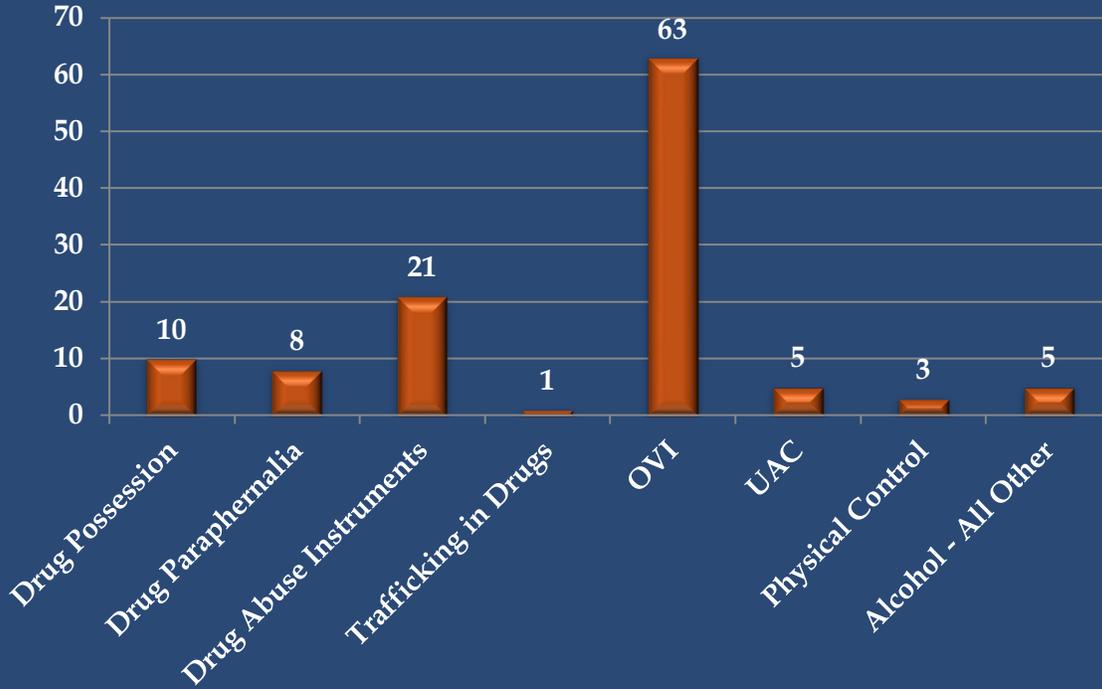
2020 Male - Female Arrest Comparison



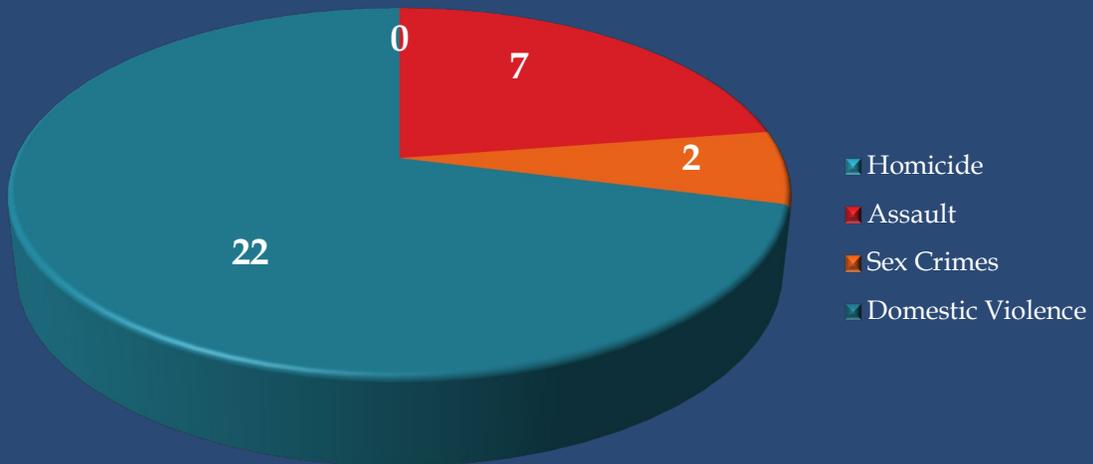
Top 5 Arrest Charges



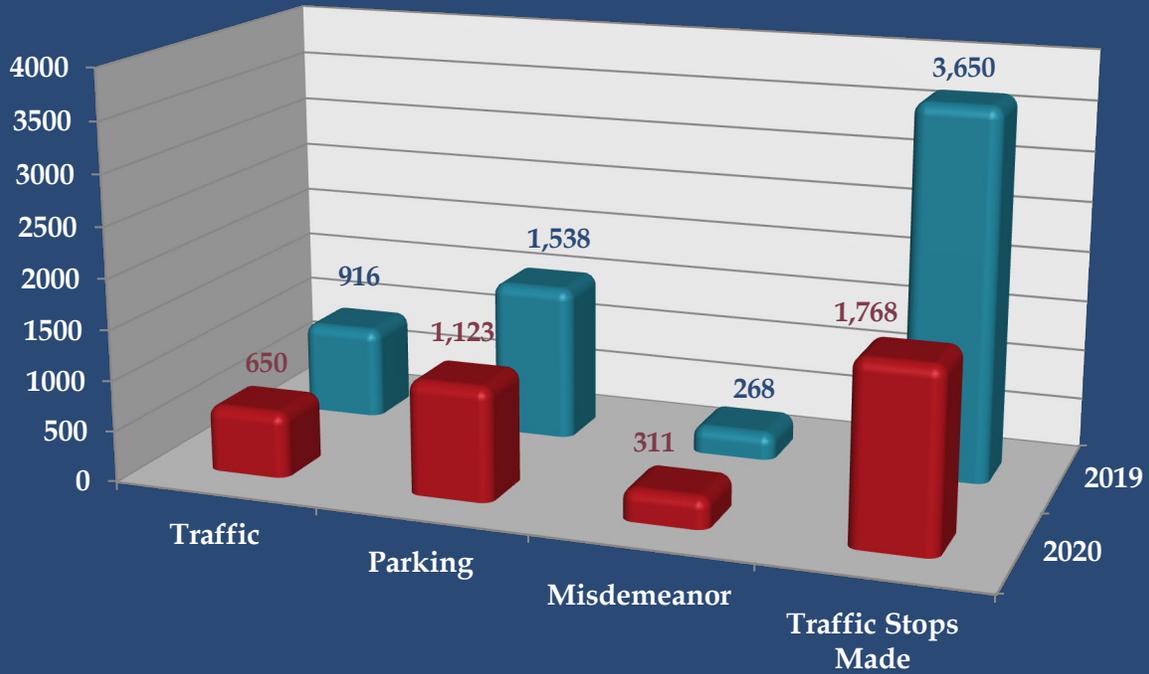
Alcohol and Drug Related Arrest Comparison



Violent Crime Arrest Comparison

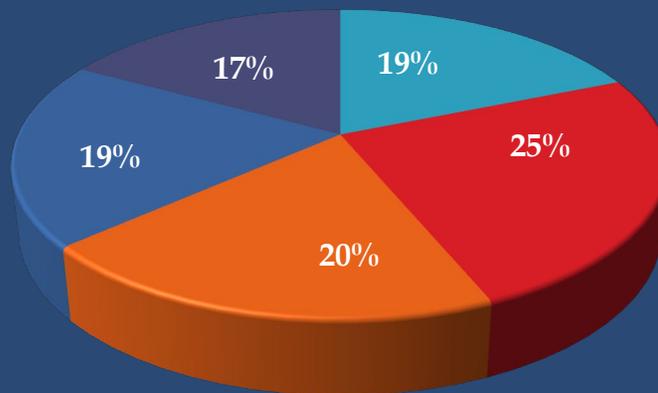


2020 v 2019 Citations Issued

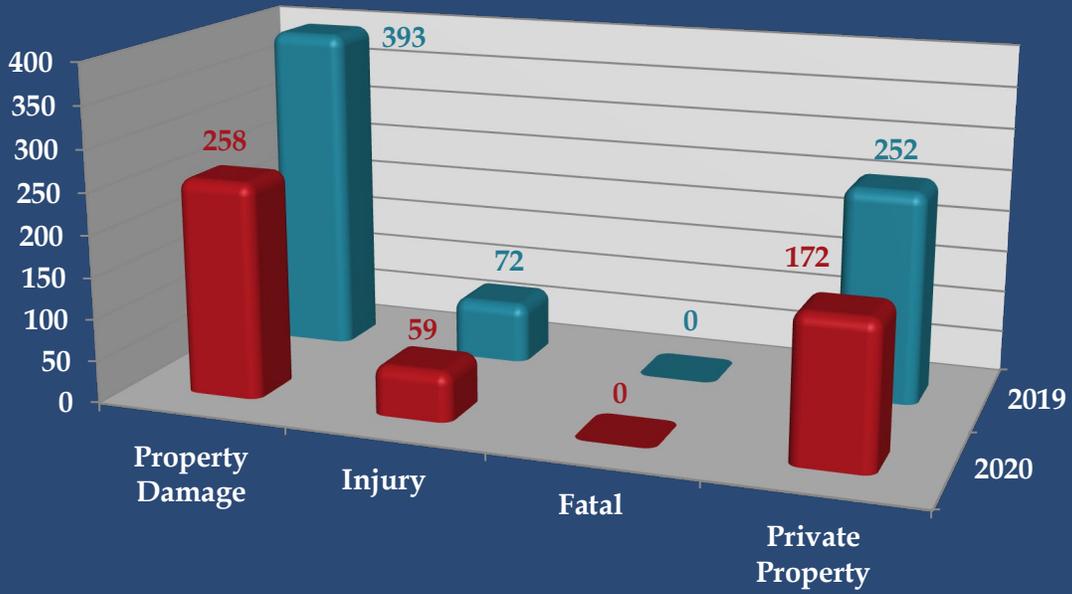


Top 5 Traffic Related Citations Issued

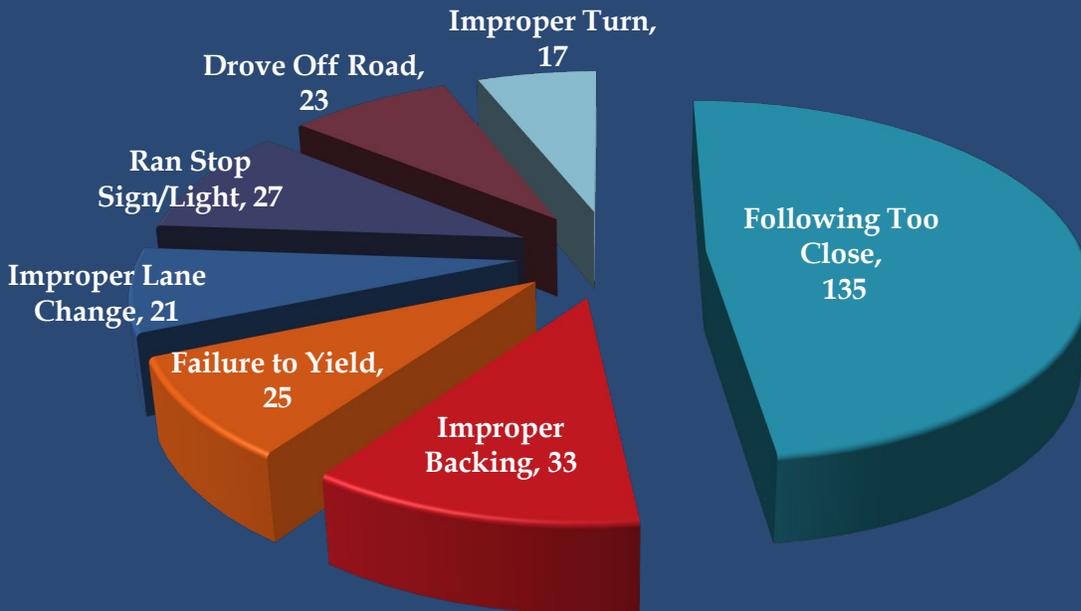
■ Speed
 ■ ACDA
 ■ DUS
 ■ OVI
 ■ Display of Plates



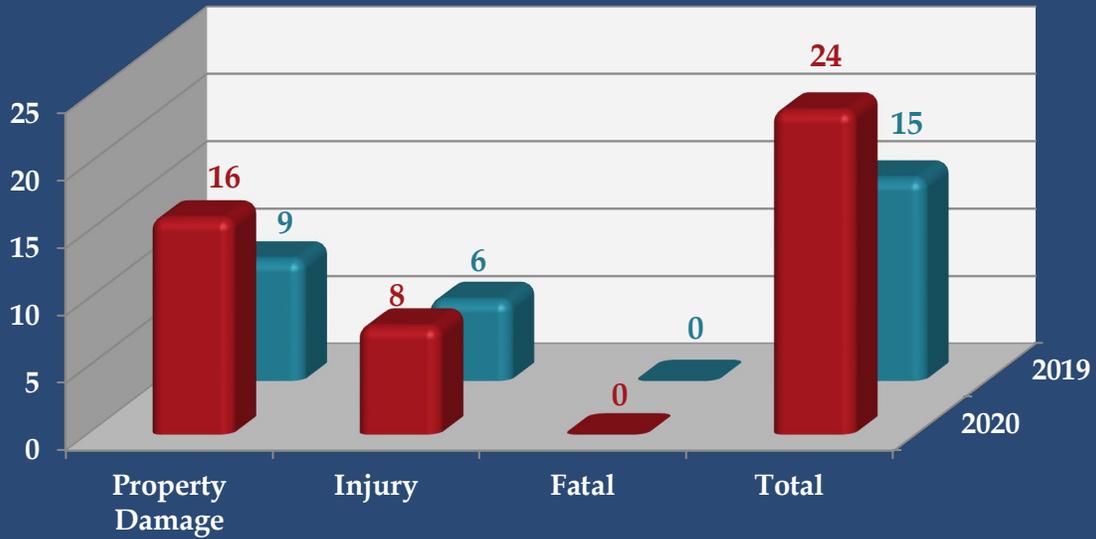
2020 v 2019 Traffic Accidents



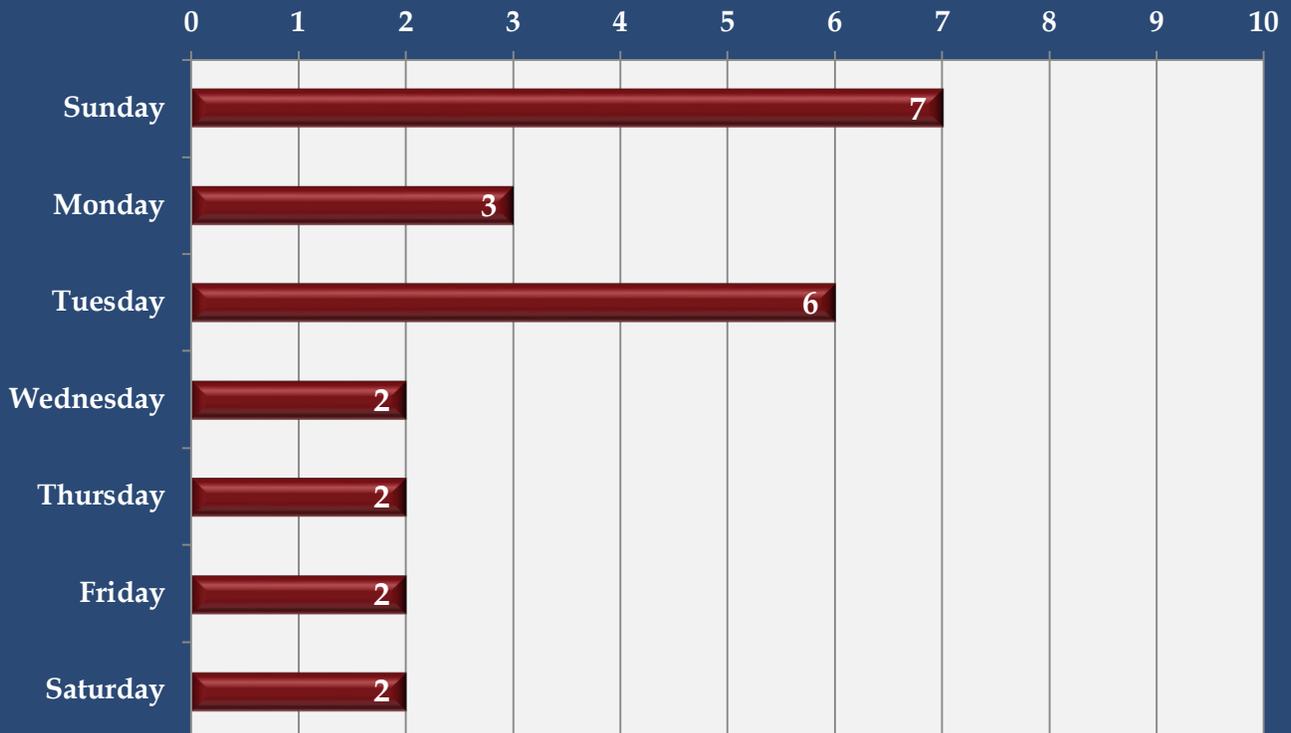
2020 Top Contributing Factors for Traffic Crashes



2020 v 2019 Alcohol Related Traffic Crashes

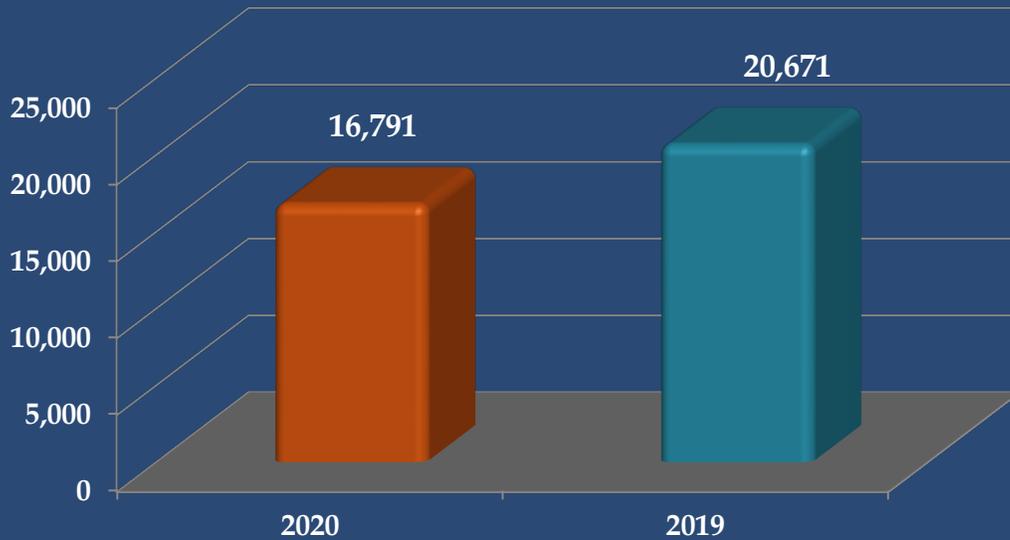


Alcohol/Drug Related Accidents by day of the week

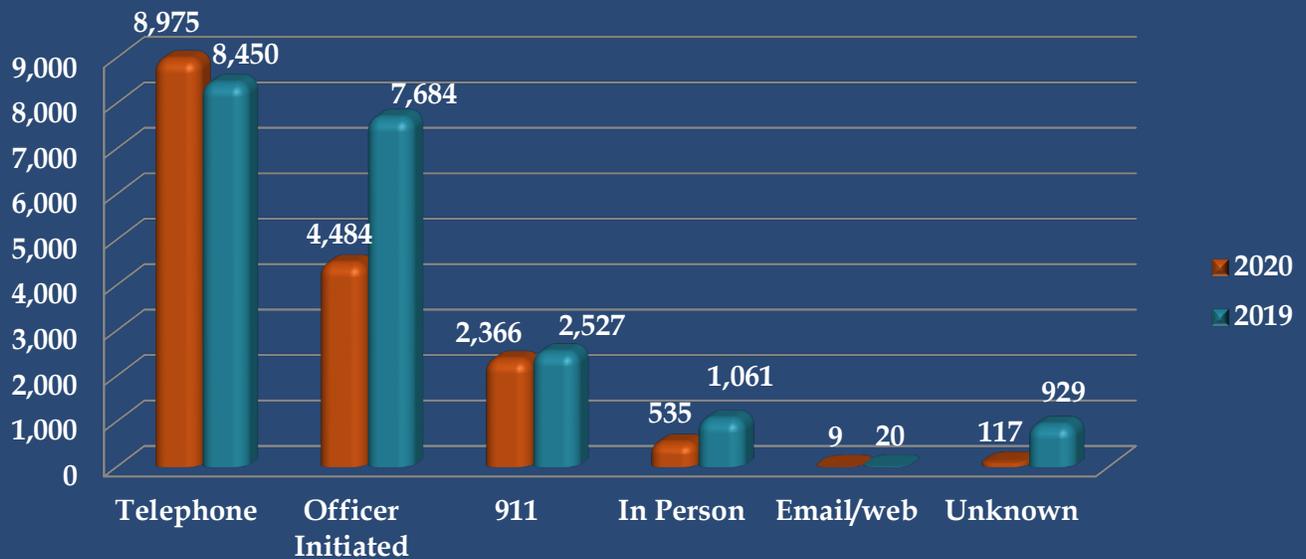


DISPATCH STATISTICS

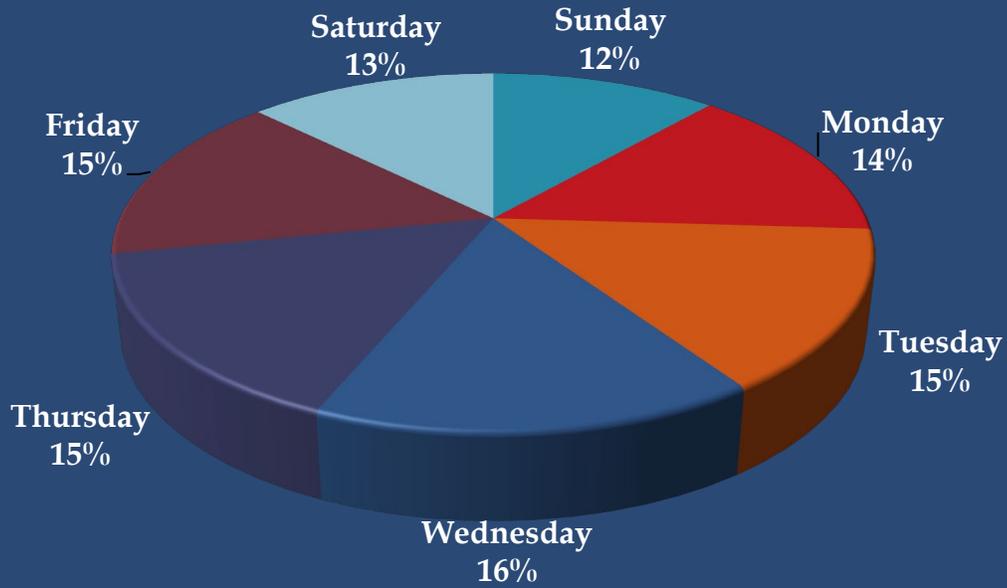
Total Calls Received by Dispatch



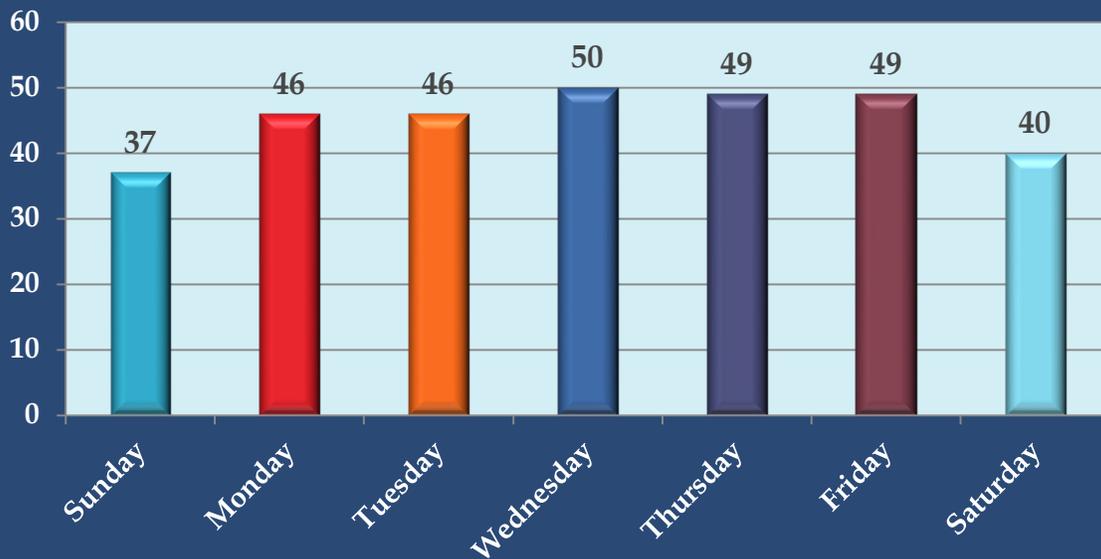
2020 v 2019 Calls By Method Received



Calls by Day of the Week



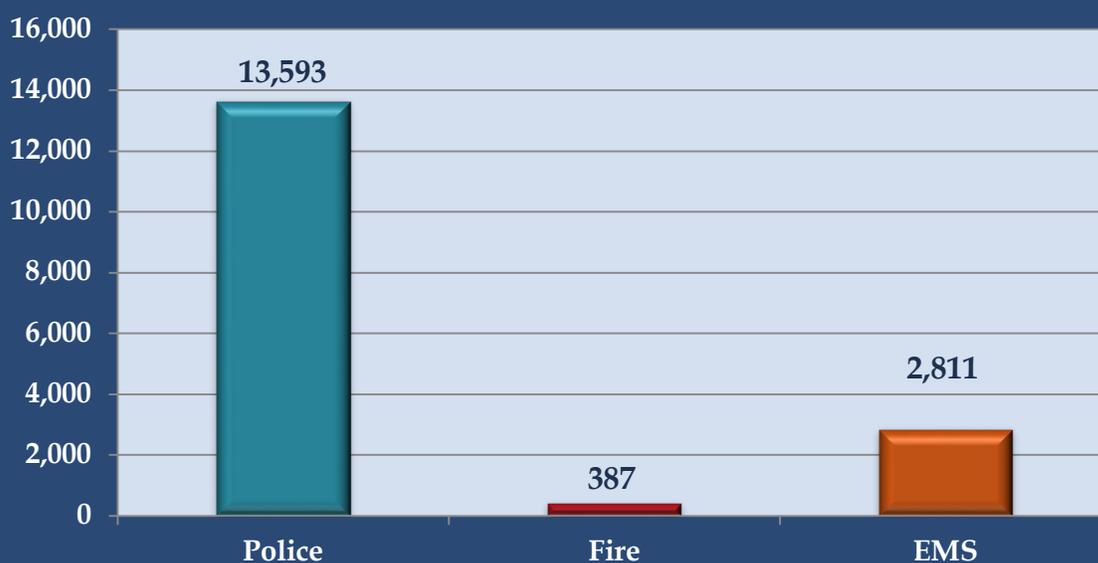
Average Number of Calls by Day of the Week



2020 v 2019 Major Calls Received by Call Type

Call Type	2020	2019	Call Type	2020	2019
Overdose	14	10	Domestic	201	194
Disorderly	392	318	Bad Checks/Forgery	14	12
Drugs	97	128	Alcohol	140	194
Noise Complaint	277	167	CPO/TPO Violation	43	53
Stalking/Menacing	64	75	Robbery	1	0
Assault	34	41	Telecomm. Harassment	164	183
Sex Offense	39	43	Criminal Trespass	114	59
Mental Illness	91	84	Vandalism	133	124
Custody Dispute	74	78	Stolen Vehicle	27	35
Burglary	43	68	Fight	20	26
Traffic Stops	1,768	3,648	Traffic/Parking Complaint	847	908
Suspicious Person/vehicle	1,085	1,277	Assist other Agency/Individual	1,953	2,299
Warrant Service	475	741	Summons	91	93
Illness/Injury	49	35	Falsification	16	49
Animal Complaint	339	375	Juvenile	399	442
Theft	472	527	Missing Person	39	46
Security Check	1,019	1,365	Burglary Alarm Drop	429	459
SWAT	8	8	911 Hang Up	118	113

Calls Taken by Department



Criminal Nuisance Activity

Ordinance No. 13-039 requires property owners to comply with provisions and fees for abatement of criminal nuisance activities occurring at the residential dwelling for which they own. There are 15 activities that are deemed to be public nuisances. The Wadsworth Police Department is responsible for tracking instances of criminal nuisance activities, notifying the owner of the property and assessing abatement costs when necessary.

In 2020, WPD sent out 88 letters to property owners advising of the nuisance activity violations. This is quite an increase from the 56 letters sent in 2019. Any property with 3 or more violations within a 6 month period of time receives a letter via regular mail as well as certified mail. A total of four (4) abatements were filed against properties in violation of the nuisance ordinance for a total of \$2,500 of fines assessed.

Criminal Nuisance Activities:

Animal Violations

Disorderly Conduct

Drug Abuse

Gambling

Health, Safety, Sanitation

Obstruction of Official Business

Alcohol Related

Obscenity or Sex Offense

Offense against Another Person

Offense against Property

Weapons Offense

Fireworks Violation

Open Burning

Curfew Violation

Juvenile Related



Wadsworth Police Department Officer of the Year - Ptl. Seth Petit



Ptl. Seth Petit was selected as the Wadsworth Police Department's Officer of the Year for 2020.

Ptl. Petit and his K-9 partner have served the community together for the last four years

During his career he has consistently maintained a positive attitude, great work ethic and strong dedication as a Wadsworth Police Officer. The success of the K-9 program is a direct result of Ptl. Petit's performance and professionalism.

Congratulations Ptl. Petit and thank you for your service and dedication to this department and the City of Wadsworth.