



# SKOKIE POLICE DEPARTMENT



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Brian Baker  
Chief of Police

## Be the Difference!

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@skokiepolice

# Executive Summary

Our goal in providing an annual report is twofold: provide information to our elected officials for use in governance; and secondly, to provide our community with vital information on crime and public safety, and on the work, we do to meet those concerns.

We hope this new format, with increased transparency, will help us to achieve a higher level of community engagement and collaboration; and ultimately, the shared goal of a higher level and improved outcomes for the work we do.

True public safety can only be achieved through continued cooperation and partnership between the police and the community we serve. I am grateful that our community has always proven to be a great partner in our work, and we look forward to their continued partnership and support as we look forward and continue to build for the future.

Sincerely,

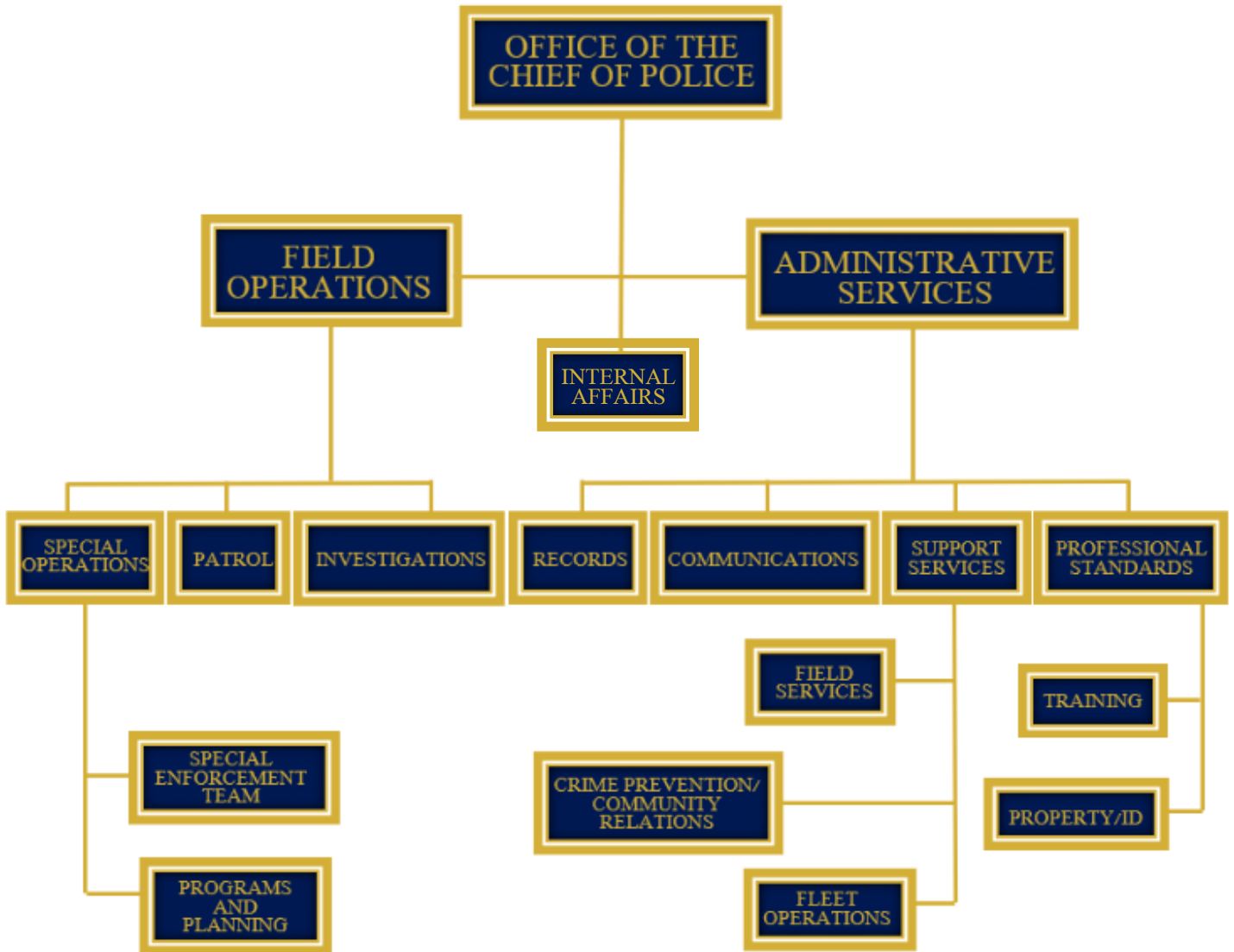


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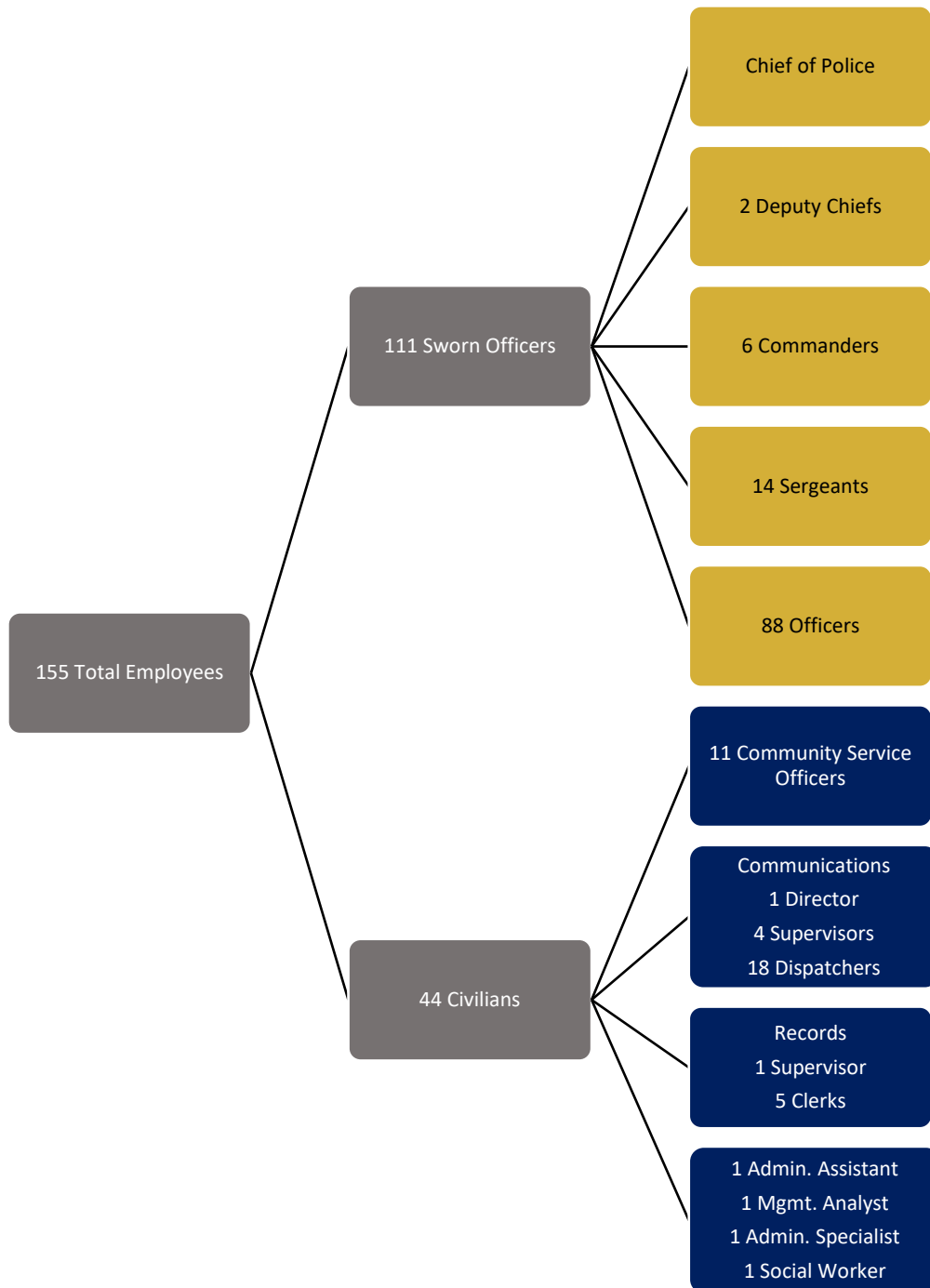
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# Organizational Chart



# Staffing

The Skokie Police Department had a total of 155 employees in 2022. The chart below shows the distribution of those personnel throughout the organization.

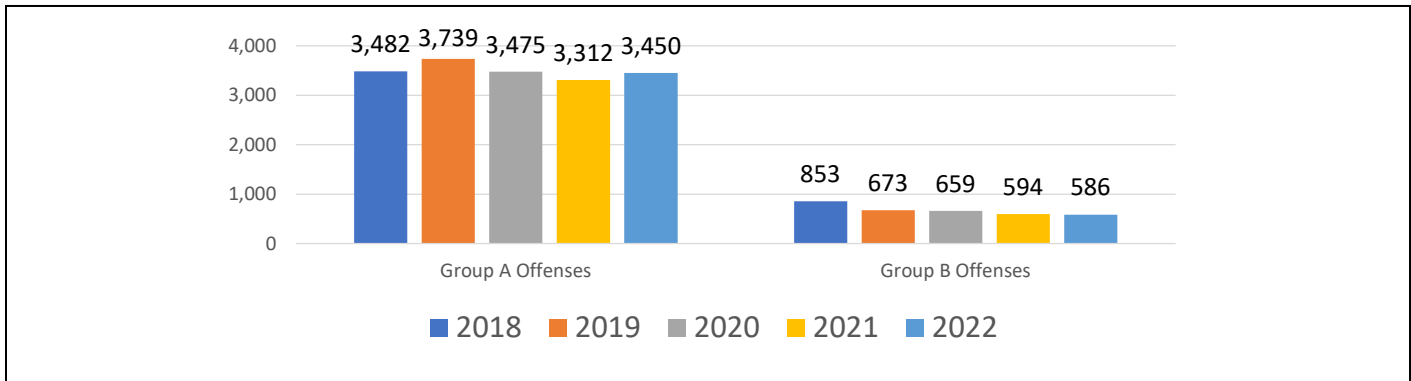


# Crime Data

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) directs how crime data is reported in the United States. The FBI does this through its established National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). All law enforcement jurisdictions must report their crimes through NIBRS and conform their reporting in compliance with the NIBRS rules. NIBRS categorizes all offenses into two distinct groups for reporting.

- Group A Offenses are crimes against person, property and society, such as assault, burglary, robbery, fraud, motor vehicle theft.
- Group B Offenses are crimes against society, such as disorderly conduct, driving under the influence, liquor law violations, trespass of real property, curfew/loitering/vagrancy violations.

The table below displays the total number of offenses reported for Group A and Group B over the last five years. The total number of offenses reported in Skokie during 2022 was 4,036, which is a 3% increase from 2021. It is important to note that offenses declined in 2020 and 2021, likely due to COVID restrictions, and are believed to be returning toward pre-pandemic levels.

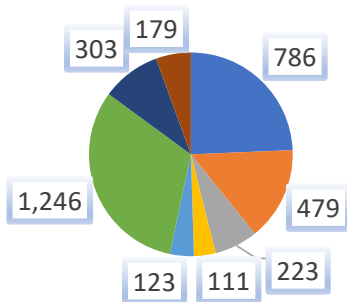


These charts show the categories of crimes for each Group.

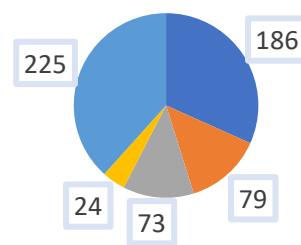
Burglaries increased by 77% from 2021. As indicated previously, this is more in line with pre-pandemic numbers. Larceny/Theft went up 15%, totaling 1,246 in 2022. Counterfeiting/Forgery was up 165%, the majority of these were altered checks and counterfeit bills. Motor Vehicle Theft went up 21% from the previous year. This is mostly attributed to the trend of stolen Kia and Hyundai's in the Chicagoland area and nationwide in 2022.

While property crimes are experiencing increases, it is a positive sign that violent crime is continuing the decreases we have seen in previous years. Homicide went from 2 to 1 down – 50%, Robbery went from 35 to 32 down – 9%, Weapon law violations went from 58 to 31 down – 47%.

Group A Offenses 2022



Group B Offenses 2022



- Assault
- Fraud
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Drug/Narcotic Violations
- Larceny/Theft
- Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of property

- Disorderly Conduct
- Trespass
- Driving under the influence
- Family Offenses
- Other

# Crime Data

	2021	2022	5-Year Average	10-Year Average
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES</b>	<b>3,906</b>	<b>4,036</b>	<b>4,255</b>	<b>4,338</b>
<b>NOTEWORTHY OFFENSES</b>				
Homicide	2	1	1	1
Sex Offenses	25	27	30	29
Robbery	35	32	46	45
Assault	775	786	785	771
Burglary	126	223	180	221
Theft	1,083	1,246	1,268	1,201
Motor Vehicle Theft	92	111	74	68
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	427	303	388	451
Drug/Narcotic Violations	128	123	176	237
Weapons Law Violations	58	31	38	34
Fraud	503	479	474	412
Counterfeiting/Forgery	20	53	40	70
<b>TRAFFIC CRASH EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>2,541</b>	<b>2,661</b>	<b>2,902</b>	<b>2,941</b>

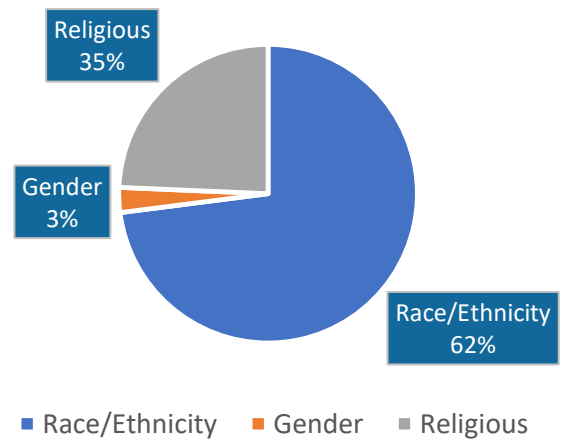
# Hate Crime & Bias Based Incidents

Skokie has a long and rich history of diversity beginning with the Jewish community, and over time, embraced an increasingly diverse population and culture. The history and events that have led our community to the present day has always served to allow the department to focus on and prioritize offenses and incidents based on bias or hate. 2022 marked the first year that the Department tracked each and every one of these incidents; where previously, only those which rose to the level of “hate crime” were tracked.

Every bias-based incident and hate crime reported is communicated to Command Staff and assigned for follow-up as a department-wide priority.

Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry	2022
Anti-Black/African American	15
Anti- Asian	2
Anti-Multiple Races/Groups	1
Anti-White	2
Anti-Middle Eastern	2
Anti-Hispanic	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>
Religion	2022
Anti-Jewish	11
Anti-Islamic/Muslim	2
Anti-Catholic	0
Anti-Other Christian	0
Anti-Other Religion	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>
Sexual Orientation	2022
Anti-Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

Hate Crime & Bias Motivated incidents by Bias Motivation 2022



**Bias-based incidents** are acts of prejudice that are not crimes. This may also include crimes that have an element of prejudice, but do not meet the legal requirements of a hate-crime.

**Hate Crimes** are crimes (typically including violence) motivated by a bias against a protected class: ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability or similar grounds.

There were 36 bias-based incidents, and one hate crime reported in 2022.

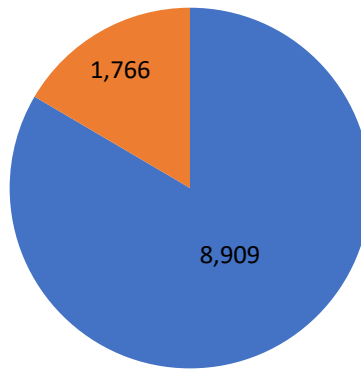


# Investigations Data

All incident reports, whether criminal or not, are reviewed by Investigations Division Supervisors on a daily basis. Based on the nature of the report and solvability factors, some of these reports are assigned to various units for follow-up and further investigation.

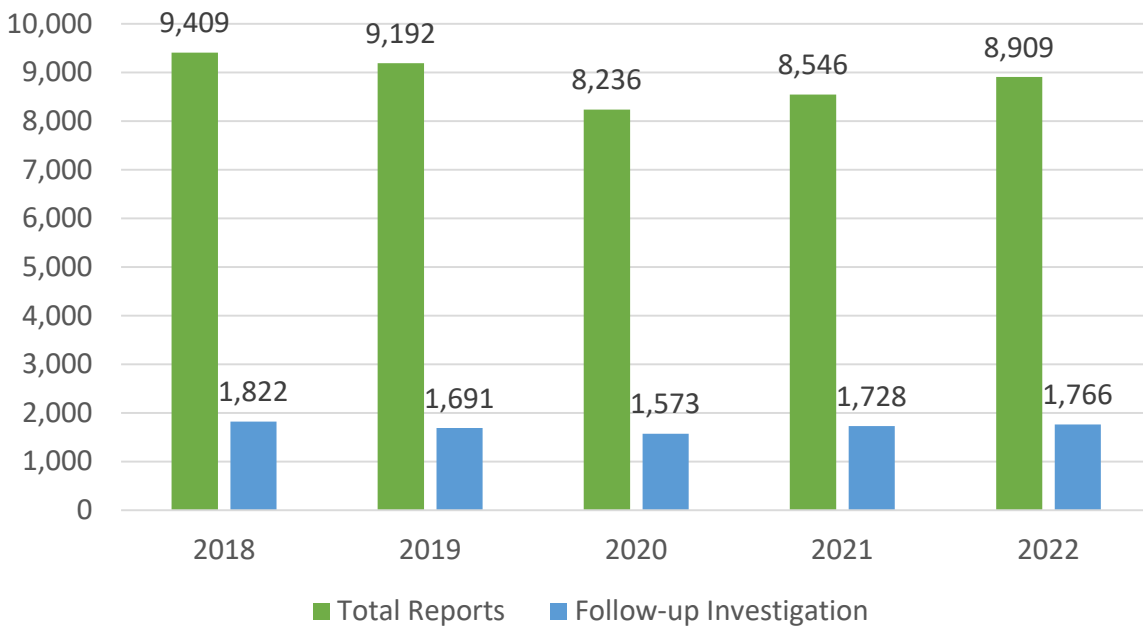
Throughout 2022 the Investigations Division reviewed 8,909 reports to determine which incidents warranted further action or follow-up. Of all the reports reviewed, 1,766 reports were assigned to detectives for follow-up investigation.

## 2022



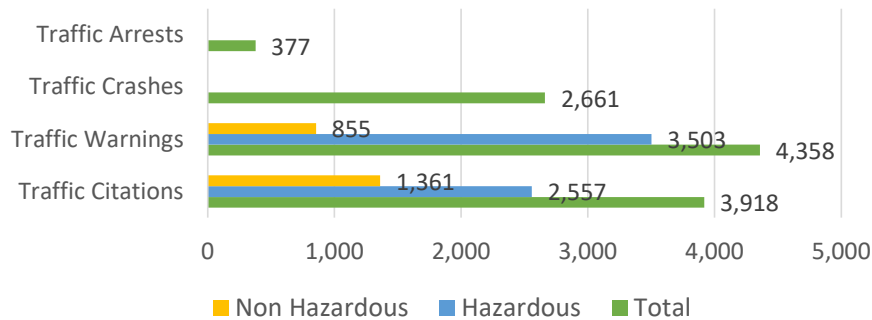
■ Totals reports ■ Follow-up Investigation

## 5-year history



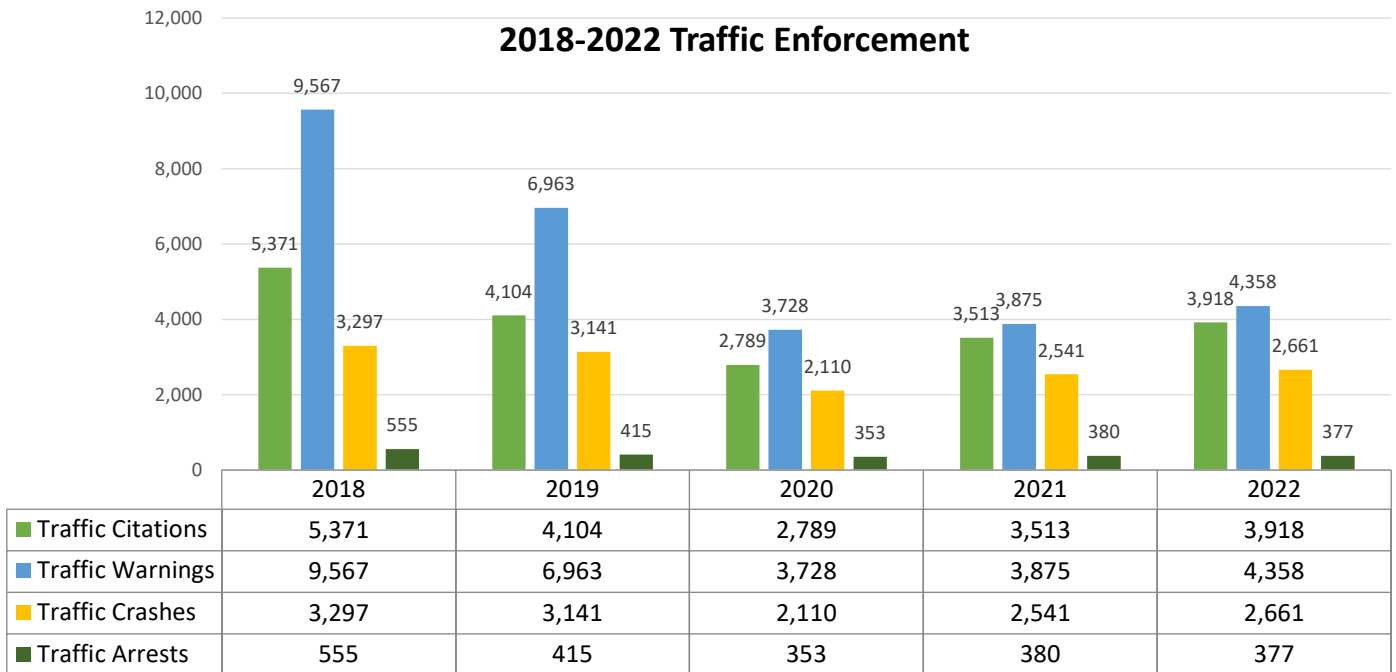
# Traffic Enforcement Data

## Total Traffic Enforcement in 2022



Traffic enforcement efforts focus on specific locations as well as broad areas which present an increased risk to public safety. These enforcement areas are identified through the collection of data, patrol observations, and information received from residents.

## 2018-2022 Traffic Enforcement



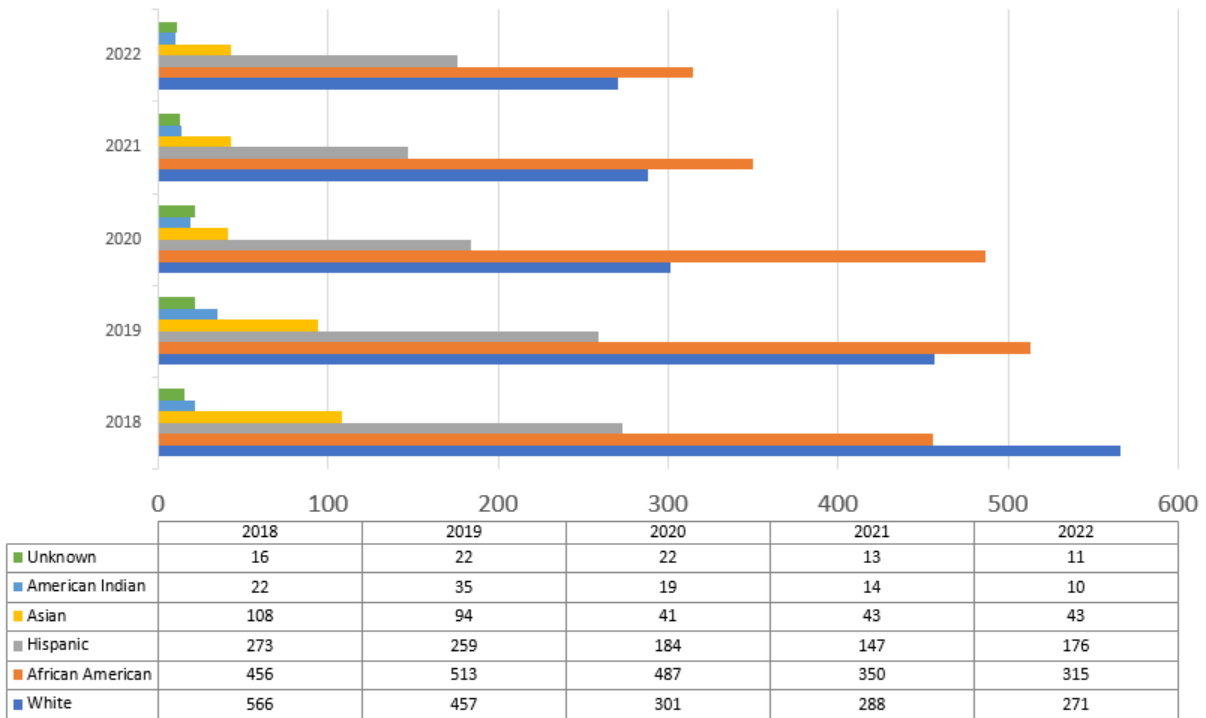
Traffic enforcement in 2020 and 2021 decreased significantly in response to the risks presented to both the public and our workforce during the height of the pandemic. Enforcement efforts in 2022 returned to pre-pandemic levels.

The Department has utilized traffic grants to target specific violations such as speed, DUI, and occupant restraint and protection. The number of grants received in any given year has a significant impact on total traffic enforcement data.

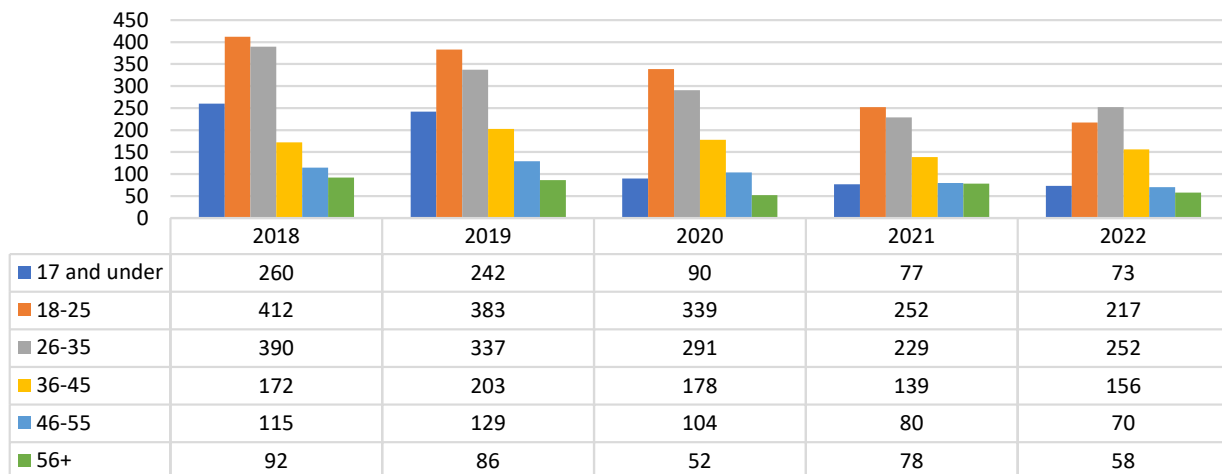
# Arrest Data

There was a total of 826 arrests in 2022. This represents a 3.4% decrease from 2021 and a 42.7% decrease from 2018. Many factors may influence this decrease; however, it is likely that the decriminalization of cannabis and other changes in the criminal justice system have contributed significantly.

**Arrest Data by Race**

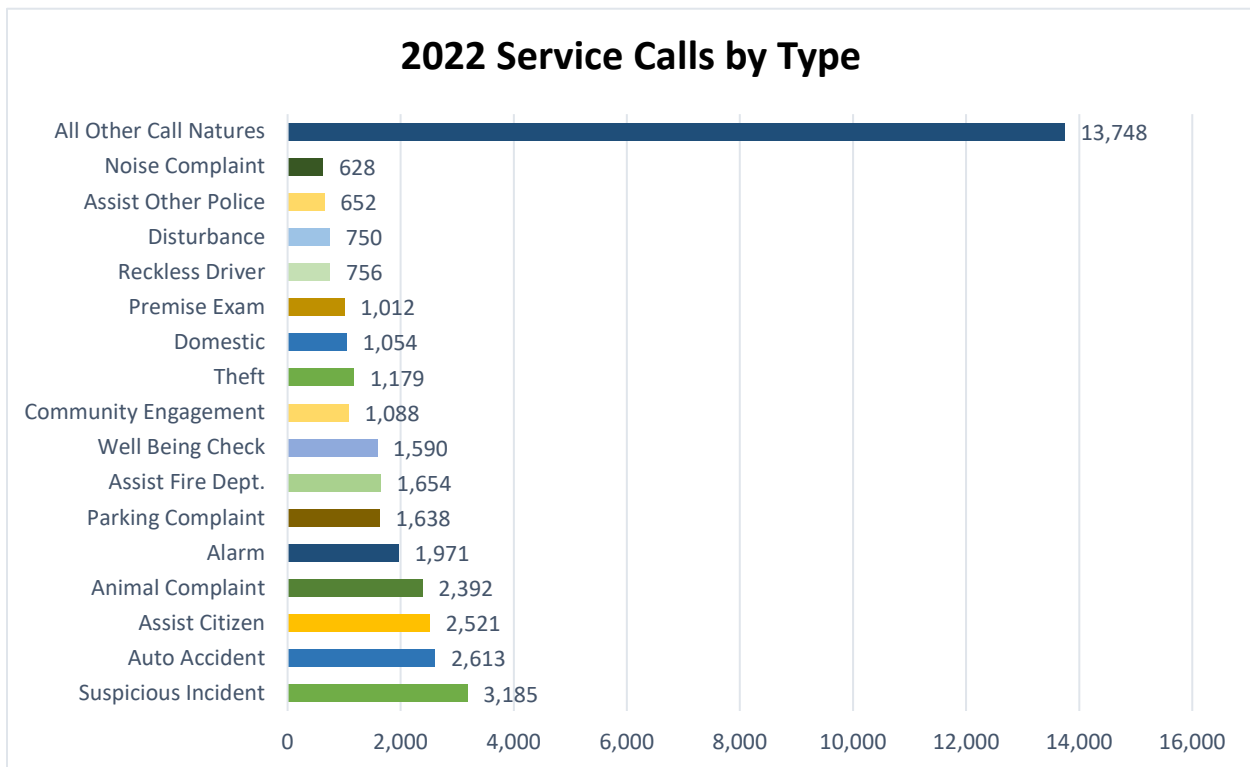
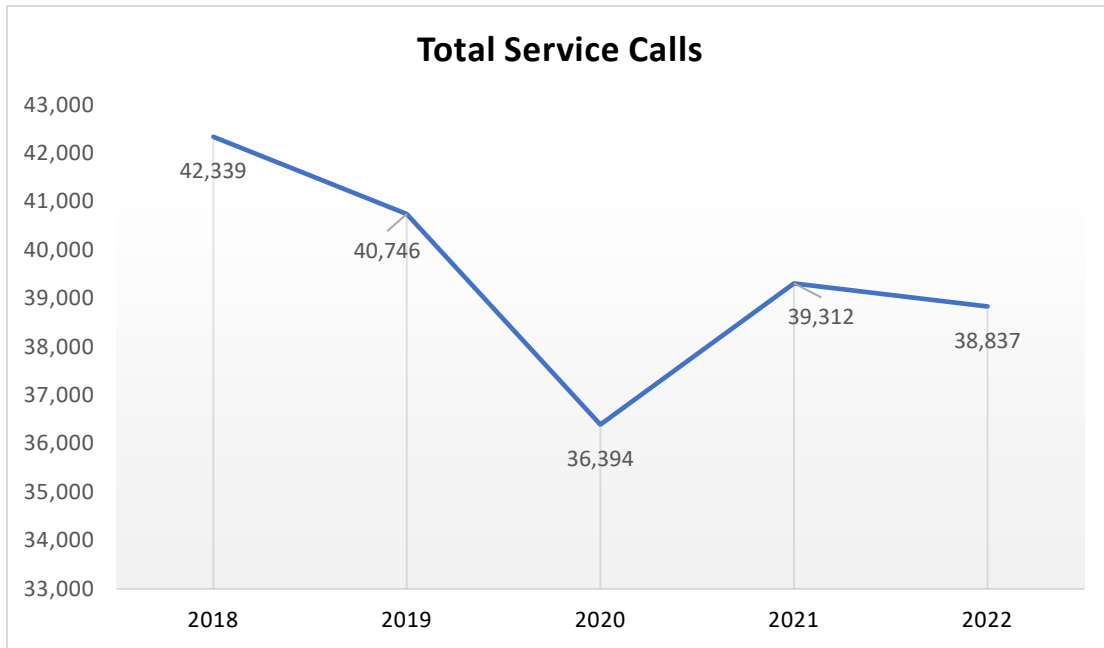


**Arrest Data by Age**



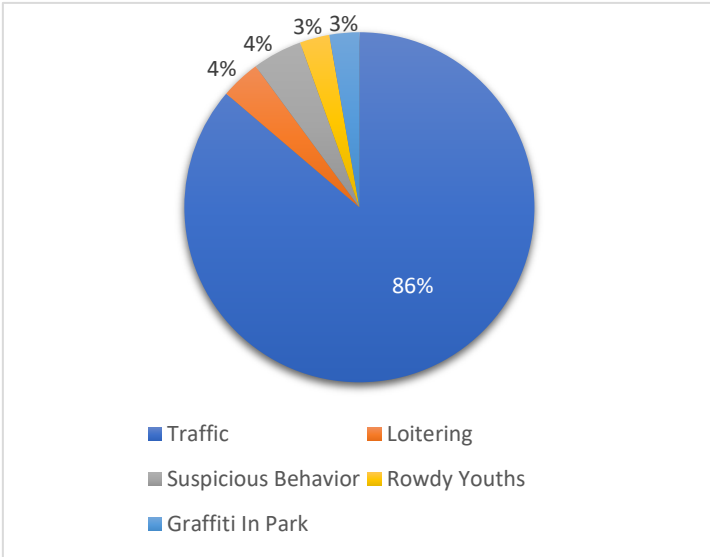
# Service Calls

A service call is an event or incident, of criminal or non-criminal nature, to which Skokie Police Department personnel respond. In 2022, the department responded to 38,837 calls for service. The attached charts display service calls over time as well as service call types for 2022.

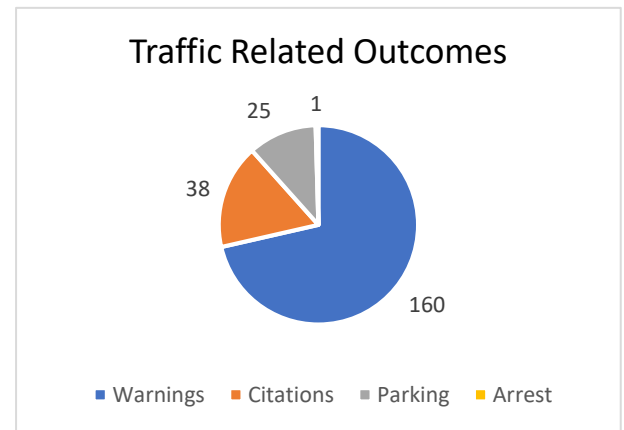


# Community Concerns

Community Concern reports are created when the Department receives information from a citizen with regard to a public safety issue. These reports detail a specific concern and provide the means to document our efforts toward resolution of that issue. Community Concern events are created through various mechanisms and interaction with the community, be they conversations, email, or phone calls. Throughout 2022 we created a total of 109 Community Concern reports, with traffic safety hazards representing the single largest concern, and accounting for 86% of those reports.

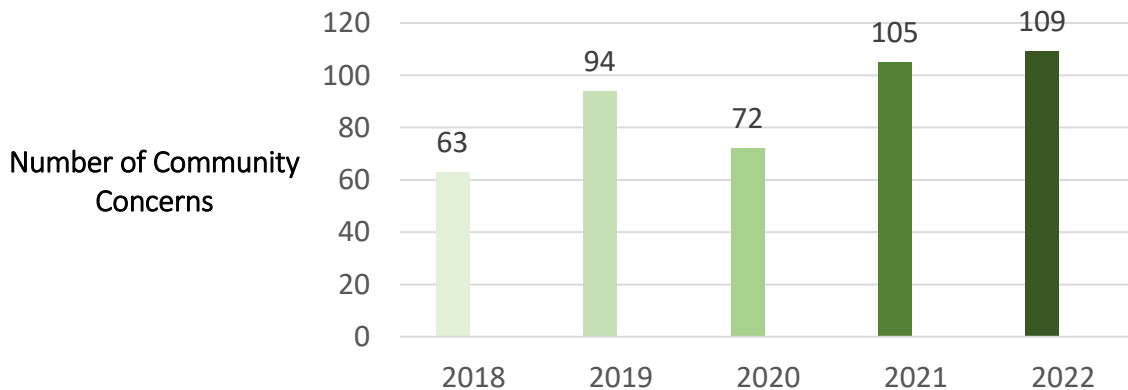


Traffic – Speeding Autos	56 Community Concerns
Traffic – Parking Problems	19 Community Concerns
Traffic – Stop Sign Violators	6 Community Concerns
All other Traffic	13 Community Concerns
Loitering	4 Community Concerns
Suspicious Behavior	5 Community Concerns
Rowdy Youths	3 Community Concerns
Graffiti in Park	3 Community Concerns

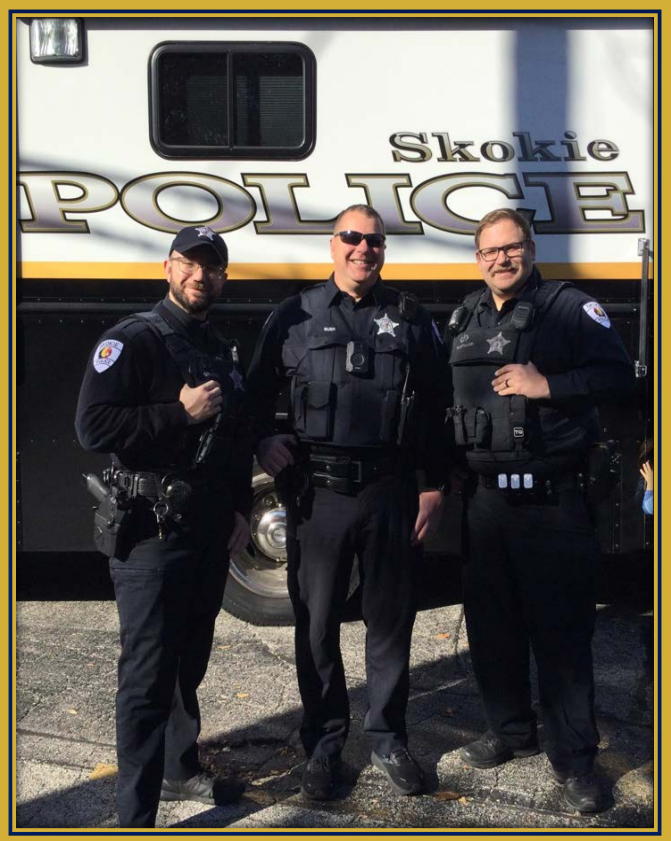
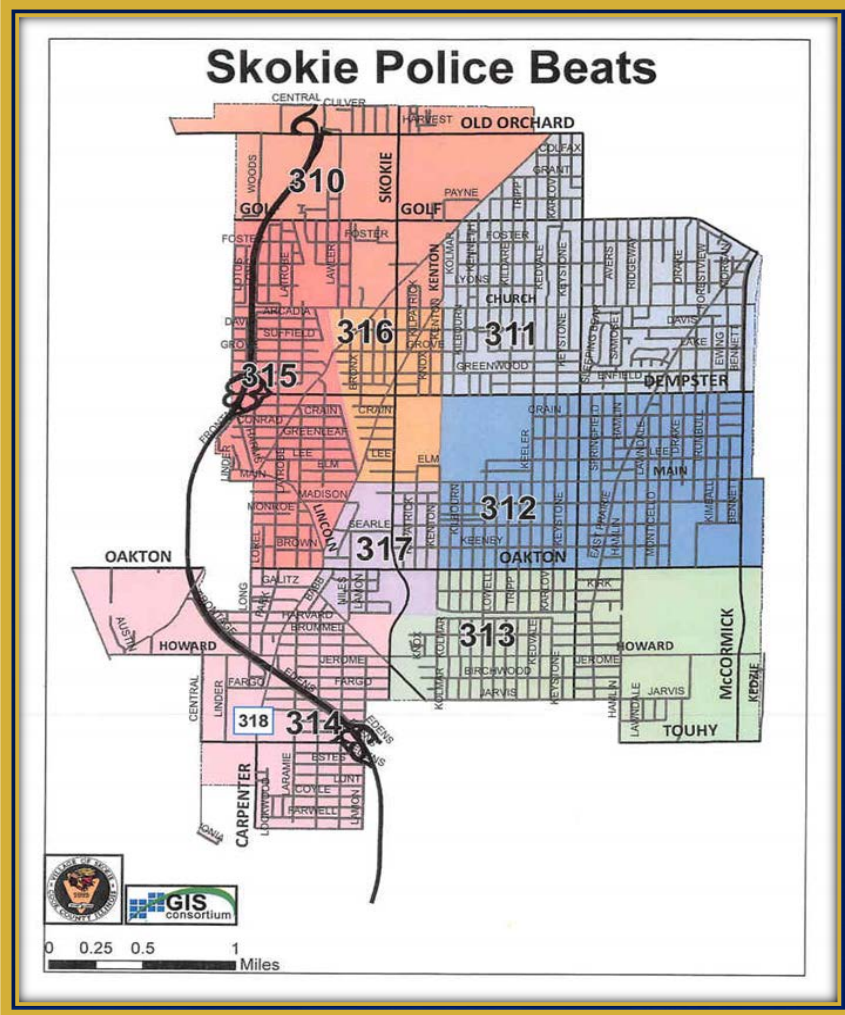


The speed radar sign was deployed 21 times throughout the year in response to community concerns. In six of those instances, officers worked with the complainant and other Village departments to put in place viable solutions to specific traffic concerns.

**Total Community Concerns by Year**



# Patrol Deployment



You can find out what Beat you are in and how to contact your Beat Officer at [skokiepolice.org](http://skokiepolice.org)

The Police Department deploys its patrol officers in three Watches that operate twenty-four hours a day, 7 days a week. A Watch is a shift. Each Watch is 8 ½ hours long, which allows for 30 minutes of overlap when transitioning from one Watch to the next. Each Watch is staffed with a Commander, three Sergeants and a set number of officers.

The Department has divided the Village into Beats. A beat represents a set geographic area that an assigned Beat officer is responsible for and patrols. Through data analysis the Beats were developed so that each one has a relatively similar amount of work, even though they are all different in size. There are eight Beats in our Beat system.

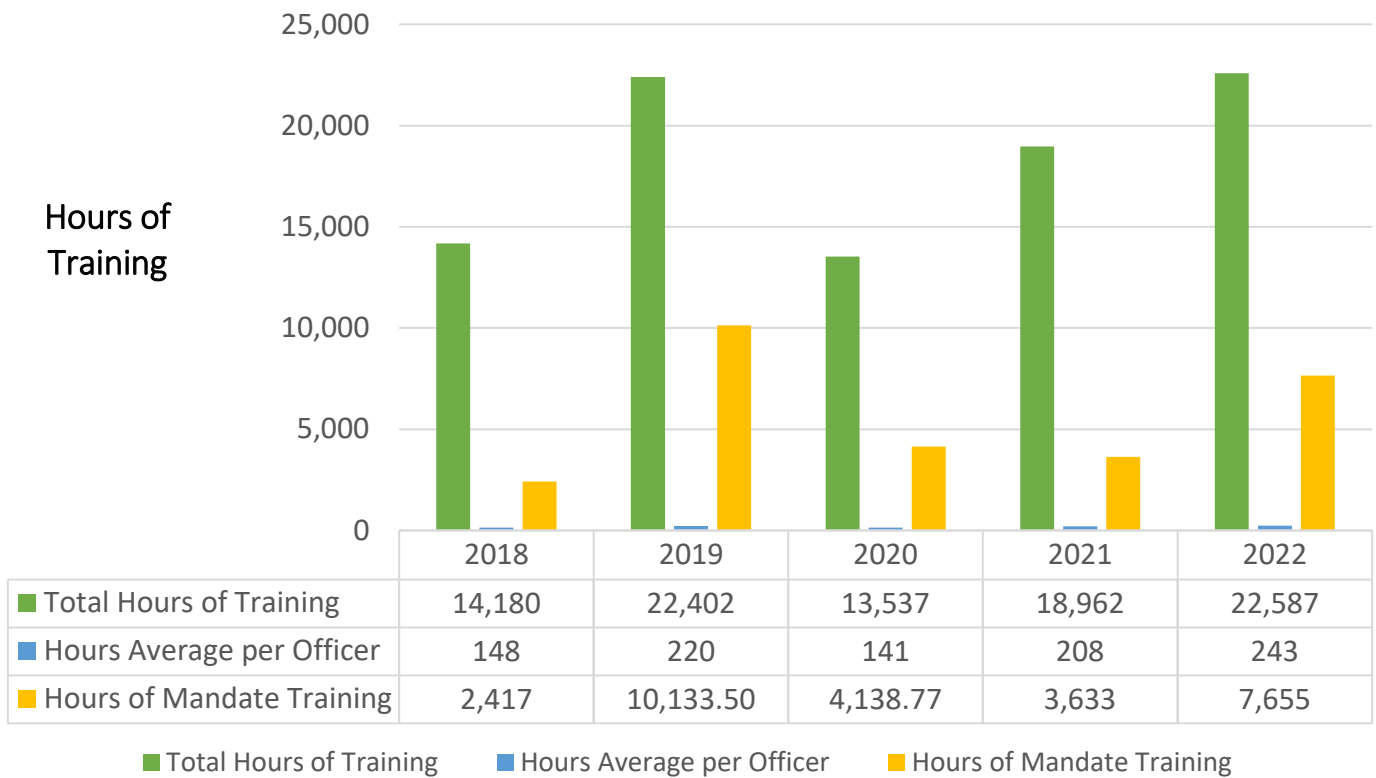
Each year the Watches assign officers to permanently work the same Beat for the upcoming year. We call this our Beat Officer Program. This allows officers to get to know residents, business owners, what is normal and what is out of place. It also allows them to work, monitor, and resolve issues over time.

# Training Data

Training is a critical factor in an officer’s ability to conduct their duties, to do so safely, and with the high level of professionalism and skill that we and the public we serve expect. Training is a high priority for this Department and our investment in high standards of training are consistently proven in the work we do.

The Illinois State Legislature periodically mandates required training for police officers. This practice has increased notably over the past 5 years, and most dramatically in January 2021 with the passage of the SAFE-T Act; the Illinois Safety, Accountability, Fairness, and Equity-Today Act. Since 2018, hours spent in mandated training has increased 216%, while overall training hours for that same period increased only by 59%, significantly reducing our ability to train in valuable but non-mandated training areas once daily operational staffing needs are met.

### Total Hours of Training by Year



**Note:**  
**Mandated training in 2019 was high due to many new recruits attending the basic police academy and many officers attending a 40-hour CIT Course.**

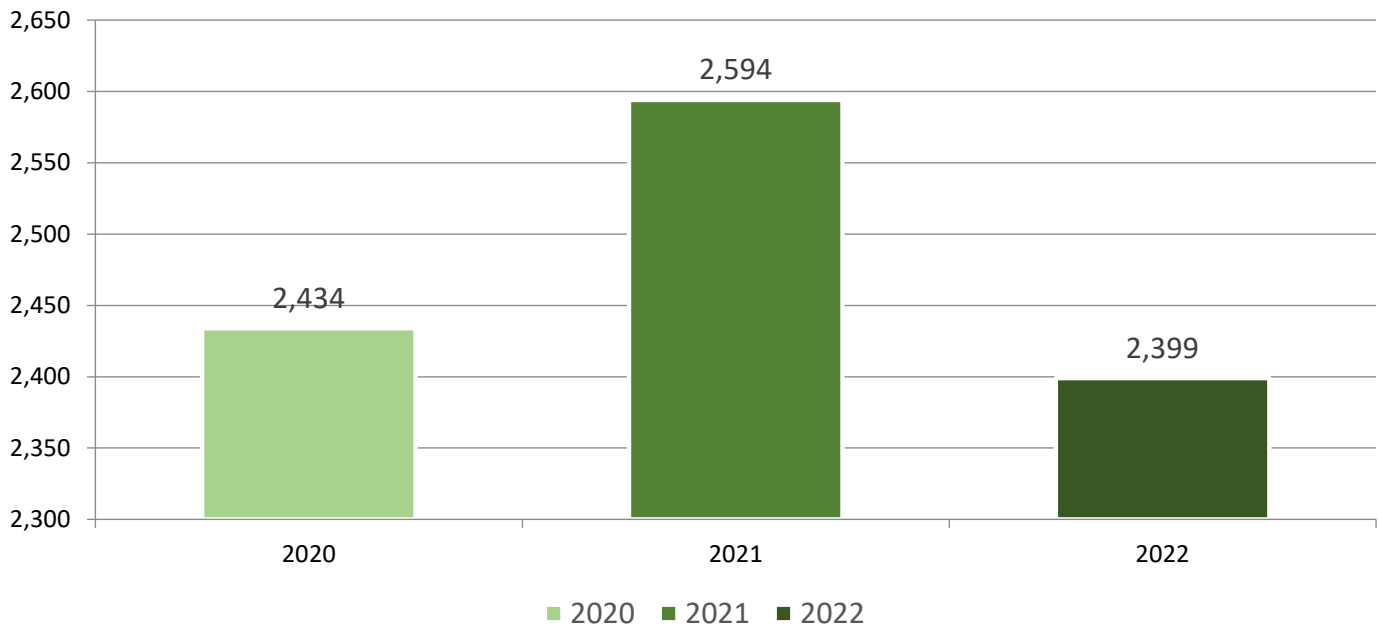
# Animal Control Calls

The Police Department provides animal control services to the Village through its Community Service Officers (CSOs) as Animal Control Officers. CSOs also provide a variety of services vital to department operations which do not require a sworn officer, including desk officer duties, parking enforcement, traffic direction, and walk-in desk reports.

In 2022, Animal Control Officers responded to a total of 2,399 animal complaints and authored 181 reports. 41 animals were euthanized, 18 wild animals were sent to rehabilitation centers, 33 animals were released on-site, 39 stray domestic animals were sent to rescue/foster facilities, and 81 were returned to owners.



**Total Animal Control Calls**





# Co-Responder Team Data

The Co-Responder Program pairs a licensed Social Worker (re-assigned from the Village’s Health and Human Services Department) with a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) trained police officer. The Co-Responder Team works in plain clothes, arrives to incidents in an unmarked car and works a weekday schedule of 9:45 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. The team responds to calls for service with mental health or behavioral components; and conducts follow-up on events which occur outside their operational hours. The Co-Responder Team creates a report each time they respond to a call for service or perform follow-up duties.

The established goals of the program and results for the year are:

Reduce use of force: Positive – Three use of force incidents out of 511 interactions

Diversion from jail: Positive – Only two individuals in 511 interactions were arrested

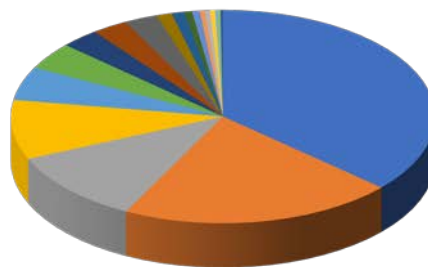
Linkage to services: Positive – 51% were linked to further services

Improve Information Sharing: Positive – Both within the Police Department, Village and service providers

Recurrences: Positive – 90% of individuals served by the Co-Responder Team either have no further contact or only one contact within the subsequent 90 days

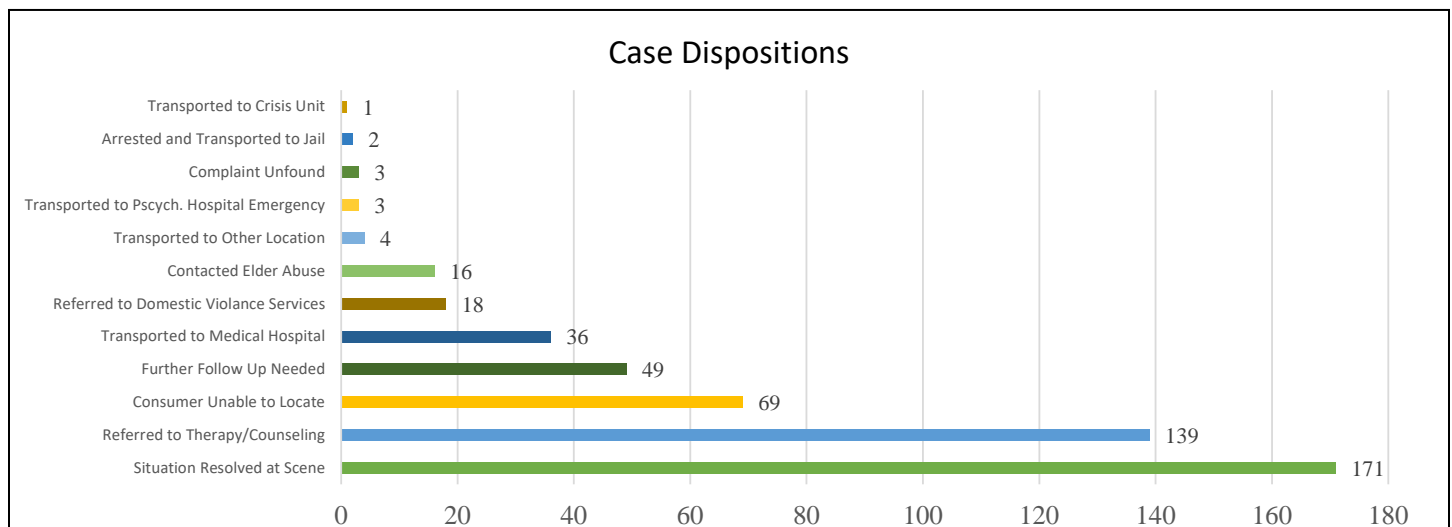
**Call reasons represent the type of call that the Co-Responder Team responded to.**

Call Reasons



■ Follow ups - 187	■ Mental Illness - 107	■ Domestic Related - 56	■ Well Being Checks - 46
■ Homeless - 26	■ Substance Abuse - 21	■ Youth/Family Issues - 15	■ Elderly Issues - 14
■ Dispatched - 13	■ Death Investigation - 6	■ Self-initiated - 5	■ Called in - 3
■ SFD requests - 3	■ Sexual Abuse - 2	■ Notifications - 2	■ Unknown - 2

Case Dispositions



# Use of Force Data

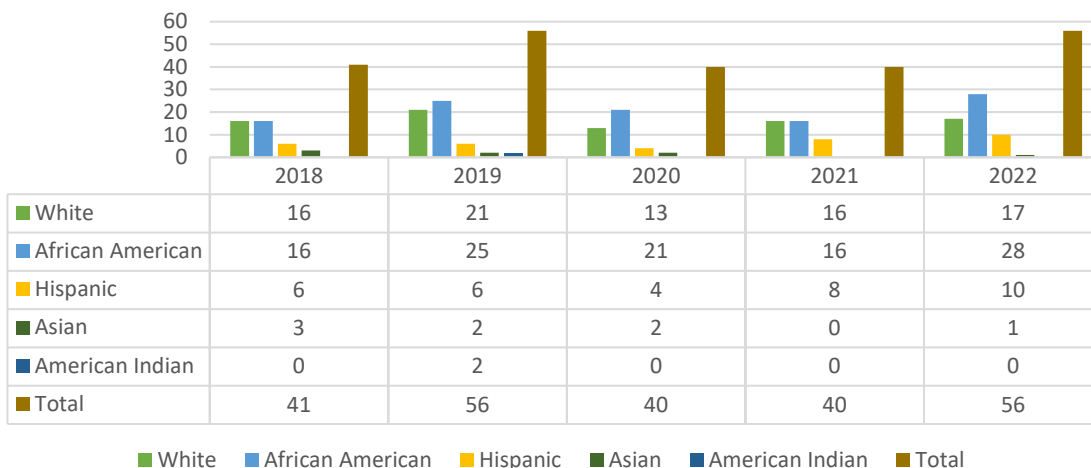
The Skokie Police Department is committed to employing de-escalation tactics and applying the use of force only when reasonably necessary. Our values, policies, and training all support our commitment to these goals.

Any physical response by an officer taking a person into custody is documented in a use of force report. Each officer that applies a physical response completes a use of force report. As a result, two officers applying a physical response to the same person at the same time will result in two individual use of force reports. The incident (crime) in which this occurred is documented as one incident.

The following table details use of force incidents over the past five years. In 2022, with 38,429 calls for service and 826 arrests, there were 56 documented incidents of use of force. Use of force occurred in 6.7% of arrests, and 0.1457% of total calls for service.

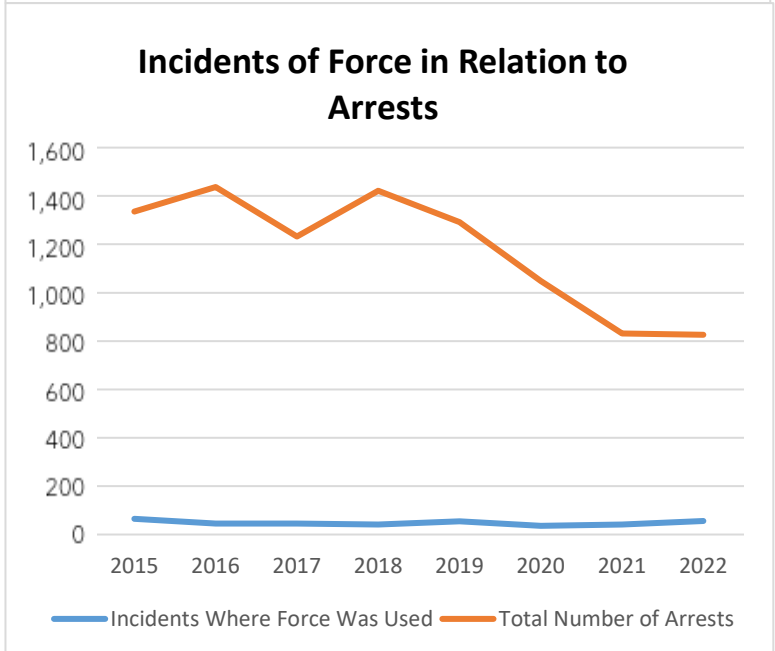
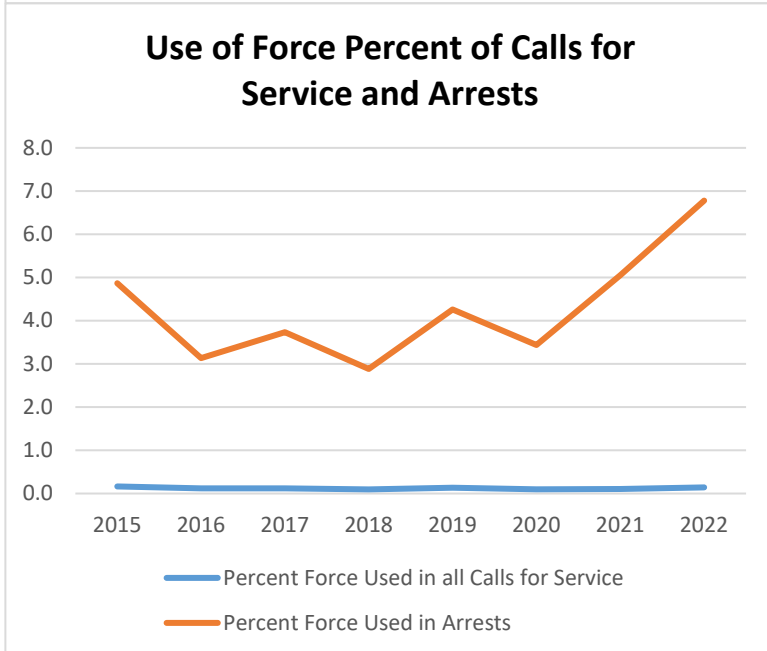
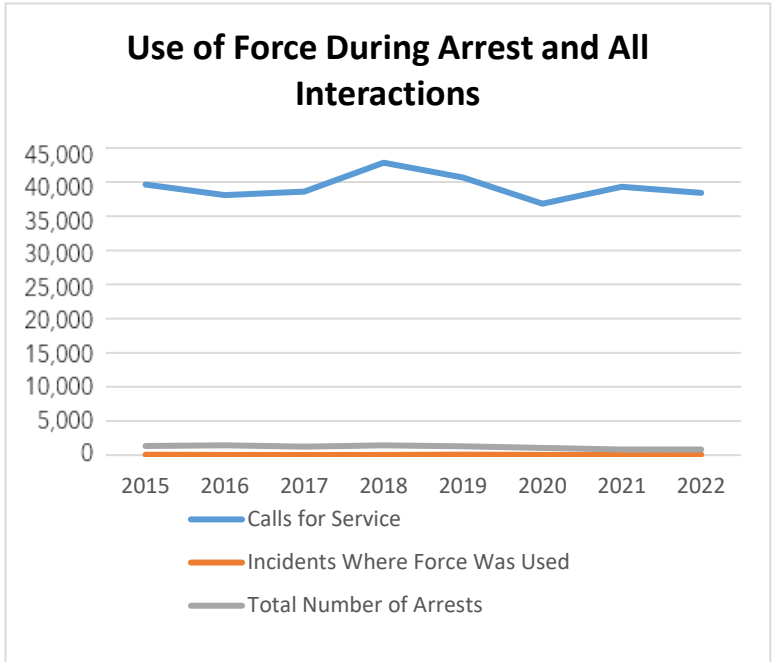
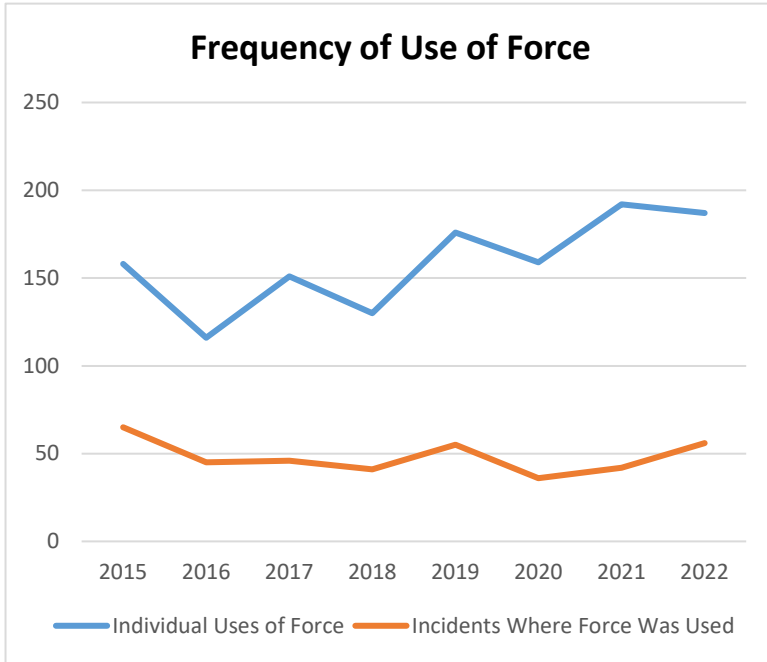
Use of Force Incidents	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Skokie Police Service Calls	42,863	41,202	36,724	39,713	38,837
Skokie Police Arrests	1,422	1,292	1,048	831	826
Individual Uses of Force	130	176	159	192	187
Number of Incidents Force Was Used	41	55	36	42	56
Baton	0	0	0	0	1
Hand Control Tactics	101	162	140	173	245
O.C./Pepper Spray	0	0	0	0	0
Bean Bag	0	0	0	0	0
Firearm Point	7	0	1	1	7
ECD/Taser Point	5	5	0	2	0
ECD/Taser Deployment/Drive Stun	1	3	4	0	0
Restraint Chair	7	4	3	0	1
Leg Restraint	7	2	10	14	16
Warning Shots Fired	0	0	0	0	0
Use of Deadly Force/Shots Fired at Subject	2	0	1	0	0
Other	0	0	0	2	0
Total Times Force Used	130	176	159	192	270
Officer Injuries during use of force arrests	13	33	10	6	17
Suspect Complaint of Injury	8	14	13	9	11

USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS DURING POLICE CONTACTS  
2018-2022



# Use of Force Statistical Data

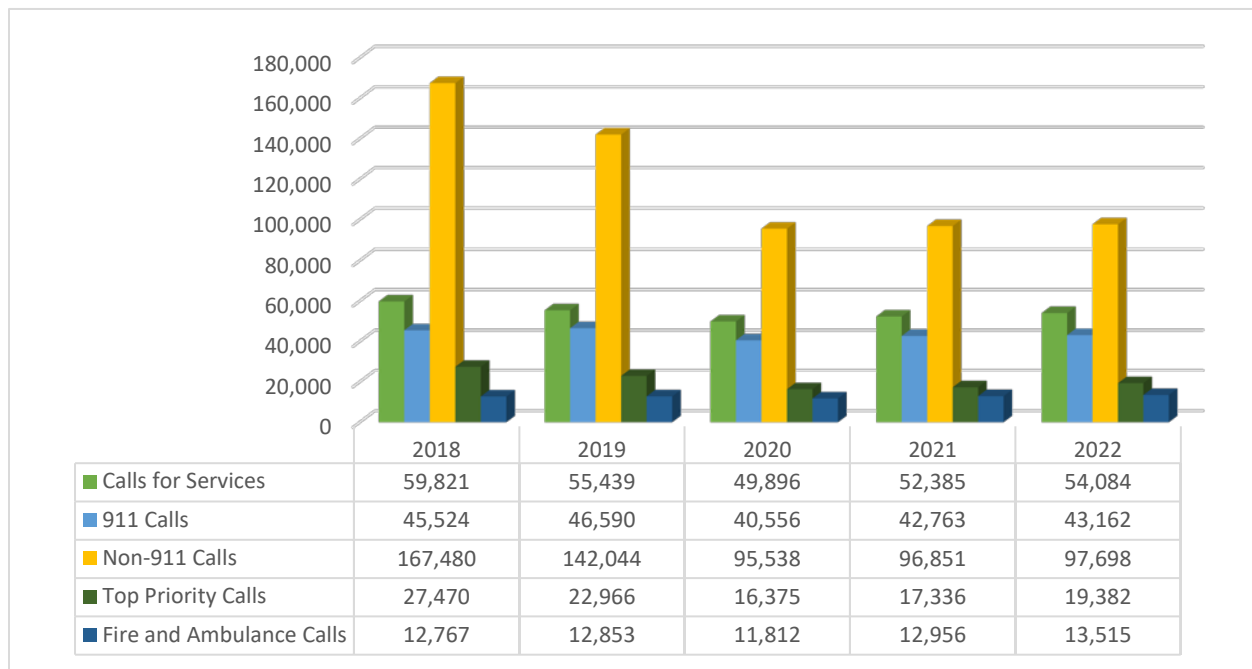
The charts show use of force in relation to calls for service and arrests.



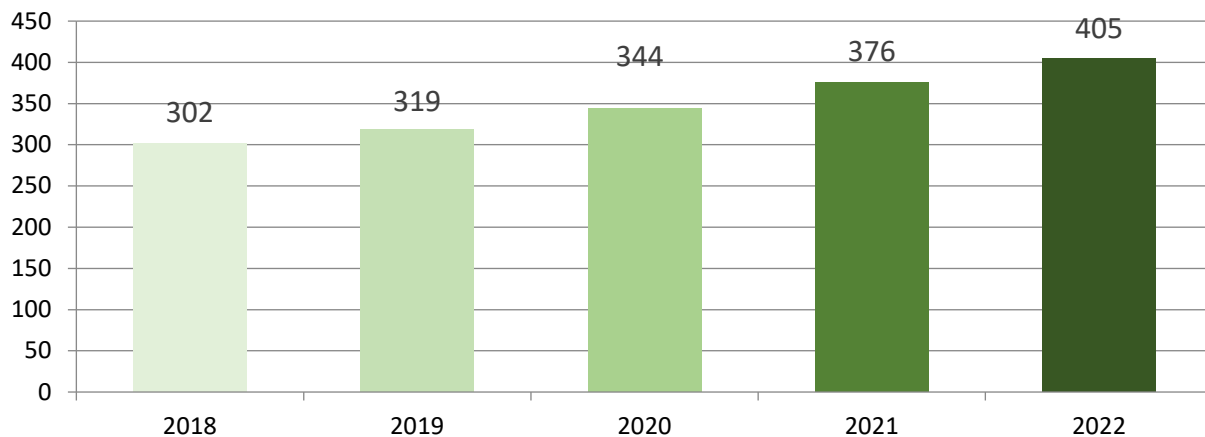
# 911 Communications Data

The 911 Communications Center is located within the police headquarters. The center receives all emergency 911 and non-emergency police and fire calls in the Village of Skokie and Lincolnwood and dispatches all police and fire calls via radio for both villages.

In addition, the Communications Division monitors a Burglar and Fire Alarm Receiver with over 400 alarms from local businesses and residences, handles all administrative calls to the Skokie Police Department, monitors the Police detention facility and numerous other tasks, 24 hours a day.



## Total Alarms Monitored



# Evidence & Property Data

Every item of evidence and property that is collected through the work of the Department is processed through the Property and Identification Section. During 2022, 4,466 items were received and placed into Property Custody. An additional 2,102 items were disposed of pursuant to law, and 1,079 items of property were returned to their owners. At the end of 2022, there were 30,656 items in Property Custody. All property is tracked from the moment it is taken into custody by a member of the Department through the time it is disposed of, or legally turned over to another person outside the Department.

In addition to the custody and tracking of property, the section also performs the following additional work:  
Fingerprinting of residents for various legal reasons - 58

Processing Solicitor Permits - 35

Processing liquor license applicants - 17

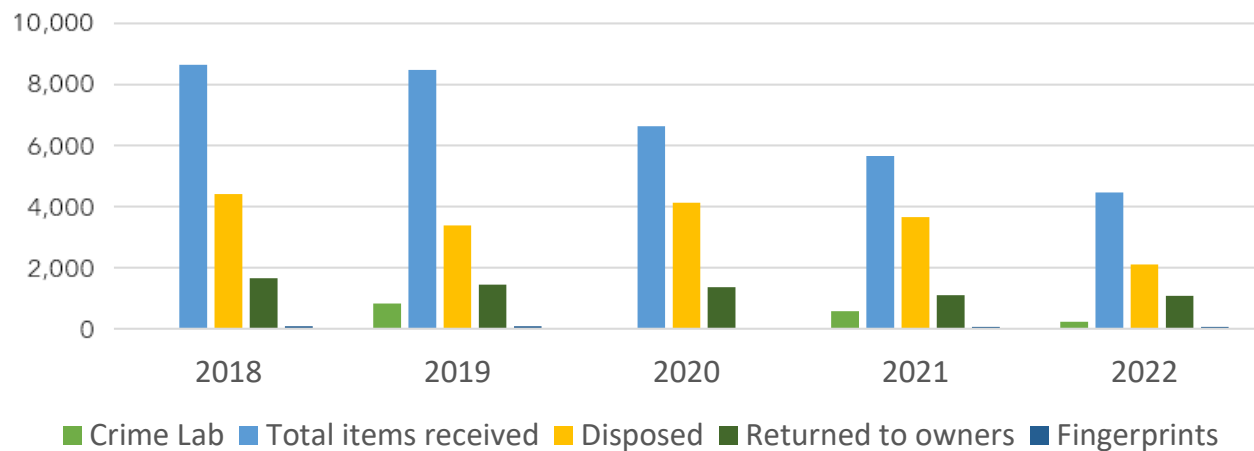
Processing massage parlor applicants - 3

Complying with subpoenas - 140

Complying with FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) Requests - 16

Processing expungements - 1,622

Preparing evidence and transporting to and from the crime lab - 530 hours

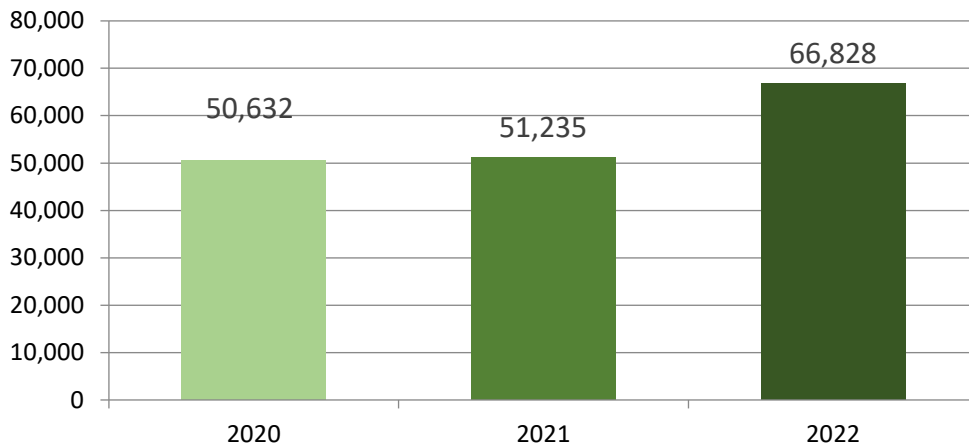


# Records Data

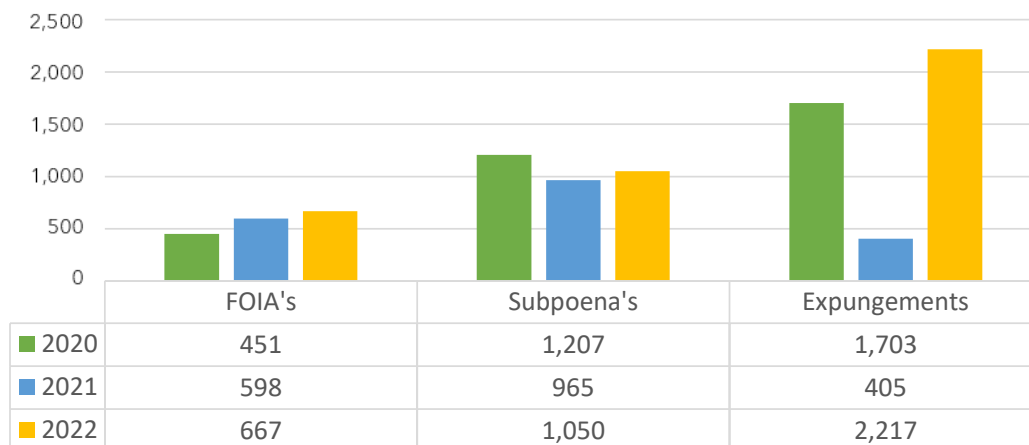
Every record generated by the work police officers perform is processed and handled by the Records Department. Whether in paper or digital form, the Records Department ensures the proper filing, retention, reporting, dissemination, and destruction of all Department generated records (Law Enforcement Agencies Data System LEADS records).

Total records processed in 2022 was 66,828. This represents a 32% increase since 2020. New laws requiring the automatic expungement of records, and an increase in the number of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests have driven this increase. Both expungements and FOIAs are a manual process and require significant staff time to process and complete.

**Total Records**



**Records Processed**



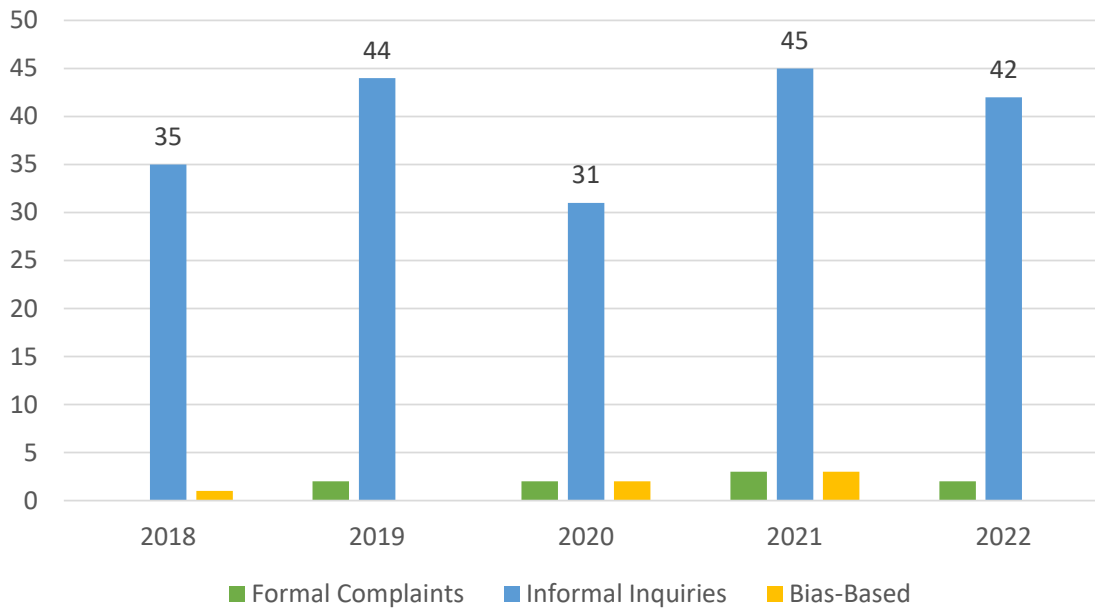
# Internal Investigations Data

Complaints on service and against officers come to the Department’s attention in a variety of ways. Whether received in person, over the phone, through an email, anonymously, or some other means, every complaint is investigated. In addition, every incident of misconduct, or policy/rule violation that is identified by members of the Department is fully investigated. All investigations are documented and reviewed through the Chain of Command, up to and including the Chief.

Policy and Illinois law establish procedures for two types of internal complaint investigation; Formal or Informal. Formal complaints are ones where the employee may be disciplined by suspension more than three days up to termination. Informal inquiries are ones where the employee may be disciplined by suspension of three days or less. None of the complaints in 2022 involved any allegation of bias by the employee.

Type	Total number of Complaints	Number from External Source	Number generated internally	Number found Proper Conduct	Number found Improper Conduct	Other findings
Formal	2	1	1	0	2	0
Informal	40	12	28	0	17	23

Type	Suspension	Written Reprimand	Verbal Reprimand	Counseling/Training
Formal	2	0	0	0
Informal	6	6	8	13



# Canine Unit K-9

In 2022, Officer Robert Ochoa was selected as the new K-9 handler and paired up with his new partner Jinn. After successful completion of an 8-week training course in June of 2022, the new K-9 team began serving the Village of Skokie. Calendar year 2022 was the K-9's 26th year of operation. The Canine Unit was utilized to assist officers with narcotic detection, tracking of fleeing suspects, article searches for evidence, and building searches for suspects at crime scenes. The Canine Unit also provided mutual aid to Northbrook Police, Morton Grove Police, Evanston Police, Illinois State Police, and the Lincolnwood Police Department.



Total K-9 Deployments	32
Training Hours on duty	131 hours
Training Hours at TOPS	172 hours
Narcotic Searches	16
Tracks for people	14
Article Searches	7
K-9 for use of force	0
Assist other Police	6





# Community Engagement

The Crime Prevention Unit is responsible for increasing safety awareness through disseminating Public Safety Bulletins, Community Alerts, and informational announcements made via the Department's social media programs, including both Facebook and Twitter. Several of these bulletins led to the provision of information from citizens that proved critical in locating missing persons.

## Beat Meetings

Meetings are held each quarter in the eight different Beats. This is an opportunity for the Department to communicate with residents and business owners regarding crimes that are occurring in their Beat and ways to prevent them. It is also an opportunity for the Department to hear from the community about what may be occurring in a specific area and develop solutions together on how to resolve it. Beat Officers, Crime Prevention Staff, Crime Analyst, Investigators and Supervisors all attend the Beat meetings.

## Neighborhood Watch

Over 280 blocks in Skokie are part of this program. Neighborhood Watch provides more eyes and ears on what's happening in our community and gives the Department the ability to target communications to specific locations. The Department realizes great results when residents are watching their neighborhoods and reporting suspicious activity and public safety related concerns.

## Officer Friendly Program

Encourages positive police interaction with elementary-aged children to introduce police officers as community helpers. The goal of the program is to provide strategies on how to be safe at home and in the community while fostering a positive relationship with law enforcement.

## Citizen Police Academy

In 2022, 24 citizens graduated from our Department's 40<sup>th</sup> Citizens Police Academy class. This program is available to Skokie residents, organization members, and businesses and offers the opportunity to experience our Department, training, and services firsthand through in a class led by Skokie police members.

## Explorer Post #300 Program

The program offers an introduction to a career in law enforcement to participants between the ages of 14-20. Members participate in practical training to gain experience with various positions and duties within the Skokie Police Department. Explorers also volunteer with community events alongside police personnel.



# Crime Prevention



## Neighborhood Integrity Program

Works to maintain, educate, and coordinate with building owners and tenants regarding property standards and activity on or around the property to comply with legal requirements.

## Triad Program

Skokie Police personnel provide information and services to empower senior citizens in the community. The intention of the program is to minimize victimization and increase knowledge of services for the aging community.



## Catalytic Converter Alarm Give Away

In response to increases in catalytic converter thefts, the Department secured local partners and gave away over 220 catalytic converter alarms to residents.

## Wheel Locking Device Give Away

In response to increases in auto thefts of Hyundai's and Kia's, the Department secured 128-wheel locking devices from those manufacturers and provided them to residents.



# Community Engagement Events



## National Night Out 2022

On August 2, 2022, our Department hosted its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out. The National Night Out Campaign promotes police and community partnership with the goal of building safe neighborhoods for residents, businesses, and other stakeholders. National Night Out provides an opportunity for the public to engage with Skokie Police officers, and enjoy an evening of fun games, music, dancing, and prizes.



## Annual “Cop on a Rooftop”

On August 19, 2022, our Department participated in the Annual “Cop on a Rooftop” held at Dunkin' Donuts. Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit the Special Olympics Illinois.



## “Cram the Cruiser” Holiday Food Drive

On November 19, 2022, The Skokie Police Department partnered with Walmart for our first “Cram the Cruiser” food drive. With the generosity of the community, we successfully loaded several squad cars with food items to be donated to the Niles Township Food Pantry during the holiday season.



## Cops with Kids

On Saturday, December 17, 2022, the Skokie Fraternal Order of Police along with the Skokie Police Department hosted the annual Cops with Kids event at Walmart. Thanks to some very generous business and personal donations raised to allow Skokie grade school students the opportunity to shop for holiday gifts with a Skokie Police Officer. Skokie school staff selected the participating students. Gifts including toys, clothing, and daily essentials were purchased for parents, siblings, classmates, teachers, grandparents and more.



## Snow Patrol

Winter 2022, A group of Skokie’s finest volunteered their personal time to help those in need of snow shoveling. Snow Patrol prioritizes elderly residents and those who are unable to physically shovel. The goal of the Skokie Snow Patrol is to give back to the community and show that helping others can be a very rewarding experience.

# Thank You!

I would like to close our annual report by thanking the members of the Skokie Police Department for their professionalism, dedication, and commitment. Our employees often interact with members of our community experiencing their worst days. Regardless of the incident, we strive to always be fair, respectful, and professional and positively affect what otherwise might be a negative experience. It's certainly difficult at times to achieve this, but our employees consistently find ways to "Be the Difference" in every call that they respond to.

I get many notes, emails and letters of thanks from our community about the great work our members do and the impact they have. It means so much to all of them to see and hear that the work they do is appreciated. I thought I would share some I've received from school children; they are the best!

It is our honor to serve this outstanding community.

Brian Baker

Chief of Police





[www.skokiepolice.org](http://www.skokiepolice.org)