

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 26, 2021

Chief Edmiston called the meeting to order at 6:17PM. Present were Councilor's Primmer, Myers and Hardin. City Manager Byron Smith, Captains Travis Eynon and Scott Clark, Sergeant Bryan Maess and Leonard Stokoe, Corporal Bill Golter, Patrol Officers Jarrod Flatau, Jared Zumwalt, and Shawnee Rodriguez, Records Clerk Shannon Robinson, Communications Manager Amanda Hartsteen, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

Introductions and Personnel Updates

Chief Edmiston introduced members of the Hermiston Police Department (HPD) who were in the audience, and gave personnel updates to include:

- Corporal Leonard Stokoe has been promoted to Sergeant after the retirement of Sergeant Kelly Parsons. Sergeant Stokoe has 23 years of experience as a full-time sworn officer and has been with HPD since 2005, and will soon be attending a month-long supervisory school in Texas.
- Officers Shawnee Rodriguez and Jared Zumwalt were both hired from the HPD reserve program and have recently graduated from the police academy. They are currently in phase 2 of 3 of the internal field training program and anticipate their release to solo patrol early this summer.
- Lieutenant Randy Studebaker was recently appointment to the Oregon Department of Justice's Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force. It is a benefit to have Eastern Oregon representation on this committee.
- HPD has recently accepted the resignation of Chris McMahon who will be leaving law enforcement in early May.
- HPD is in the process of hiring two entry-level applicants and are hopeful to secure slots for the May 31st start date of basic police academy. Historically, HPD has had great luck with entry-level people and anticipate the same outcomes with these two applicants.

Councilor Primmer congratulated the new hires and Sergeant Stokoe and stated he was sorry to see good officers leave.

Chief Edmiston stated he is grateful that people still want to be a part of the HPD family.

1st Quarter (2021) Crime Report

Chief Edmiston reviewed the 1st quarter crime report (attached) and stated the crime report is somewhat consistent with trends HPD has experienced and the pandemic, with total crime being down 66% when comparing this quarter to the 10-year average. It should be noted the 1 homicide showing is for Attempted Murder. As frustrating as it may be, an attempted murder counts as a homicide when reporting our numbers to the state.

Police activity is down trying balance proactivity with the fact many people remain apprehensive about the current state of affairs. As such, the majority of the increase in officer-initiated activity is due to checking on local businesses after-hours versus increased traffic enforcement. It has been over a year since our dedicated traffic officer has been able to operate in that function as he is filling in for an officer out with an on the job injury that will be out most of the year.

The records division saw a 95% increase in requests for information from last year, that again, completely justifies the addition of the third police records specialist position from last year.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 26, 2021

Department Meeting

Chief Edmiston stated there was exceptional turnout by the members for the 56th meeting since his appointment. The meeting went over where the department is and where they are headed. This type of meeting has not been held in several years so they will try to make sure there is not as much of a break in-between meetings.

Transient Activity

In August 2020, HPD began tracking calls for service involving transients. From August 2020 through March 2021, 18% to 22% of all incidents that make the shift log, involve transient(s) which comes out anywhere from 1,800 to 2,300 incidents in the last 8 months involving a person suffering from some kind of illness, including: chemical, mental, etc. This is a significant draw on limited resources.

There was discussion regarding work needing to be done, at the legislative level, to help fix these issues and help people receive the services they need whether that be assistance for mental health or chemical dependency. Captain Eynon spoke regarding the good partnership with Good Shephard Hospital and the help they provide to patients in distress, as well as working with Good Shephard to know when HPD can intercede and not just arrest someone for disorderly conduct when they are in a mental health crisis, and the great programs that the State of Arizona has to help with persons suffering from chemical or mental illness. Captain Eynon stated it is not against the law to be mentally ill, unfortunately, when there is a lack of resources to help those in crisis and then that person hurts someone, jail is the only place to keep others safe and keep them safe from themselves. The County recently created The Rocklt Committee to help identify what resources we have and what we need in the community, and are hoping this Committee will help with some of these issues.

Chief Edmiston stated the County is renovating the Jail to help deal with those in mental health crisis; although this is good for the Jail, the community still needs a facility out of Jail. Police officers receive training on how to deal with those in distress, however, there still needs to be trained mental health professionals.

Past/Upcoming Events

None given.

Adjournment

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Mission Statement

Without fear or favor and in partnership with our diverse community, we will create and maintain a safe environment with the reduction of crime through problem-oriented and community-based policing strategies. The quality of life for those we serve takes precedent over our individual needs.

1st QUARTER CRIME REPORT

2021

Incident Type	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg	Normal Range	2021	% Change Avg-'21	% Change '20-'21
Total Incidents	6441	5779	5406	6114	5832	4917	5820	5492	5421	5691	5357-6026	5343	-6%	-1%
Calls for Service	3466	3277	3308	2310	2340	2218	2607	2594	2605	2747	2584-2910	2358	-14%	-9%
Officer Initiated Activity	2975	2502	2098	3804	3492	2699	3213	2898	2816	2944	2654-3234	2985	1%	6%
Traffic Stops	1142	1416	957	1865	1680	1119	1267	1480	1606	1392	1183-1602	1166	-16%	-27%
Case Investigations	659	605	594	788	776	678	818	774	639	703	636-771	551	-22%	-14%
Total Arrests	321	345	270	370	407	310	326	326	237	324	269-378	201	-38%	-15%
Misdemeanor Arrests	210	235	194	291	311	237	226	243	147	233	180-285	139	-40%	-5%
Felony Arrests	111	110	76	79	96	73	100	83	90	91	81-100	62	-32%	-31%
Total Citations	1588	1472	1268	1706	1494	1370	1593	1804	1477	1530	1384-1677	885	-42%	-40%

POPULATION	16865	16995	17240	17345	17520	17730	17985	18200	18415
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Hermiston Police Department 2012-2021 Police Statistics

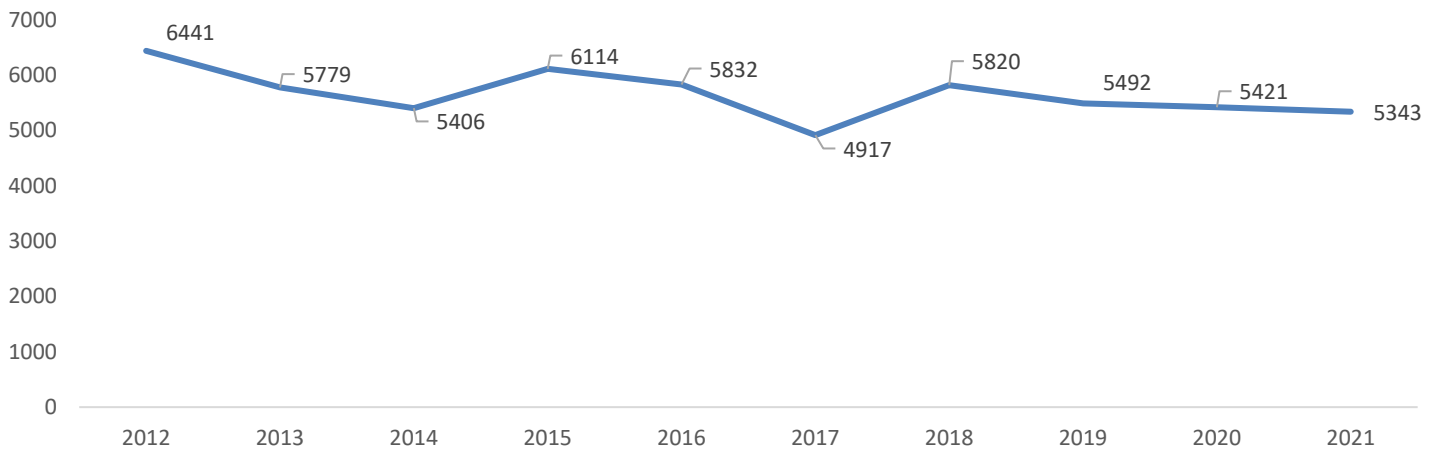
January through March 10-year Trends

Incident Type	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Avg	Normal Range	2021	% Change Avg-'21	% Change '20-'21
Homicide	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0-1	1	100%	0%
Rape	0	2	0	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	0-2	0	-100%	-100%
Robbery	5	3	3	0	0	1	4	1	4	2	1-4	3	50%	-25%
Aggravated Assault	5	2	0	1	4	7	11	6	4	4	2-7	3	-25%	-25%
Burglary	41	16	16	9	10	12	26	14	20	18	12-24	6	-67%	-70%
Larceny	136	115	103	100	116	70	94	104	86	103	87-118	32	-69%	-63%
Auto Theft	14	16	2	12	7	11	11	10	7	10	8-12	2	-80%	-71%
Arson	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	0-2	0	-100%	-100%
TOTAL	204	155	126	125	140	103	148	137	126	140	125-156	47	-66%	-63%
TOTAL VIOLENT	11	7	3	3	7	9	17	9	10	8	5-12	7	-13%	-30%
TOTAL PROPERTY	193	148	123	122	133	94	131	128	116	132	118-146	40	-70%	-66%
POPULATION	16865	16995	17240	17345	17520	17730	17985	18200	18415	18775				

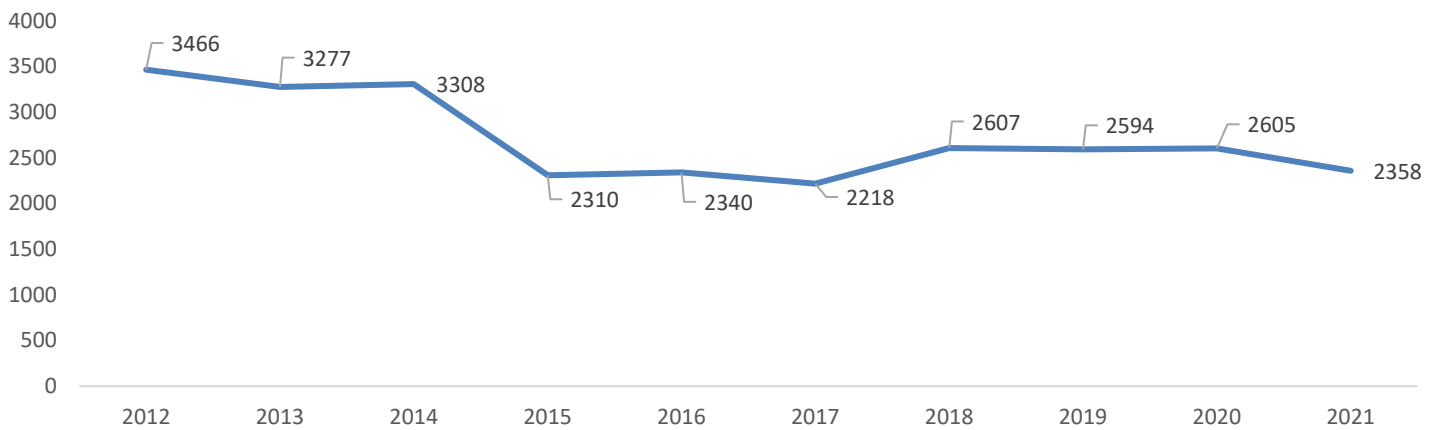
Hermiston Police Department 2012-2021 Crime Stats

January through March 10-year Trends

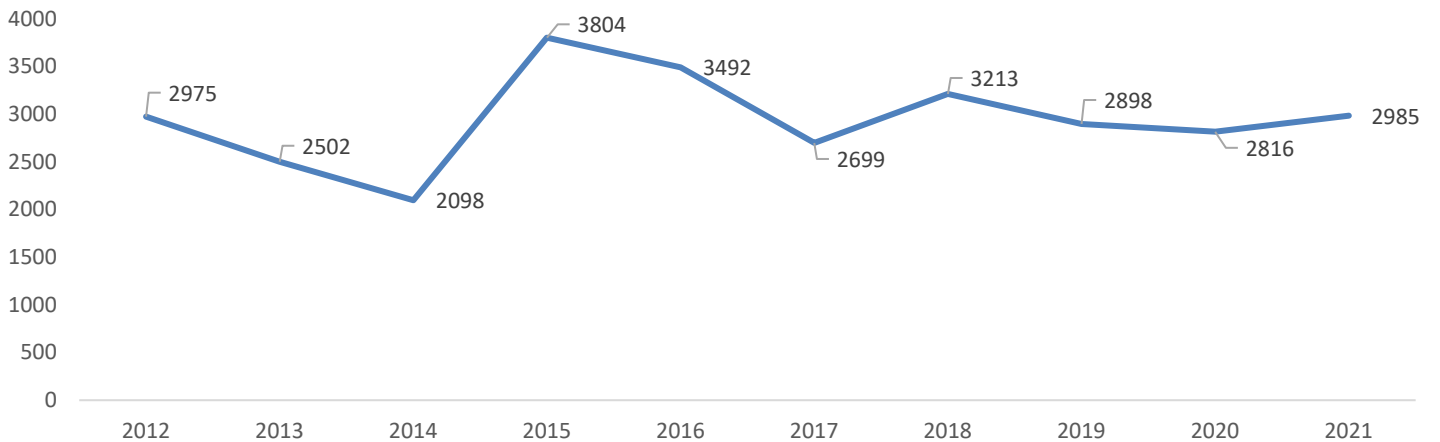
Total Incidents



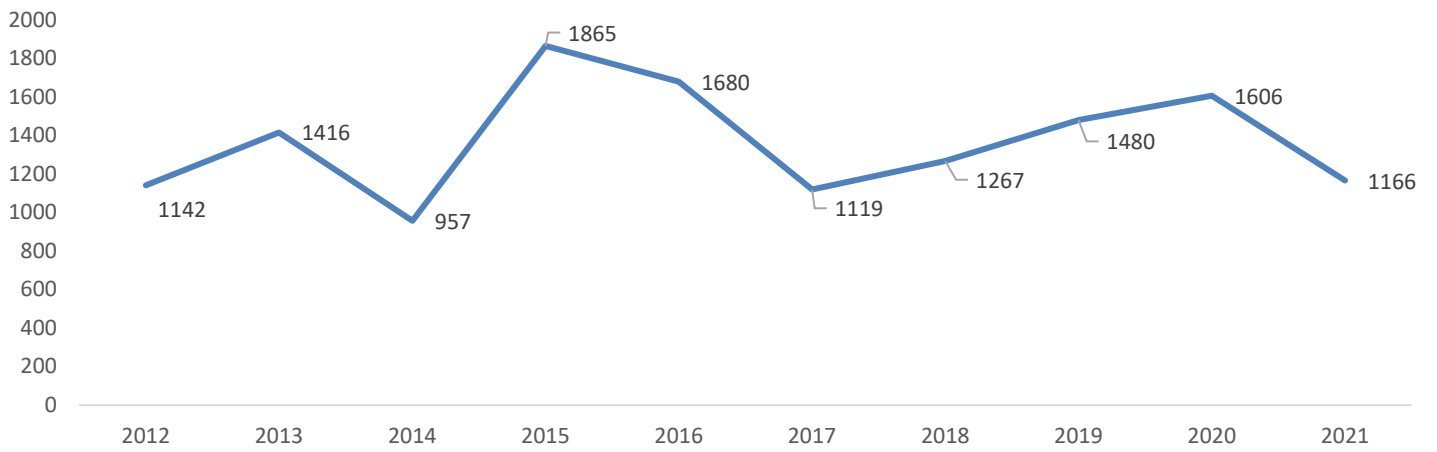
Calls for Service



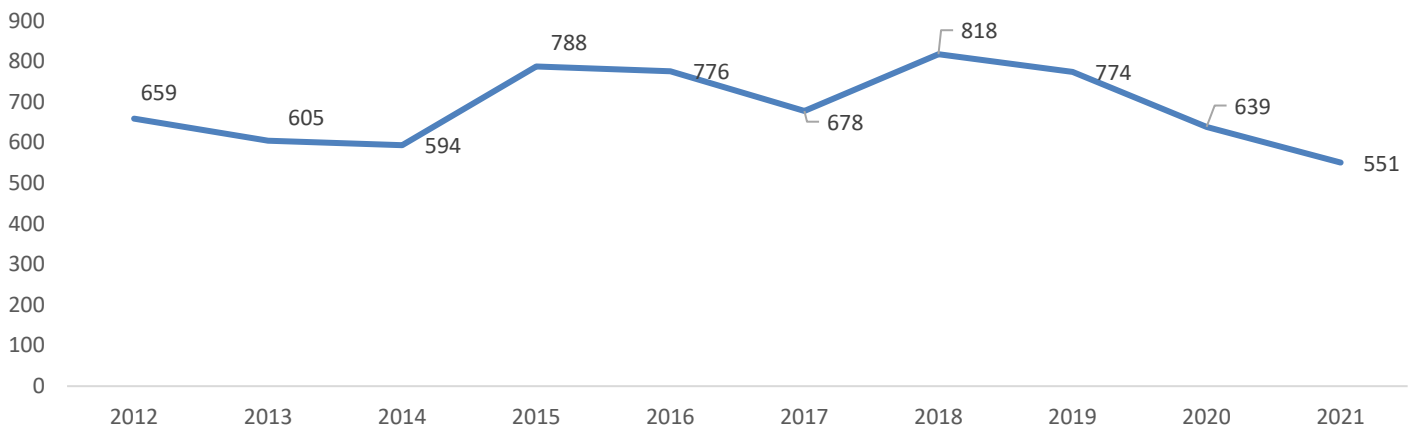
Officer-Initiated Activity



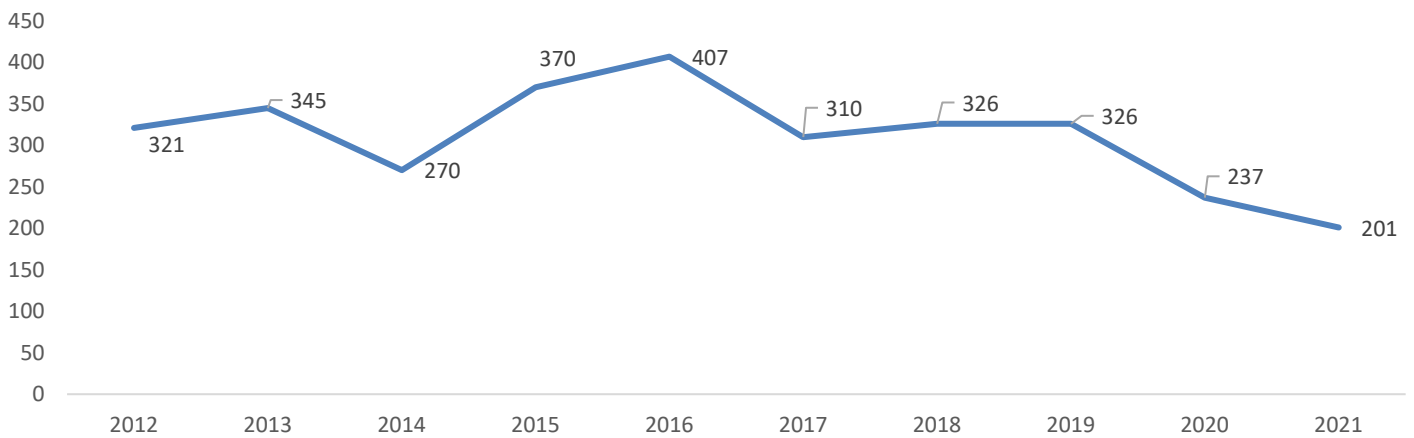
Traffic Stops



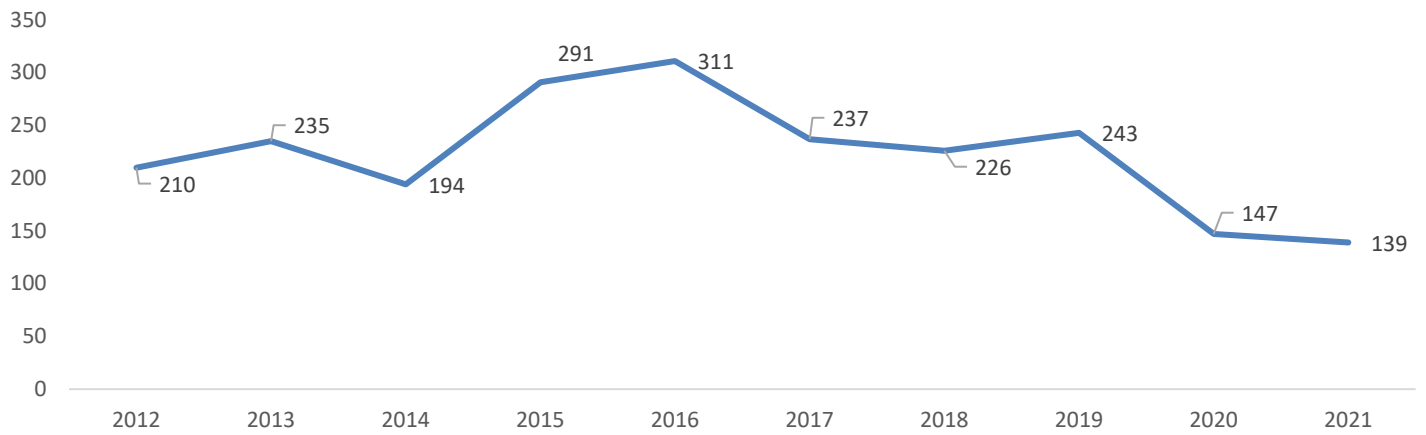
Case Investigations



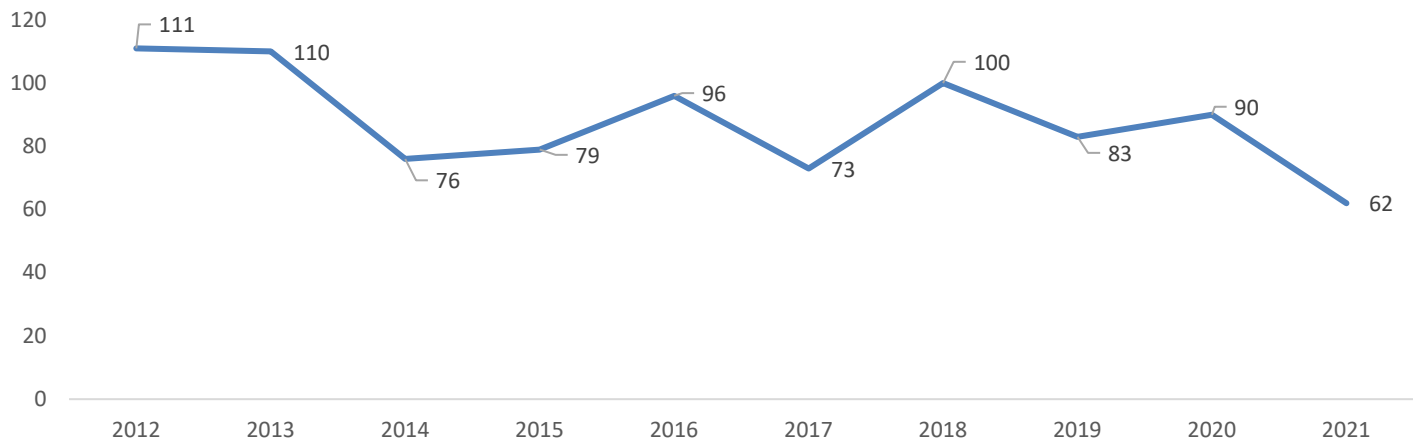
Total Arrests



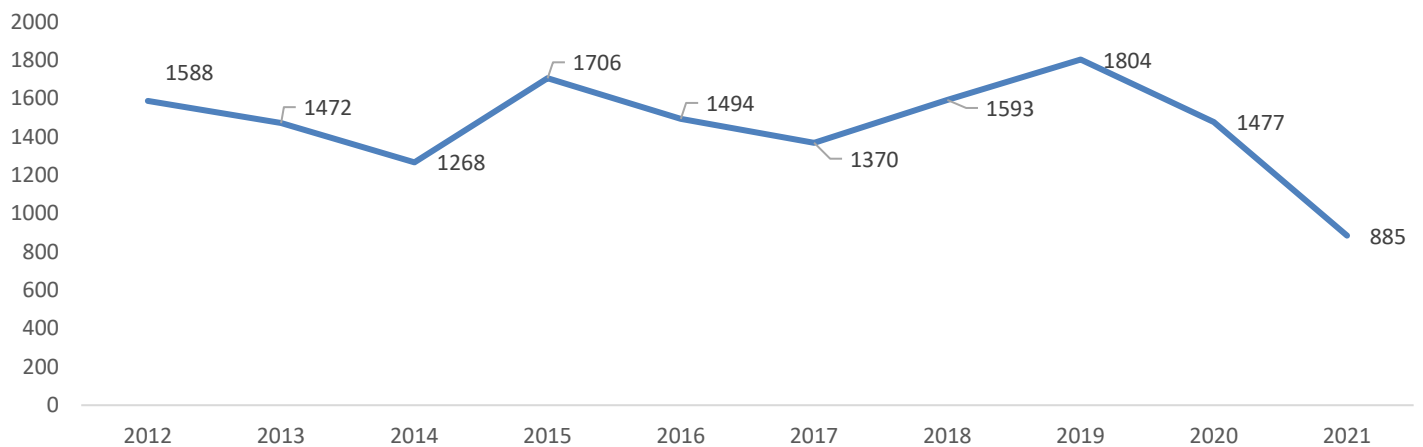
Misdemeanor Arrests



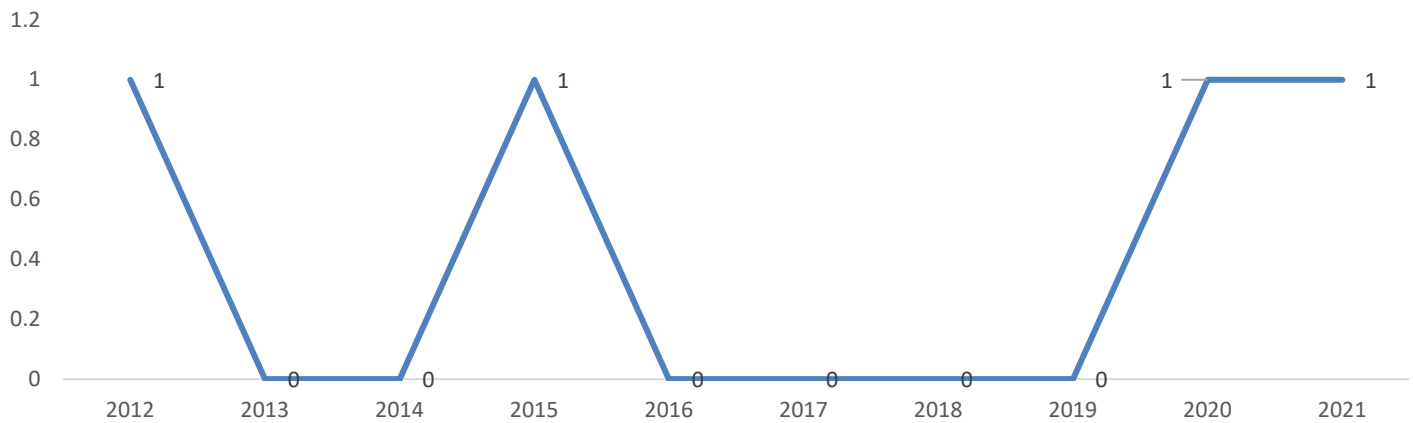
Felony Arrests



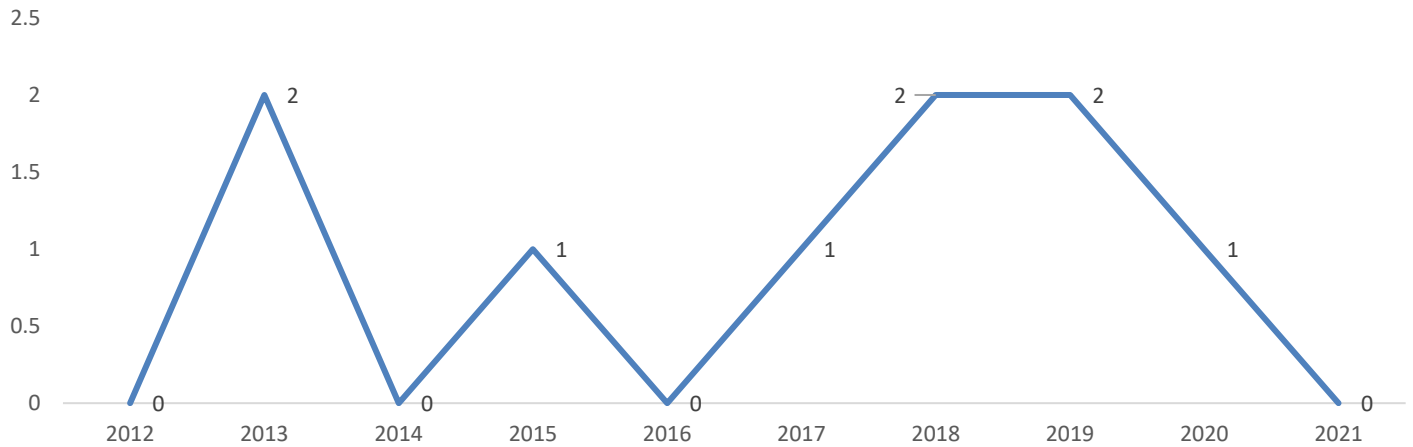
Total Citations



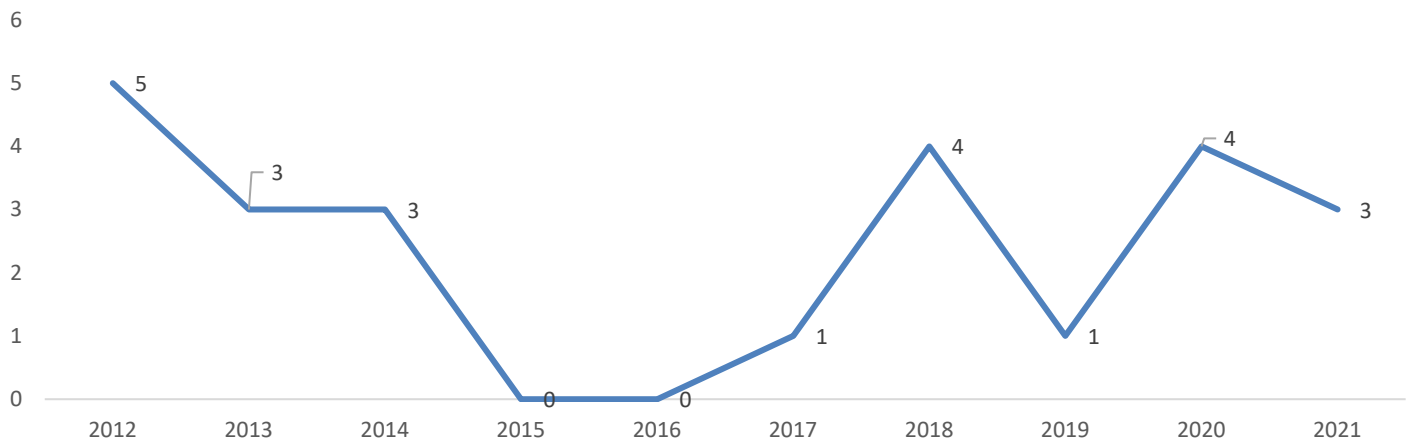
Homicide*



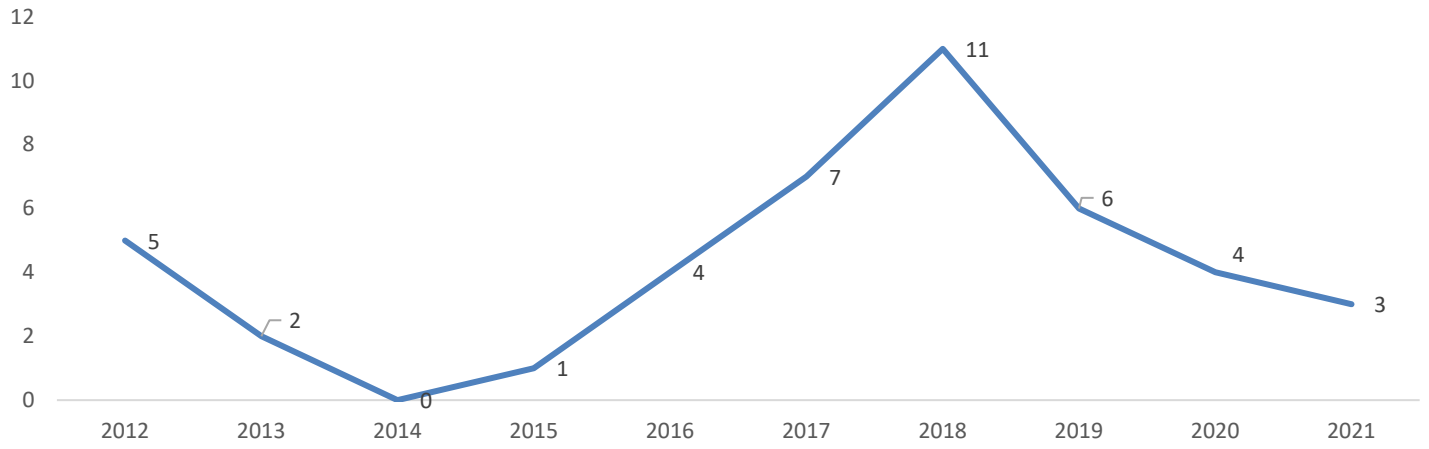
Rape



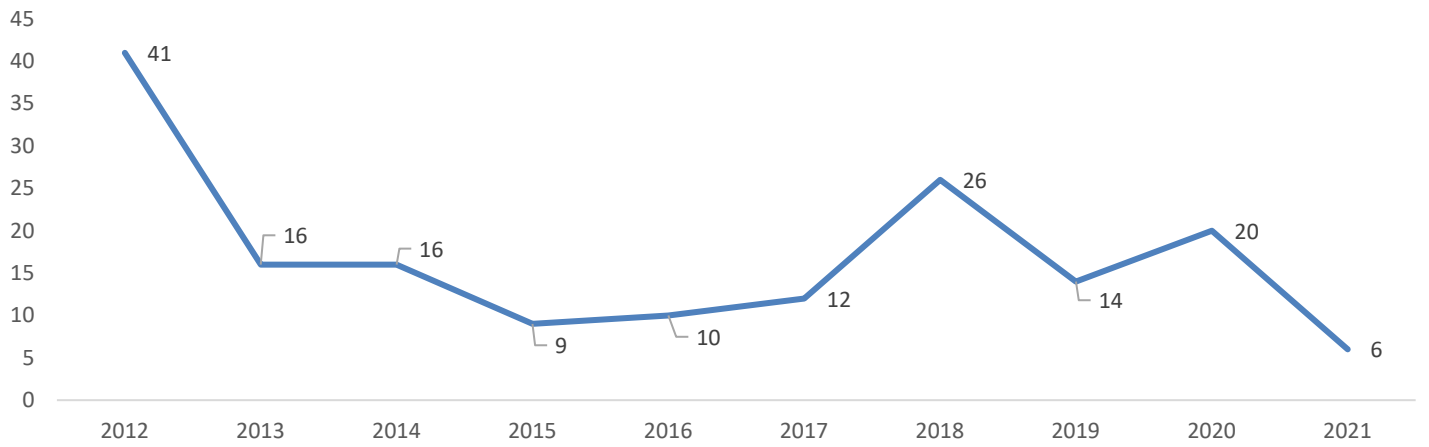
Robbery



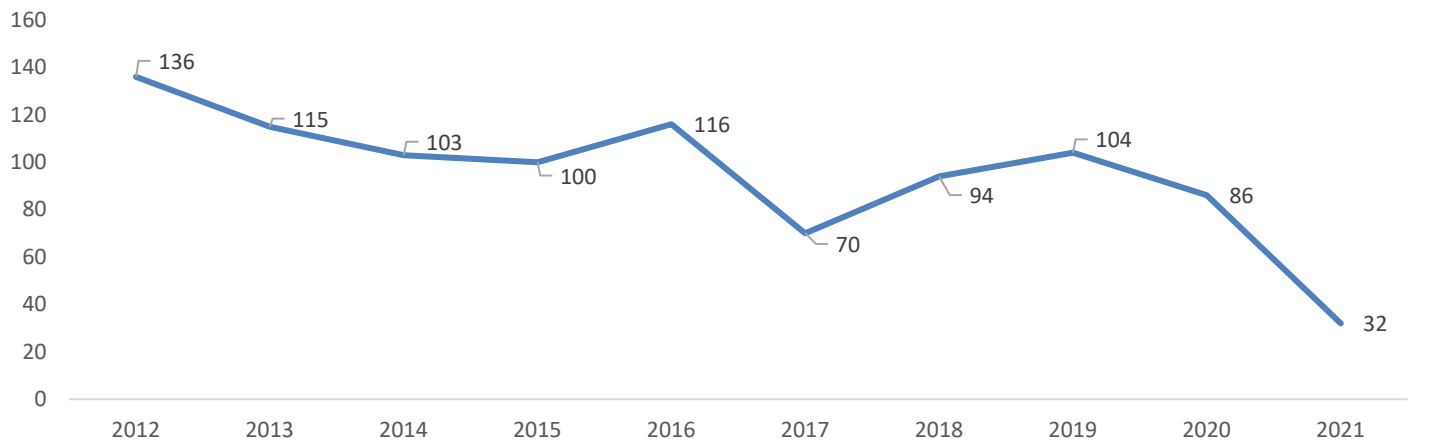
Aggravated Assault



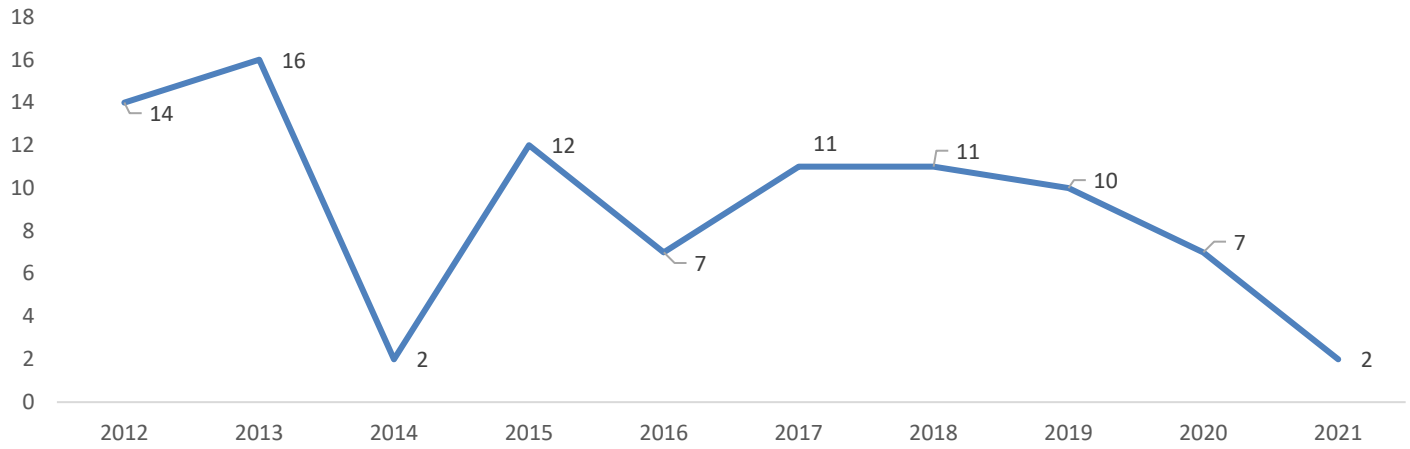
Burglary



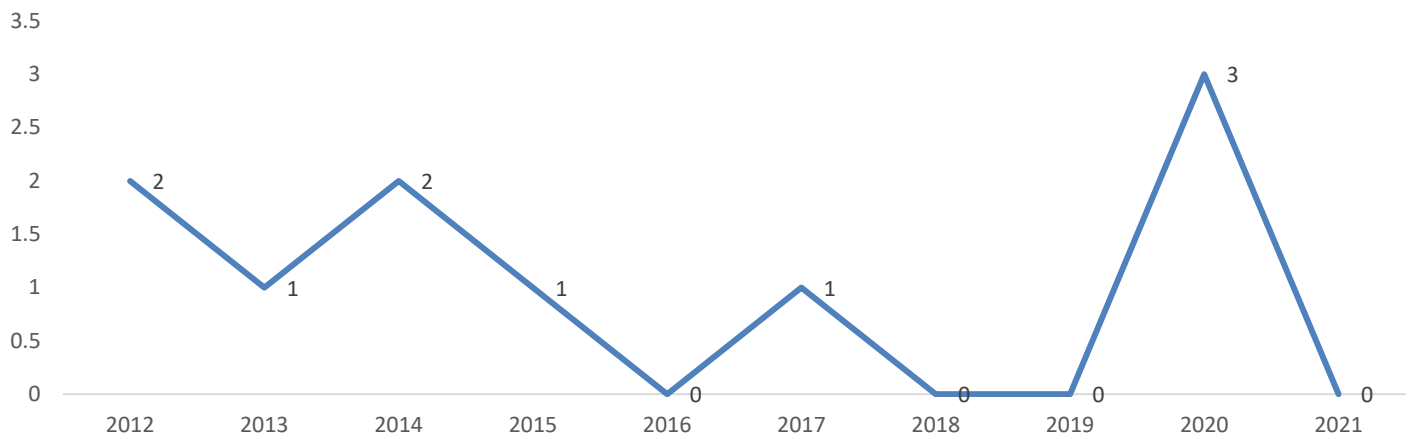
Larceny



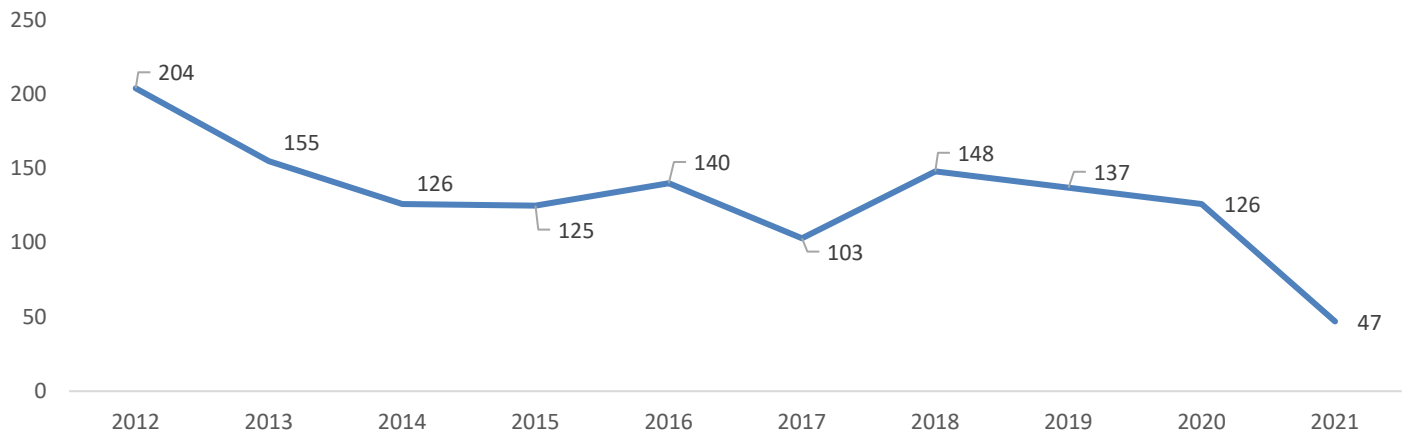
Auto Theft



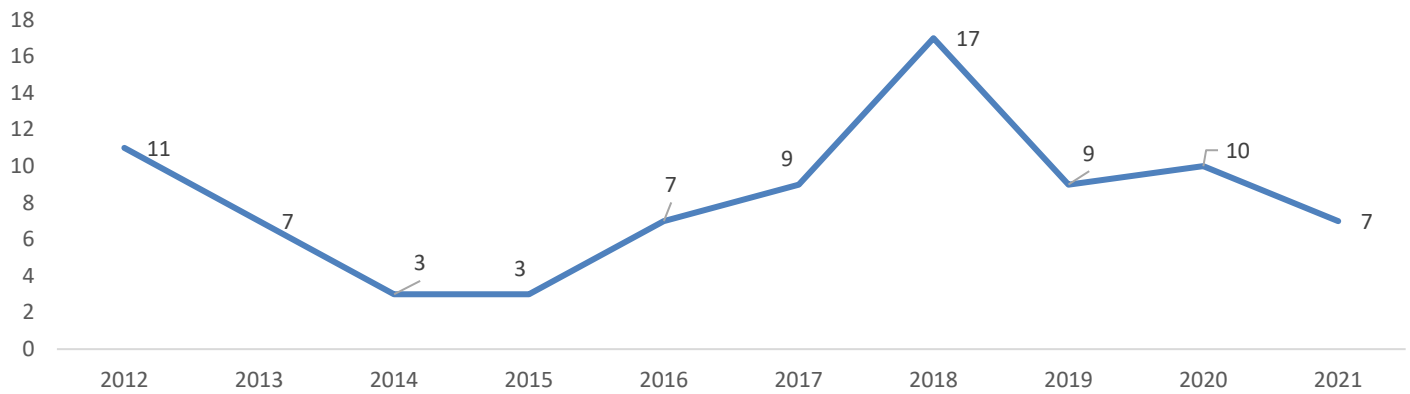
Arson



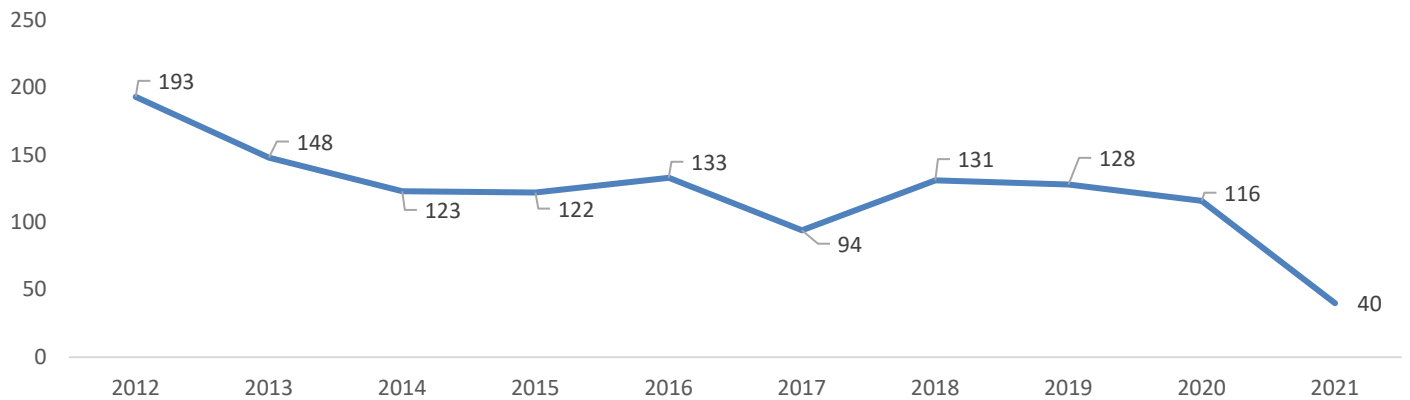
Total Crime



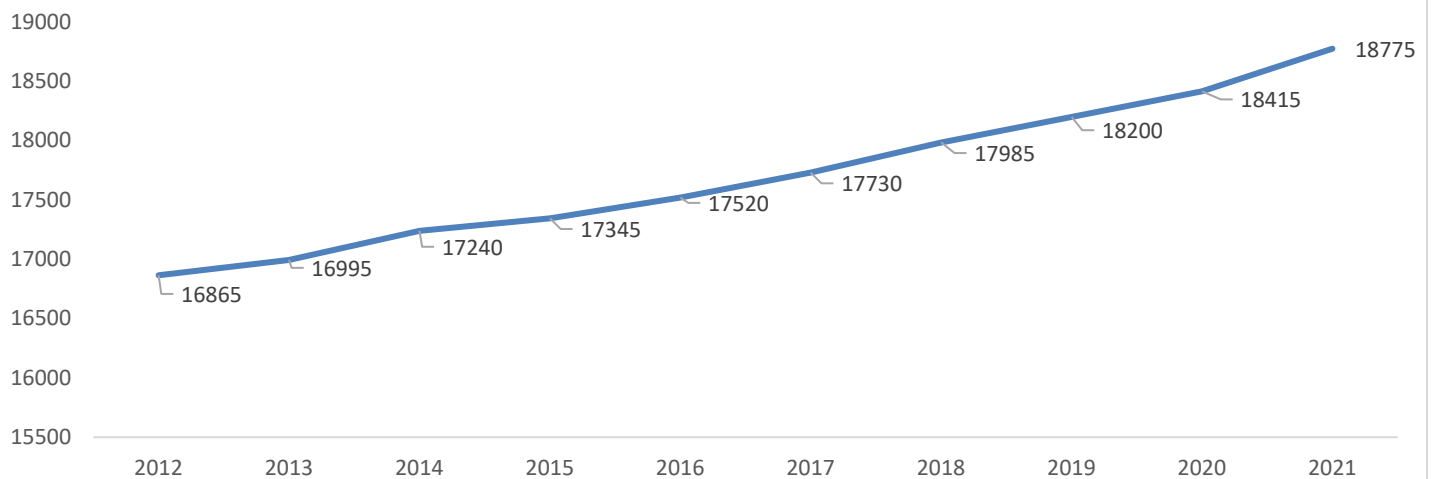
Total Person Crime



Total Property Crime



Hermiston Population



HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

OPERATIONS –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT

Captain Scott Clark

Assigned Staff

(1) Captain, (4) Sergeants, (4) Corporals-Patrol, (1) Traffic Officer, (8) Patrol Officers, and (3) Reserves.

Number	Officer	INC	OIA	STOP	Cases	Charges	Patrol	Busy	Other	Days Worked
Sergeants										
51-4	Maess	149	110	9	8	15	17%	24%	59%	45
51-5	Parsons	133	115	61	4	18	24%	16%	60%	30
51-6	Martin	112	77	41	12	14	25%	13%	62%	41
51-7	Osborne	106	39	7	18	12	21%	20%	59%	43
Patrol										
52-2	Studebaker	253	145	63	46	67	33%	42%	25%	33
52-13	Stokoe	241	160	126	49	100	28%	36%	36%	42
52-16	Gill	596	500	191	58	221	27%	53%	20%	45
52-18	Golter	222	120	51	25	24	30%	45%	25%	38
52-1	McMahon	231	78	14	45	31	48%	33%	19%	42
52-3	Wallis	268	159	94	44	56	29%	53%	18%	39
52-4	Sandoval	302	171	79	41	27	31%	37%	32%	40
52-6	Vega	290	178	47	27	73	38%	29%	33%	42
*52-7	Balli	217	147	88	28	33	32%	37%	31%	29
52-8	Flatau	488	384	112	44	75	28%	42%	30%	42
**52-10	Zumwalt	1	1	1						
52-14	Cobian	309	177	76	43	43	32%	38%	30%	41
52-15	Jons									
52-17	Williams	280	178	74	32	24	38%	32%	30%	37
**52-19	Rodriguez									
*52-20	Nava	262	202	34	16	8	41%	30%	29%	37
Total 1st Quarter 21		4460	2941	1168	540	841	31%	34%	35%	39
Total 1st Quarter 20		4227	2683	1581	605	1449				
Difference 20 & 21		233	258	-413	-65	-608				
Percentage Change		5.51%	9.62%	-26.12%	-10.74%	-41.96%				

*Officers Nava and Balli started back into their SRO duties full-time during the first quarter. (Officer Williams joined at the end.) **Officers Rodriguez and Zumwalt were gone throughout the entire first quarter, attending the DPSST basic police academy.

Captain Clark's first quarter 2021 Summation:

The 2021 calendar year began much the same way 2020 ended; with challenges. We continue to experience the absence of our dedicated traffic officer, who was reassigned to a patrol shift last year due to staffing shortages. Two entry level personnel who were hired last year, were gone all of 1st quarter attending the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training basic police academy. A member of patrol has been away on extended (work-related) medical leave since late last year (with no projected return date yet). A patrol supervisor retired at the end of the 1st quarter however was gone for much of the month of March in preparation for his move out of the area. Two members (previously in patrol), have fully moved into their school resource officer roles, which leaves vacancies on those shifts.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

OPERATIONS –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT

Captain Scott Clark

Since the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, our officers have continued to work hard and remain an active presence within the community. That said, we have had to adapt to the current situation and become more conscious and cautious about how we interact with the public. A number of protective practices have been implemented for the health and safety of our personnel, but some of our measured performance numbers have seen a downturn.

In comparison with first quarter 2020, our numbers so far (this year) have seen increases in two (large volume) categories and decreases in others. Total Incidents are up 5.5% (233 more); Officer Initiated Activity is up 9.6% (258 more); Traffic Stops are down 26% (-413 less); Cases are down 10.7% (-65 less); and Charges/Citations are down more than 41% (-608 less).

We are very fortunate to have such an exceptional group of professionals working here at the Hermiston Police Department. The dedication, diligence, and resilience of those who serve here, magnifies each and everyone's commitment of providing outstanding service to the community partners of our wonderful city.

Special Events:

During this year's first quarter, Operations Division assisted with the following events:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's Executive Orders (essentially shutting down large gatherings until further notice), we did not work any special events. Many (past) in-person events have been changed to virtual events.

Directed Patrol Requests:

A total of (12) directed patrols (in multiple locations for various reasons), were issued during this first quarter. **Year Total: 12**

01/12/2021	02/28/2021	1332 SW Shea Drive	Drug Activity
01/15/2021	01/29/2021	445 E. Jennie Avenue #32	Drug Activity
01/27/2021	02/10/2021	130 E. Beech Avenue	Trespass
01/29/2021	02/12/2021	801 W. Hartley Avenue	Burglary
02/02/2021	02/16/2021	381 W. Yucca Avenue	Threats, Harassment
02/15/2021	03/01/2021	800 Block/E. Autumn Avenue	Theft
02/21/2021	03/07/2021	472 W. Locust Avenue	Burglary
02/23/2021	03/09/2021	900 Block/E. Newport Avenue	Traffic
03/08/2021	03/22/2021	E. Main Street/N. Townsend Road	Traffic
03/12/2021	03/26/2021	980 W. Hermiston Avenue	Suspicious Activity
03/16/2021	03/30/2021	700 to 900 Block/E. Newport Avenue	Traffic
03/25/2021	04/07/2021	41 W. Beech Avenue	Trespass

Vacation House Checks:

A total of (2) vacation house checks were requested during this first quarter. **Year Total: 2**

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT
Captain Travis Eynon

Assigned Staff

(1) Captain, (1) Lieutenant (Investigations), (1) Communications Manager, (3) Police Records Specialists (3) Detectives, (3) School Resource Officers (SRO)

Personnel Issues/Activities

None

Division Summation for Administrative Services

We did not have any school in session during this quarter other than hybrid for elementary aged students during the last couple weeks of the quarter. For this reason, there are no SRO reports in the quarterly. All three SRO's activity for this quarter will be captured in the Operations Division quarterly report.

We were able to keep our lobby open throughout this quarter. However, we still have not opened to fingerprinting services. This is due to the close proximity and touching our staff would have to do with the public.

Records personnel again handled an incredible number of requests for information. The huge increases in these requests from 3 primary state agencies began last year and have not let up. There was a 73% increase in these requests from the same period in 2020.

Detectives continue to do very good work and manage a fairly large case load. They worked on an attempted murder case wherein a male entered a home by shooting the lock then kicking the door in, once inside, he began shooting at another male in the house. He shot the other male's dog and made an earnest effort to shoot and kill the other male. In spite of some difficult circumstances, our detectives put together a really good case out of these facts.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT
Communications Manager Amanda Hartsteen

During the first quarter of 2021, the Records Division processed:

- 249 RIMS CAD incidents. This includes phone calls made directly to our records personnel and lobby walk-ins.
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 507
 - **(yearly total 249 incident entries)**
- 1812 requests for information.
 - Open Records Requests = 183
 - Other Agency Requests = 1608
 - Local Background Checks = 21
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 929
 - **(yearly total 1812 requests)**
- 245 case reports were sent to the Umatilla County District Attorney's Office, Hermiston City Prosecutor's Office and Umatilla County Juvenile Department electronically.
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 280
 - **(yearly total 245 cases)**
- 2 non-criminal fingerprinting appointments
 - Due to COVID-19 we have not been taking non-criminal fingerprints.
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 52
 - **(yearly total 2 appointments)**
- 17 registered sex offenders
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 25
 - **(yearly total 17 registrations)**
- 140 subpoena notices for officers to appear in court
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 242
 - **(yearly total 140 subpoena entries)**
- 885 citations entered
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 1477
 - **(yearly total 885 entered citations)**
- 40 Rental Property Cards Disseminated to Property Owners
 - 2020 1st Quarter = 31
 - **(yearly total 40 cards)**

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT
 Lieutenant Randy Studebaker

CASE TYPE	CASE NUMBER	DISPOSITION	STATUS/NEEDS
Agency Assist (Arson)	19-0042	Closed	Referred to DA
Unlawful Use of a Weapon	20-1774	Suspended	Inactive
Unlawful Use of a Weapon	21-0033	Closed	Referred to DA
Missing Person	21-0089	Pending	Pending
Sexual Assault of an Animal	21-0126	Closed	Referred to DA
Missing Person	21-0141	Closed	Custodial Matter
Robbery/Assault	21-0243	Closed	Referred to DA
Information	21-0160	Closed	Administratively Closed
Weapons Offence, etc.	21-0177	Closed	Referred to DA
Missing Person	21-0218	Closed	Administratively Closed
Attempted Murder	21-0237	Closed	Referred to DA
Weapons Offense	21-0243	Closed	Referred to DA
Missing Person	19-2758	Pending	Pending

Other Activities:

- Equipped and set up newly acquired mobile response vehicle.
- Assisted patrol officers with multiple incidents and calls for service.
- Provided information/assistance to other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies for their investigations, on matters not listed above, which did not require a separate HPD case number or report.
- Assisted DHS child welfare with multiple reports of abuse or neglect, into matters which were ultimately handled by DHS and did not require a police investigation.
- Assisted other HPD detectives and BENT with their investigations.
- Assisted with Major Crime Team investigations
- On-call supervisor and social media administrator

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT
 Detective Victor Gutierrez

CASE TYPE	CASE NUMBER	DISPOSITION	STATUS/NEEDS
Missing Person	19-2758	Pending	Invest. continuing
Harassment	20-0196	Case Closed	DA office
Child Abuse	20-1850	Case Closed	DA Office
Agency Assist (Homicide)	20-2005	Admin Closed	Case closed
Agency Assist (Child Abuse)	20-2105	Admin Closed	Case closed
Sex Abuse	20-2193	Admin Closed	DA Office
Aslt 4/Unlawful use of weapon	20-2390	Admin Close	DA office
DV Assault 4	21-0096	Case Closed	DA office
Assault II, Robb. I, Unlaw Use of Weapon	21-0143	Case Closed	DA office
Probation violation	21-0177	Case Closed	DA Office
Attempt Murder	21-0237	Case Closed	DA officer
Information (Child Abuse)	21-0240	Admin Closed	DA Office
Information (Child Abuse)	21-0246	Case Closed	DA office
Witness Tampering	21-0253	Case Closed	DA office
Assault III (Child Abuse)	21-0397	Case Closed	DA office
Agency Assist (Child Abuse)	21-0448	Admin. Closed	Case closed
Assault III (Child Abuse)	21-0501	Pending	Invest. continuing
Sex Abuse	21-0542	Pending	Invest. continuing

Other Activities:

- Attended/participated in regional child abuse/neglect multi-disciplinary team meetings.
- Assisted patrol officers with multiple incidents and calls for service.
- Assisted DHS child welfare with multiple reports of abuse or neglect, into matters which were ultimately handled by DHS and did not require a police investigation.
- Assisted other HPD detectives and BENT with their investigations.
- Assisted with Major Crime Team investigations.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT
 Detective Freddy Sotelo

CASE TYPE	CASE NUMBER	DISPOSITION	STATUS/NEEDS
Information (Sex Abuse)	20-0846	Open	Invest. continuing
Murder	20-0995	Admin. Closed	Referred to DA
Rape II	20-1424	Admin. Closed	Referred to DA
Rape I	20-1436	Pending	Invest. continuing
Information (Sex Abuse)	20-2042	Admin. Closed	Case Closed
Information (Phys. Abuse)	20-2332	Admin. Closed	Unfounded
Rape I, Kidnap I, Assault IV	21-0037	Open	Suspended
Information (Missing)	21-0089	Pending	Pending
Theft I, Criminal Mischief I	21-0125	Admin. Closed	Referred to DA
Assault II, Robb. I, Unlaw Use of Weapon	21-0143	Cleared by Arrest	Invest. continuing
Criminal Misch. I	21-0222	Admin. Closed	Referred to DA
Assault III	21-0245	Admin. Closed	Referred to DA
Theft I, Criminal Misch. I	21-0247	Admin. Closed	Case Closed
Criminal Misch. II	21-0257	Admin. Closed	Referred to DA
Information (Agency Assist)	21-0409	Admin. Closed	Case Closed

Other Activities:

- Attended/participated in regional child abuse/neglect multi-disciplinary team meetings.
- Assisted patrol officers with multiple incidents and calls for service.
- Assisted DHS child welfare with multiple reports of abuse or neglect, into matters which were ultimately handled by DHS and did not require a police investigation. Participated in regional SWAT team activities. Assisted other HPD detectives and BENT with their investigations.
- Assisted with Major Crim Team investigations

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATION –FIRST QUARTER 2021 REPORT
 Chaplain Terry Cummings

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Yearly Total
Call Outs					
FD	2				2
PD	1				1
Other	1				1

Ride-a-Longs					
FD	3				3
PD	3				3

Training					
Events	0				0
Hours	3				3

CAB Meetings	0				0
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Counseling Sessions	5				5
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It's Just Dinner					
Meetings	0				0
Mentor Couples	4				4

Chaplain Service Hours					
*SC Cummings	257				257
Johnson	30				30
Ramirez	12				12

Community Involvement Hours **					
*SC Cummings	2				2
Johnson	0				0
Ramirez	1				1

Miles Driven - Personal Vehicles					
*SC Cummings	0				0
Johnson	42				42
Ramirez	6				6

Total Miles (POV)	48				48
Total Events					
Total Hours	299				299