

# WILTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



## ANNUAL REPORT

## 2021



# Mission Statement

Our mission is to serve and to protect all citizens, and to maintain peace and preserve the quality of life within the Town of Wilton by upholding the highest standards of integrity, fairness and vigilance. We are committed to defending civil rights, honoring the value and dignity of every person, and insuring the equitable and just application of the law. We strive to build upon our professionalism by valuing teamwork, encouraging innovation, accepting accountability, and seeking knowledge and growth.



## Table of Contents

Executive Summary .....	1
Calls for Service .....	2
Figure-1: Calls for Service 2017-2021 .....	2
Figure-2: CFS Breakdown 2021 .....	3
Figure-3: CFS vs Officers Dispatched per CFS 2021 .....	4
Figure-4: Total Minutes Consumed per CFS 2021 .....	4
Motor Vehicle Crashes .....	5
Figure-5: Motor Vehicle Crashes 2017-2021 .....	5
Figure-6: 5-year Moving Average of Total Crashes .....	6
Crime .....	7
Table 1: 5-year Crime Trend by Crime Type .....	7
Figure-7: Types of Crimes Reported in 2021 .....	7
Figure-8: Arrests 2017-2021 .....	9
Figure 9: 2021 Clearance Rates Wilton/State of CT .....	10
Motor Vehicle Enforcement .....	11
Figure-10: Traffic Stops 2017-2021 .....	11
Figure-11: Selective Enforcement 2017-2021 .....	12
Figure-12: Rt. 7 School Rd-Allen's Field Crash Activity 2016-2021 .....	13
Figure-13: DUI Arrests 2017-2021 .....	13
Domestic Violence .....	17
Figure-14: Domestic-Related Incidents 2017-2021 .....	17
Figure-15: Family Violence Incidents 2017-2021 .....	18
Figure-16: Family Violence Offense Breakdown 2021 .....	19
Table-2: Lethality Assessment Program Data 2017-2021 .....	20
Pursuits .....	21
Figure-18: Pursuits 2017-2021 .....	21
Figure-19: Reason for Pursuit 2021 .....	22
Table-3: Pursuit Outcomes 2021 .....	22
Use of Force .....	24
Figure-20: Use of Force Incidents and Officers Involved 2017-2021 .....	24
Figure-21: Use of Force Incident Data 2021 .....	25
Figure-22: Type of Force Used 2021 .....	26
Figure-23: Use of Force to Arrest Ratio 2021 .....	27
Figure-24: Use of Force to Call for Service Ratio 2021 .....	28
Internal Affairs .....	29
Table-4: Internal Affairs Complaint Type 2021 .....	29
Table-5: Internal Affairs Dispositions 2021 .....	29
Crisis Intervention Team .....	31
Figure 25: CIT Calls by Age Group 2021 .....	31
Notable Arrests .....	33





## Executive Summary

In 2021 pandemic-related challenges persisted. Despite these challenges, we embraced a steady return to pre-pandemic police operations. Throughout the pandemic our officers' commitment to their service of the Wilton community has always been evident.

In addition, 2021 was marked by significant changes to policing practices as a result of recently passed legislation; most notably, the decriminalization of marijuana that resulted in a substantial 71% decrease in marijuana-related enforcement. Throughout the year our officers engaged in training updates to address legislative and policy changes.

The investigation of motor vehicle related incidents remains a large part of our officers' day-to-day activities accounting for 38% of all calls for service in 2021. Despite returns to pre-pandemic traffic volumes, there were only 362 crashes on public highways reported in 2021. The amount is the second lowest total of crashes in five years only behind 2020, a year notably marked by stay at home orders and overall less traffic volumes. While many variables contributed to motor vehicle crashes, our officers' 3,768 proactive traffic enforcement contacts during 2021 is certainly a variable that deserves attribution to the low total of recorded crashes.

Fortunately, our community does not routinely experience high volumes of violent crimes. Nonetheless, our response to incidents of family violence remains prevalent as our officers investigated 39 such cases in 2021. We remain committed to holding offenders accountable and leveraging our partnership with the Domestic Violence Crisis Center to keep victims safe.

Larceny and fraud-related offenses continued to make up the bulk of our criminal investigations, accounting for 77% of reported crimes against property in 2021. The most predominant offenses were theft from vehicles, stolen vehicles, identity theft, mail theft, shoplifting, and theft of motor vehicle parts. Consistent with crime trends throughout the State of Connecticut, thefts of motor vehicle parts saw a dramatic 1,100% year-over-year increase, mainly due to catalytic converter thefts.

Our officers remain relentless in their pursuit of holding offenders accountable. In 2021 officers made 142 arrests. Some notable arrests included the apprehension of offender(s) responsible for a bank robbery, risk of injury to a child, sexual assault of a minor, and family violence offenses involving a firearm.

While still experiencing effects of the pandemic, 2021 saw our police operations return closer to normalcy. The following Annual Report will serve to display the outstanding work and numerous services our officers provide to the Wilton community daily. In addition, the review of data and trends facilitates the necessary introspection to improve on those same services.



## Calls for Service

A call for service (CFS) is any assignment requiring action by the police to correct, resolve or assist. A CFS can be initiated by the public or a police officer. Each call for service is assigned an incident number in the Department's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

In 2021 the Department logged a total of **12,915** CFS. This represents a 4% decrease from the 2020 number of 13,483.

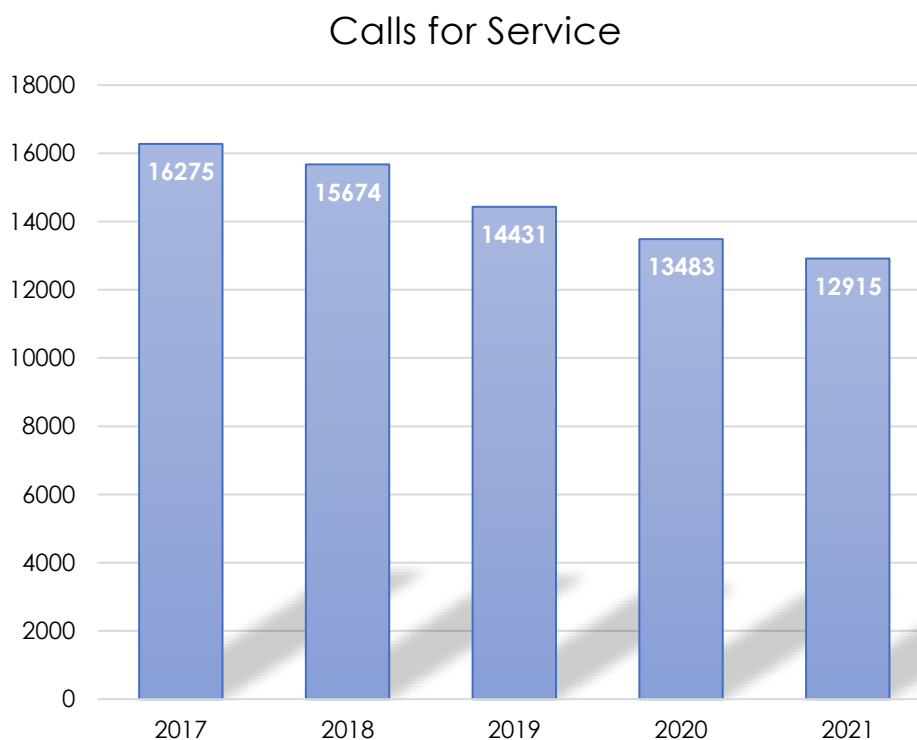


Figure-1: Calls for Service 2017-2021



The below pie chart is a breakdown of Department CFS in 2021 by categories of Criminal Investigations, Motor Vehicle Investigations, Emergency Medical Service (EMS), Alarm Response, and Other Service. The category of Other Service encompasses activities such as motor vehicle lock-outs, permits, and general resident assists. Specific data related to motor vehicle crashes and crime will be documented in the following sections.

### Calls for Service Breakdown

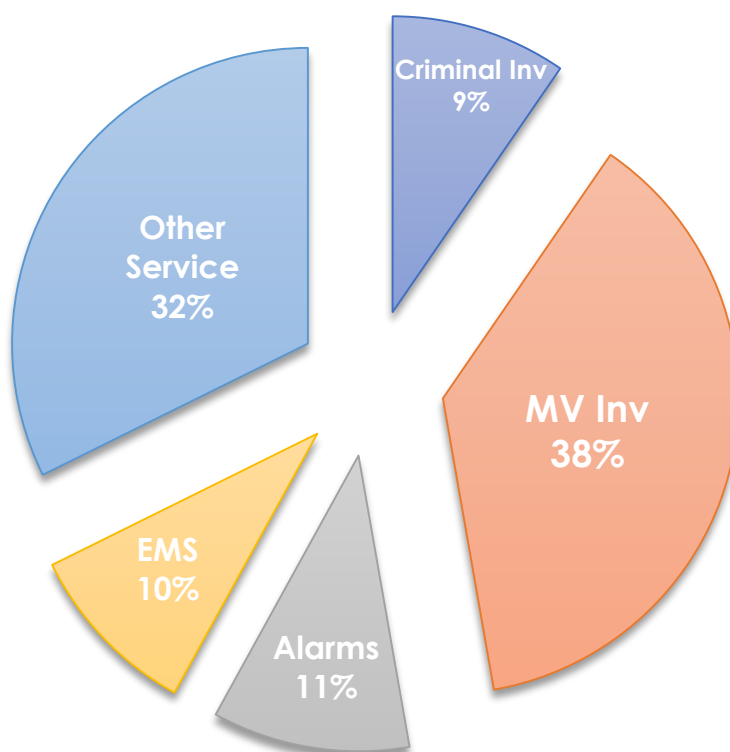


Figure-2: CFS Breakdown 2021

Of the recorded CFS in 2021, **6,651** were found to be citizen-generated. These CFS exclude officer-initiated activity such as traffic enforcement and deterrent runs as well as administrative functions performed by staff to include permitting, child seat installations, site surveys, and crime prevention. On average in 2021 a citizen-generated CFS required **1.6** officers to respond. During 2021 approximately **6,077** hours were consumed in citizen generated calls for service <sup>1</sup>. These statistics do not account for the amount of time

<sup>1</sup> The total number of officer-hours needed to handle a CFS (number of officers multiplied by the number of hours)



officers spend on case follow-up after the initial dispatch in the potential days, weeks or months post-response or tending to the requisite report documentation.

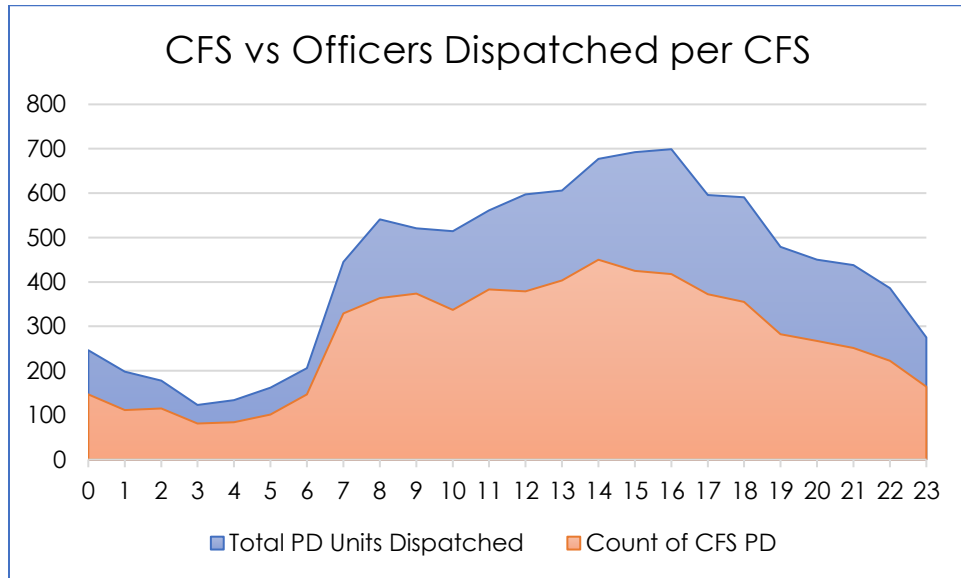


Figure-3: CFS vs Officers Dispatched per CFS 2021

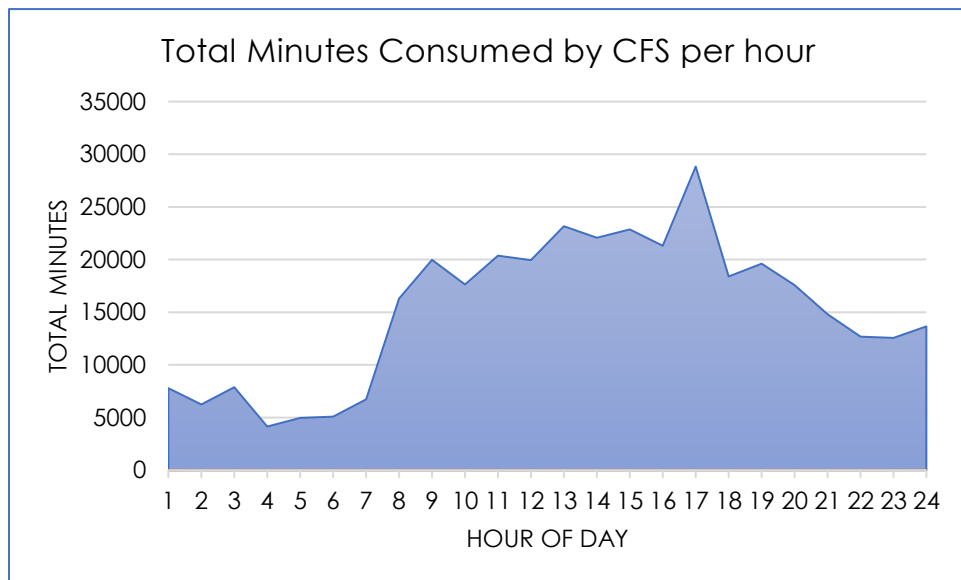


Figure-4: Total Minutes Consumed per CFS 2021



## Motor Vehicle Crashes

According to in-house records management data analyzing the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC) reports, there were **362** reportable motor vehicle crashes that occurred on public highways in the Town of Wilton in 2021. In **82** of the reportable crashes there were complaints of injuries sustained. Despite a return to traffic more consistent with pre-pandemic volumes, there was only a slight year to year increase in total crashes (+18/+5%) and crashes with injuries (+5/+6%). For a fourth consecutive year, there were zero fatal crashes. In addition to the reportable crashes on public highways there were **106** private property crashes that required police response and, in most instances, reporting.

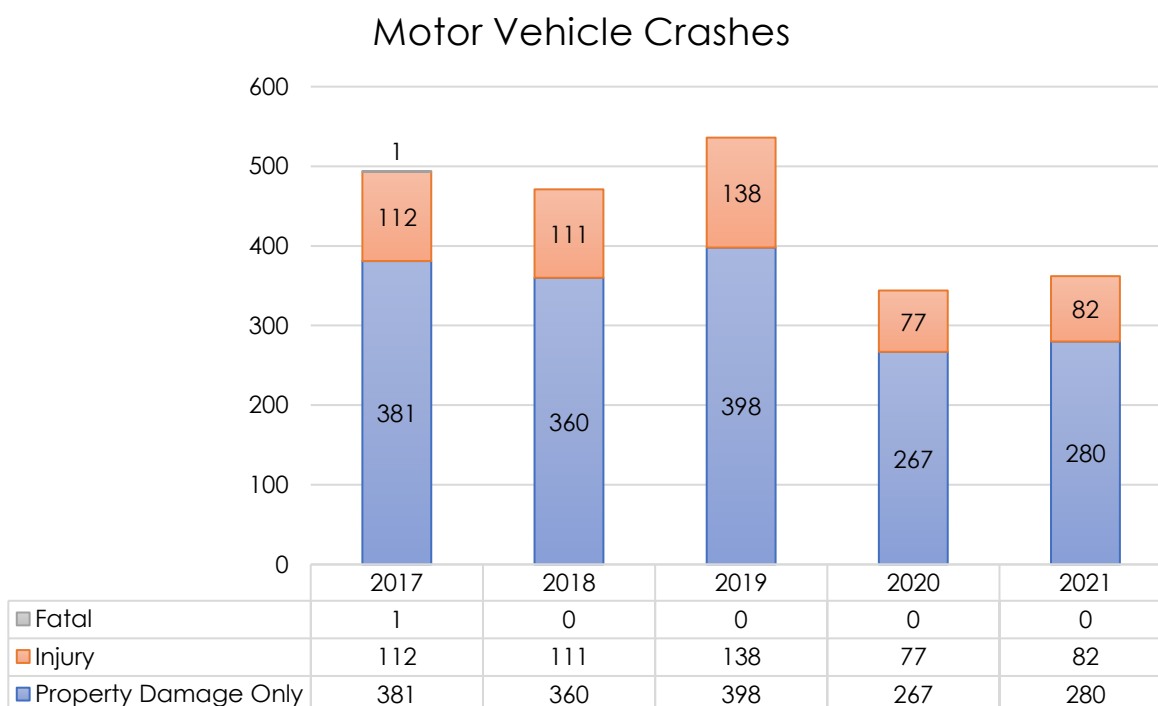


Figure-5: Motor Vehicle Crashes 2017-2021





The five-year (2017-2021) moving average of total crashes is **441.4**, a 6% decrease from the five-year (2016-2020) moving average of 469.

The five-year (2017-2021) moving average of crashes with injuries and/or fatalities is **104**, a 7.8% decrease from the five-year (2016-2020) moving average of 112.8.

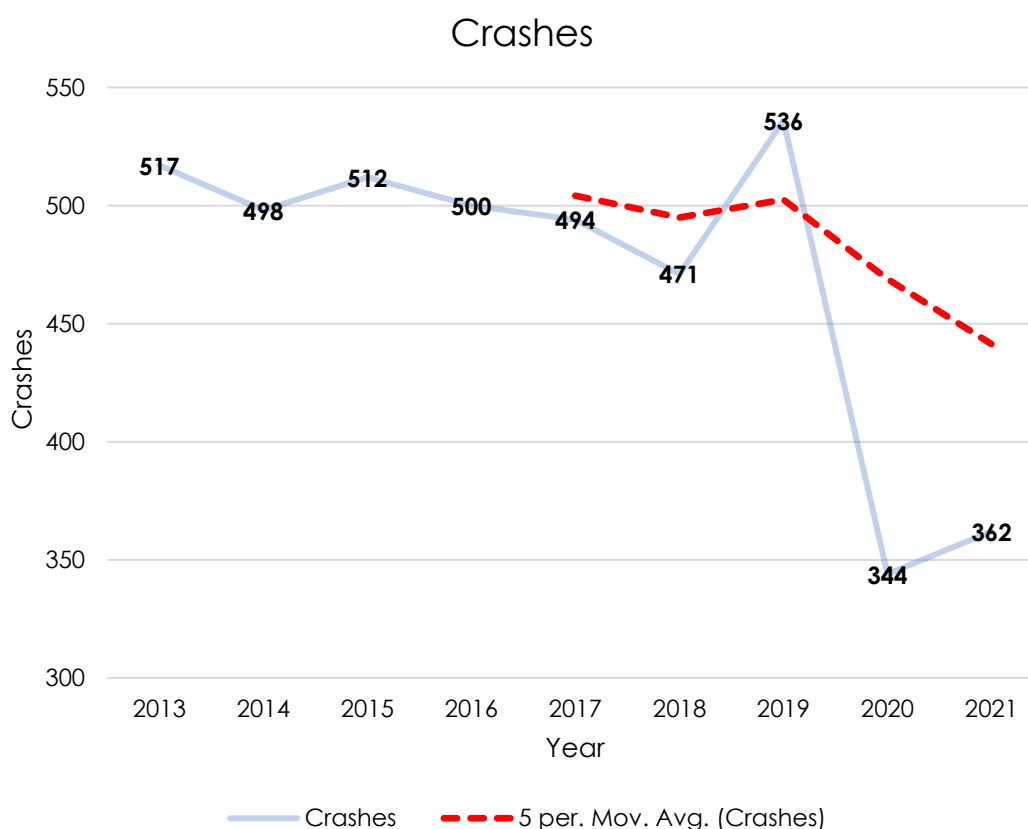


Figure-6: 5-year Moving Average of Total Crashes



## Crime

The Wilton Police Department analyzes crime trends in order to inform budget, planning, resource allocation, and training decisions. In addition, crime analysis is one tool used to assess efficacy of police operations. It is noted that the FBI strongly discourages comparing or ranking agencies based solely on crime data due to the intrinsic uniqueness of each locale (FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics: Their Proper Use, 2017). Furthermore, no two offenses are similar, as each come with their own distinct facts and complexities.

The Wilton Police Department utilizes the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) to submit Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data to the State of Connecticut. The below table is a breakdown of reported Group A <sup>2</sup> offenses in the Town of Wilton for the past 5-years disaggregated by crimes against persons, crimes against property, and crimes against society. The following chart is a breakdown of crime types reported in 2021.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	47	42	54	47	45
<b>Crimes Against Property</b>	254	264	228	204	203
<b>Crimes Against Society</b>	24	43	39	17	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	325	349	321	268	260

Table 1: 5-year Crime Trend by Crime Type

### Crime Type Breakdown

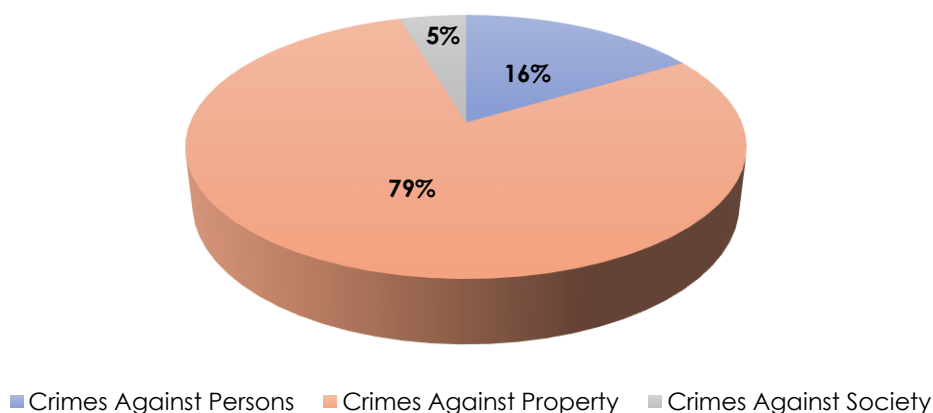


Figure-7: Types of Crimes Reported in 2021

<sup>2</sup> Group A offenses consist of 24 offense categories made up of 52 distinct offenses

# Wilton Police Department - CT0016100 - NIBRS Agency Crime Overview - 2021

2021 Population Estimate			18,236	Offenses (*)		Arrests (**)	
Offense Overview				Reported	Cleared	Adult	Juvenile
			Group A Offenses				
			Crimes Against Persons				
Offense Total	261		Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Number Cleared	70		Negligent Manslaughter	3	0	0	0
Percent Cleared	26.82 %		Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0	0	0
Group A Crimes per 100,000 population	1,431.2		Rape	1	0	0	1
			Sodomy	0	0	0	0
			Sexual Assault With An Object	0	0	1	0
			Fondling	0	0	0	0
			Incest	0	0	0	0
			Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0
Total Arrests	141		Aggravated Assault	1	1	2	0
Adult Arrests	135		Simple Assault	23	22	15	1
Juvenile Arrests	6		Intimidation	17	13	8	0
Unknown Age	0		Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	0	0	0
			Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0	0	0	0
Arrests per 100,000 population	773.2		Crimes Against Property				
Average number offenses/incident	1.08		Arson	0	0	0	0
			Bribery	0	0	0	0
			Burglary/Breaking & Entering	4	1	4	0
			Counterfeiting/Forgery	7	4	5	0
Group B Arrests			Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	17	2	2	0
Offense	Adult	Juvenile	Embezzlement	0	0	0	0
Bad Checks	0	0	Extortion/Blackmail	1	0	0	0
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	0	0	False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	5	1	5	0
Disorderly Conduct	11	2	Credit Card/Automated Teller Machine Fraud	0	0	0	0
Driving Under the Influence	36	0	Impersonation	3	2	2	0
Drunkenness	0	0	Welfare Fraud	0	0	0	0
Family Offenses (Nonviolent)	0	0	Wire Fraud	8	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	3	0	Identity Theft	36	3	3	0
Peeping Tom	0	0	Hacking/Computer Invasion	1	0	0	0
Trespass of Real Property	1	0	Robbery	2	2	1	0
All Other Offenses	21	0	Pocket-picking	0	0	1	0
Total Group B	72	2	Purse-snatching	0	0	0	0
			Shoplifting	10	7	4	0
			Theft From Building	10	0	1	0
			Theft From Coin Operated Machine or Device	0	0	0	0
			Theft From Motor Vehicle	47	1	2	0
			Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories	12	0	0	0
			All Other Larceny	25	0	0	0
			Motor Vehicle Theft	14	1	0	0
			Stolen Property Offenses	2	2	2	1
			Crimes Against Society				
			Drug/Narcotic Violations	5	4	3	0
			Drug Equipment Violations	2	1	0	0
			Betting/Wagering	0	0	0	0
			Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling	0	0	0	0
			Gambling Equipment Violations	0	0	0	0
			Sports Tampering	0	0	0	0
			Pornography/Obscene Material	3	1	0	1
			Prostitution	0	0	0	0
			Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	0	0	0	0
			Purchasing Prostitution	0	0	0	0
			Weapon Law Violations	2	2	2	0
			Animal Cruelty	0	0	0	0
			Total Group A Offenses	261	70	63	4

(\*) Offenses are counted using the FBI Units of Count for Crime

(\*\*) The 'Arrests' column shows arrests made during the selected period, regardless of incident date. Arrest counts may be higher than incident counts.

This report is valid as of July 07, 2022 and is subject to change



The Town of Wilton experienced a slight 3% reduction in reported Group A offenses <sup>3</sup>. Larceny and Fraud-related crimes continue to be the prevailing offense groups, accounting for 77% of reported crimes against property. The offense of thefts from motor vehicles continues to be a persistent crime pattern in the State of Connecticut as well as Wilton. In 2021 the Department investigated 47 incidents of thefts from motor vehicles that involved 79 unique victims <sup>4</sup>. In addition, the Department investigated 13 stolen vehicle incidents resulting in a total of 14 stolen vehicles. In 2021 the offense of theft of motor vehicle parts/accessories saw a dramatic 1,100% year over year increase, the majority of which consisted of catalytic converter thefts.

In 2021 the Department made **142** arrests <sup>5</sup>. **Six (6)** arrests involved drug-related charges. In addition, a total of **10** infractions for possession of less than ½ ounce of marijuana and/or paraphernalia were issued, an approximate 71% year to year reduction. The dramatic decrease is attributed to the passage of Public Act 21-1, which for all intents and purposes has legalized adult-use marijuana.



Figure-8: Arrests 2017-2021

<sup>3</sup> A total of 268 Group A Offenses were reported in 2020 compared to 260 in 2021

<sup>4</sup> One incident resulting in a crime spree can include multiple victims

<sup>5</sup> 13 arrests in 2021 were related to incidents that occurred in prior years



The below chart is a breakdown of Group A offenses reported in 2021 that were cleared by arrest or exceptional means <sup>6</sup> disaggregated by crime type. The chart incorporates a comparison against clearance rates for the entire State of Connecticut. It is noted that clearance rates are subject to change as offenses reported in a particular calendar year may be cleared in following years.



Figure 9: 2021 Clearance Rates Wilton/State of CT

<sup>6</sup> In certain situations, elements beyond law enforcement's control prevent the agency from arresting and formally charging the offender. When this occurs, the agency can clear the offense exceptionally. Examples of exceptional clearances include, but are not limited to, the death of the offender (e.g., suicide or justifiably killed by police or citizen); the victim's refusal to cooperate with the prosecution after the offender has been identified; or the denial of extradition because the offender committed a crime in another jurisdiction and is being prosecuted for that offense.





## Motor Vehicle Enforcement

The Department is committed to the safety of our Wilton community; That is, to be safe on our roads and free of crime. One method the Department utilizes to accomplish these goals is proactive high-visibility traffic enforcement. The proactive enforcement of motor vehicle laws serves several purposes. It curtails dangerous driving behaviors as well as provides visibility in our community that both detects and deters crime.

In 2021 the Department initiated a total of **3,768** traffic stops, a 70% increase in overall traffic stops from 2020. The year to year increase in traffic enforcement activity coincides with a return to pre-pandemic traffic volumes beginning early in 2021. The five-year moving average of traffic stops decreased 11.3% from 4,426 (2016-2020) to 3,924 (2017-2021).

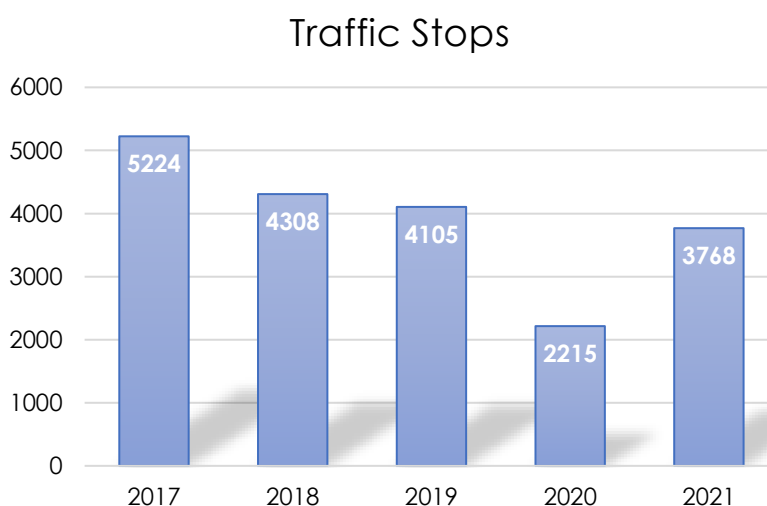


Figure-10: Traffic Stops 2017-2021



## Strategic Enforcement

A total of **1,263** traffic stops were a result of strategic enforcement related to citizen complaints, identified areas of high crash frequency, and grant activity such as Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement (DDHVE), Click it or Ticket, and DUI.

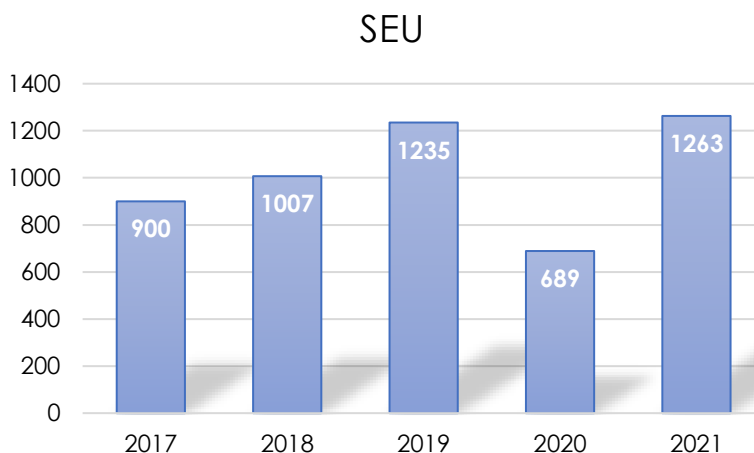


Figure-11: Selective Enforcement 2017-2021

In addition, the Department achieved meaningful outcomes in a strategic enforcement effort aimed at an identified area of high crash frequency. Beginning in August 2021 the Department focused a significant amount of strategic enforcement on the section of Route 7 between School Road and Allen's Field. In a 4 ½ month period resource outputs at the location consisted of:

- 86 officer deployments
- 78 hours and 48 minutes of activities
- 163 enforcement contacts

As a result, from September thru December 2021 a **75%** reduction in total crashes occurred at the location when compared to the prior 5-year (2016-2020) moving average during the same time of year <sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup> 3 crashes in 2021 from September thru December vs. 2016-2020 average of 11.8 crashes

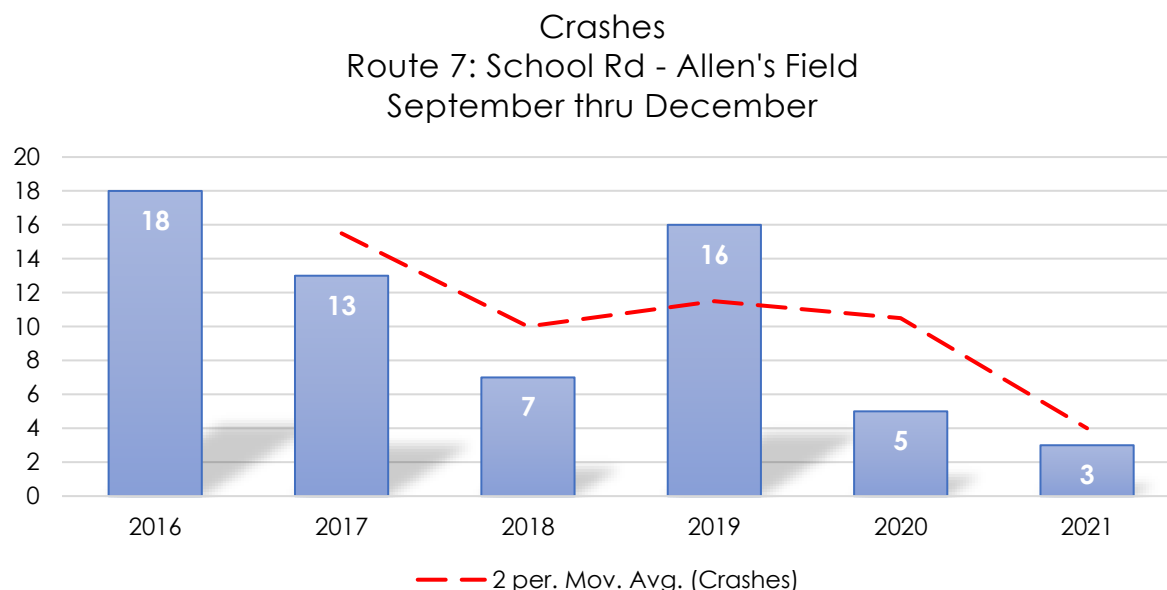


Figure-12: Rt. 7 School Rd-Allen's Field Crash Activity 2016-2021

The proactive enforcement of motor vehicle laws also assists in the detection of drivers impaired by alcohol and/or drugs. In 2021 the Department made a total of **36** arrests for DUI charges.

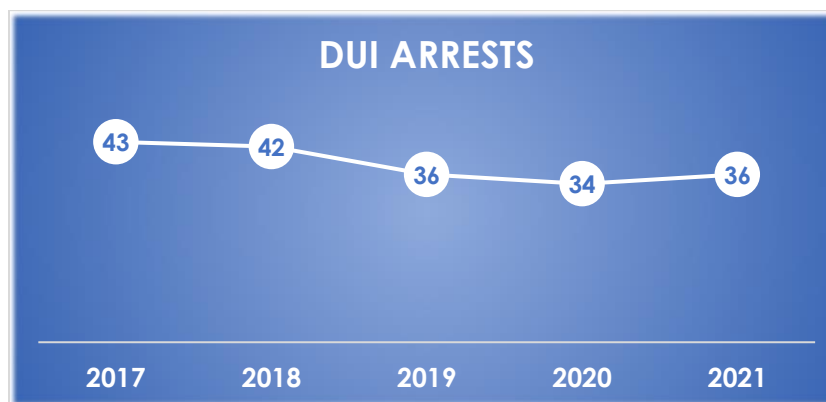


Figure-13: DUI Arrests 2017-2021

## Bias Profiling Review

The Wilton Police Department complies with the *Alvin W. Penn Racial Profiling Prohibition Act*. The Act, which has been incorporated in the Connecticut General Statutes, requires the collection of data related to traffic stops such as race, color, ethnicity, age and gender of operator of motor vehicle (based on the observation and perception of the officer). The



collection of data related to disposition of the stop, including whether a warning, citation or summons was issued, whether a search was conducted and whether a custodial arrest was made, is also required.

### **Aggregate Traffic Stops in 2021**

The Department saw a return to traffic stop activity more in line with pre-pandemic numbers consisting of 3,768 traffic stops, a 70% increase when compared to 2020 (2,215). Despite the year-to-year increase, traffic stops in 2021 remain 25% below the prior pre-pandemic 5-year (2015-2019) moving average.

In totality, of the 3,768 traffic stops conducted in 2021 approximately 63.5% were of White non-Hispanic operators while 36.5% involved a Minority operator (Black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaskan Native, and Other Race). The data is consistent with preliminary data from the Statewide Analysis of traffic stop data (2020) that showed the statewide percentage of drivers stopped by police who were identified as Minority was 39%. More specifically, Department traffic stop data for 2021 showed that 12.5% of operators were Black and 19.4% were Hispanic. The ratios are consistent year to year with the Department's 2020 traffic stop data, producing a slight percentage decrease among Black operators (- .1%) and increase among Hispanic operators (+1.7%). In comparison, the preliminary data from the Statewide Analysis of traffic stop data (2020) shows that across Connecticut's municipal departments and State Police troops, a total of 19% of operators stopped were observed to be Black while 17% of stops were Hispanic operators. Of the operators stopped by our officers in 2021 approximately 19.4% were residents of Wilton and approximately 90.5% were residents of the State of Connecticut.

### **Traffic Stop Dispositions**

A review of traffic stop dispositions revealed that approximately 20% of traffic stops involving White non-Hispanic operators resulted in dispositions of arrest, misdemeanor summons or infraction, with the remaining 80% of traffic stops involving White non-Hispanic operators resulting in warnings. Approximately 29% of traffic stops involving Black operators resulted in dispositions of arrest, misdemeanor summons or infraction, with the remaining 71% of traffic stops involving Black operators resulting in warnings. For Hispanic operators dispositions of arrest, misdemeanor summons or infraction resulted in 36% of traffic stops, with the remaining 64% resulting in warnings.

### **Vehicle Searches**

The State of Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project identifies discretionary vehicle searches in their analysis. Discretionary vehicle searches are defined as those conducted under the authority of probable cause or consent, excluding inventory searches. In 2021 our officers engaged in approximately 17 discretionary vehicle searches, a 67% year to year reduction. A contributing factor to the significant decrease



in discretionary vehicle searches is the legalization of marijuana, removing the odor of marijuana as probable cause to search a vehicle. Of the year's discretionary searches, one was under the authority of consent and 16 were the result of probable cause. The one consent search conducted involved a Hispanic operator.

Approximately .4%, .8%, and .5% of traffic stops with White non-Hispanic, Black, and Hispanic operators respectively resulted in discretionary vehicle searches. Hit rates were 56% (5 out of 9 searches) for White non-Hispanic operators, 75% (3 out of 4 searches) for Black operators, and 25% (1 out of 4 searches) for Hispanic operators. Approximately .4% of traffic stops involving either a Black or Hispanic operator resulted in discretionary vehicle searches with a hit rate of approximately 43% (3 of 7 searches). The small sample size of total discretionary vehicle searches precludes any meaningful analysis.

### **Conclusion**

The Department received two complaints of bias profiling due to either race or ethnicity in 2021. Both complaints were investigated by Internal Affairs and closed with the disposition of UNFOUNDED. The review of the Department's 2021 Racial Profiling Traffic Stop Report (attached) revealed no signs of disparity with regard to racial profiling on traffic stops and/or disparate outcomes as a result of traffic stops.



## Wilton Police Dept

240 Danbury Road, Wilton CT 068974008

(203) 834-6260

## Racial Profiling Traffic Stop Report

2021-01-01 00:00 Thru 2021-12-31 23:59

	Gender		Ethnicity			Resident		Custodial Arrest		Enforcement Category			Authority for Search			
	Female	Male	Hispanic	M Eastern	N/A	Municipal	CT	Yes	No	General	Blind	Spot Chk	N/A	Consent	Invent	Other
White:	1131	1982	717	4	2392	651	2828	33	3080	2511	465	137	2957	1	143	12
Black:	196	273	13	0	456	23	417	3	466	350	115	4	418	0	47	4
Indian:	27	71	1	5	92	31	89	1	97	79	17	2	97	0	1	0
Asian:	39	49	1	0	87	27	76	1	87	70	15	3	87	0	1	0
Unknown:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	1393	2375	732	9	3027	732	3410	38	3730	3010	612	146	3559	1	192	16

	Stop Nature			Veh Searched		Vehicle Towed		Result of Stop						Duration of Stop			Contraband	
	Invest	Violation	Equip	Yes	No	Yes	No	UAR	Mis	Infra	Verbal	Written	None	0-15	16-30	Over 30	Yes	No
White:	84	2826	203	157	2956	184	2929	20	213	514	1777	534	55	2492	467	154	7	3106
Black:	14	407	48	51	418	63	406	2	88	46	260	63	10	318	106	45	4	465
Indian:	4	88	6	1	97	2	96	0	7	10	59	19	3	78	17	3	0	98
Asian:	1	86	1	1	87	1	87	0	4	11	61	11	1	76	11	1	0	88
Unknown:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	103	3407	258	210	3558	250	3518	22	312	581	2157	627	69	2964	601	203	11	3757

## Grand Totals

White:	3113	82.62%	Male:	2375	63.03%	Hispanic	732	19.43%
Black:	469	12.45%	Female:	1393	36.97%	Middle Eastern	9	0.24%
Indian:	98	2.60%				N/A	3027	80.33%
Asian:	88	2.34%						
Unknown:	0	0.00%						
Totals:	3768	100.00%						



## Domestic Violence

The Wilton Police Department strives to keep victims safe and hold offenders accountable when responding to incidents of domestic violence. The Department ensures victim safety and offender accountability through education and awareness, partnerships with local victim advocacy groups, and the arrest of offenders.

In 2021 the Department responded to a total of **73** domestic-related incidents<sup>8</sup>. Of these incidents a total of **39** qualified as family violence incidents<sup>9</sup> based on the nature of allegations.

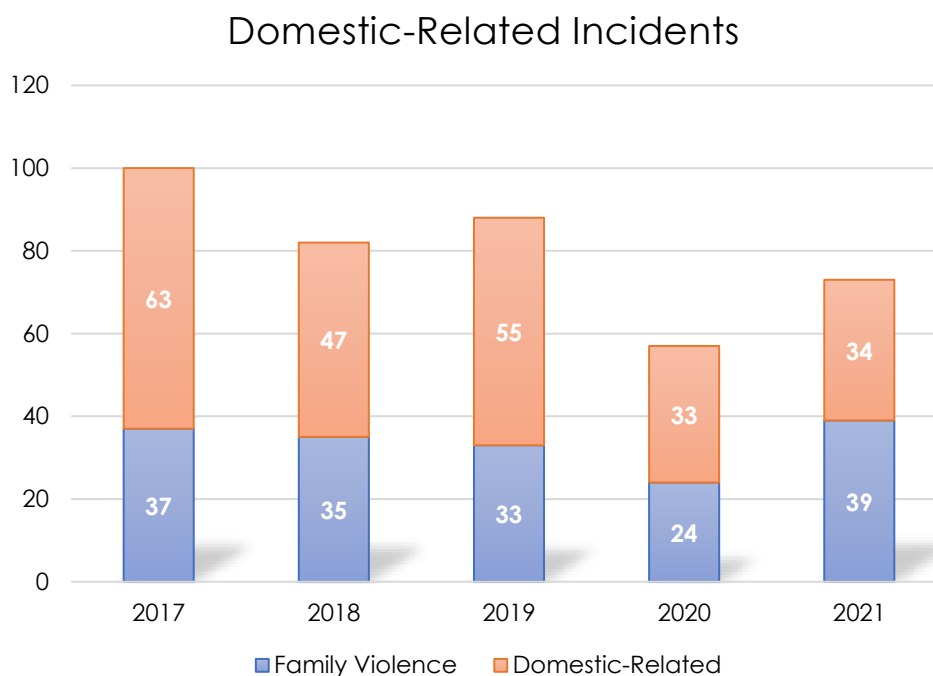


Figure-14: Domestic-Related Incidents 2017-2021

<sup>8</sup> Domestic-related calls for service include disputes among family or household members that do not rise to the level of the statutory definition of family violence, such as verbal arguments

<sup>9</sup> C.G.S. § 46b-38a states. "Family violence means an incident resulting in physical harm, bodily injury or assault, or an act of threatened violence that constitutes fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, including, but not limited to, stalking or a pattern of threatening, between family or household members. Verbal abuse or argument does not constitute family violence unless there is present danger and the likelihood that physical violence will occur"



In 2021 probable cause was established in **32** family violence incidents to result in arrest. Family violence arrests represented **23%** of all arrests in the Town of Wilton in 2021. The prevailing relationship category for family violence arrests was *spousal*, accounting for 38% (12). Intimate partner relationships <sup>10</sup> accounted for 53% (17) of all family violence arrests.

### Family Violence Incidents

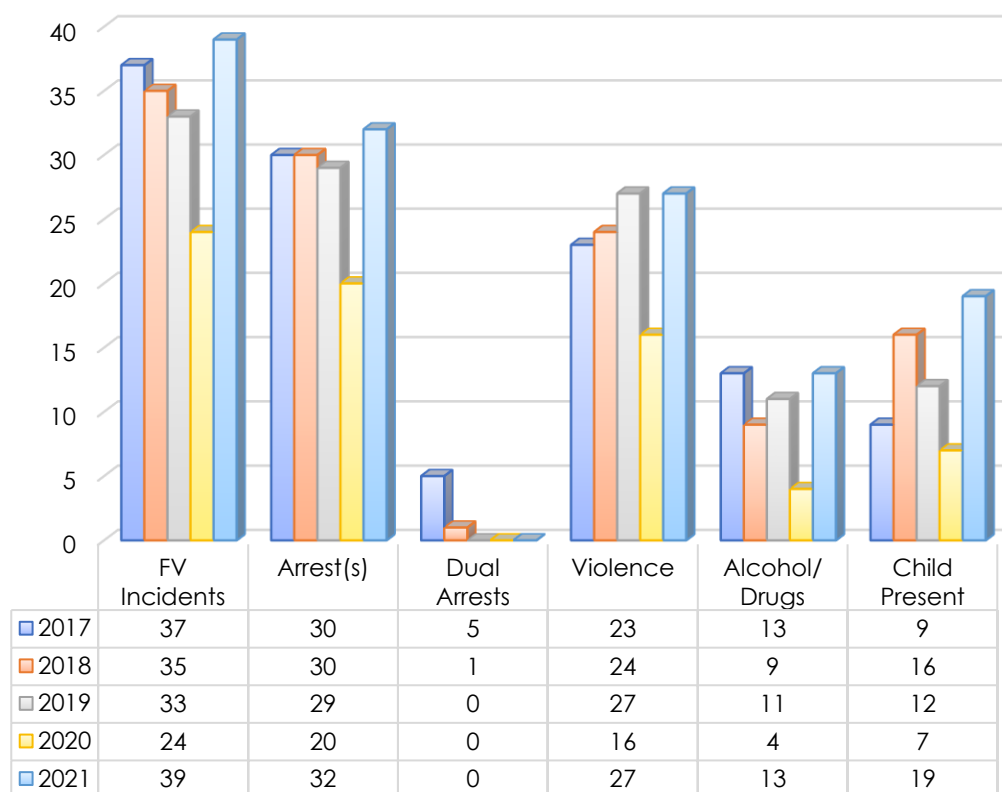


Figure-15: Family Violence Incidents 2017-2021

<sup>10</sup> 12 family violence arrests involved spouses and former spouses and 5 family violence arrests involved persons in, or who have recently been in, a dating relationship.



## Offense Types

In each family violence arrest, a Family Violence Offense Report (FVOR) is submitted to the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Safety Crime Analysis Unit. Multiple offenses may occur during the course of a single incident, but for reporting purposes the most serious is reported. The following chart is a breakdown of offense types for family violence incidents occurring in 2021 that resulted in arrest:

Family Violence Offense Type

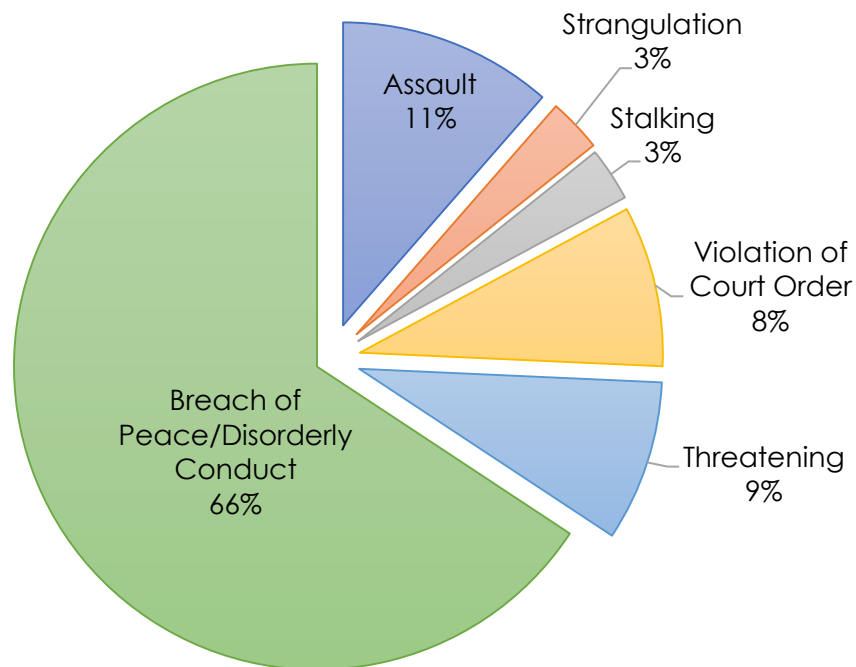


Figure-16: Family Violence Offense Breakdown 2021



## Lethality Assessment Program

The Department strives to provide fair and compassionate services to victims and other persons affected by the turmoil of family violence. In 2013, the department implemented the Lethality Assessment Screening Program (LAP). LAP represents an innovative partnership with victim advocacy groups to implement nationally recognized risk assessment strategies to better serve victims of intimate partner violence in the greatest danger.

Year	Lethality Screens	High Danger	Non-High Danger	DNA	Spoke to the LAP-Line Worker
2017	40	18	22	0	17
2018	31	17	12	2	13
2019	32	19	12	1	14
2020	12	8	4	0	6
2021	18	9	8	1	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>55</b>

Table-2: Lethality Assessment Program Data 2017-2021





## Pursuits

In 2021 officers were engaged in **14** pursuits. Departmental reviews of pursuits are conducted by the Lieutenant that oversees the respective shift on which the pursuit occurred. The 2021 reviews determined that **4** of the pursuits were not within policy. The continued policy violation is not terminating the pursuit in a timely manner.

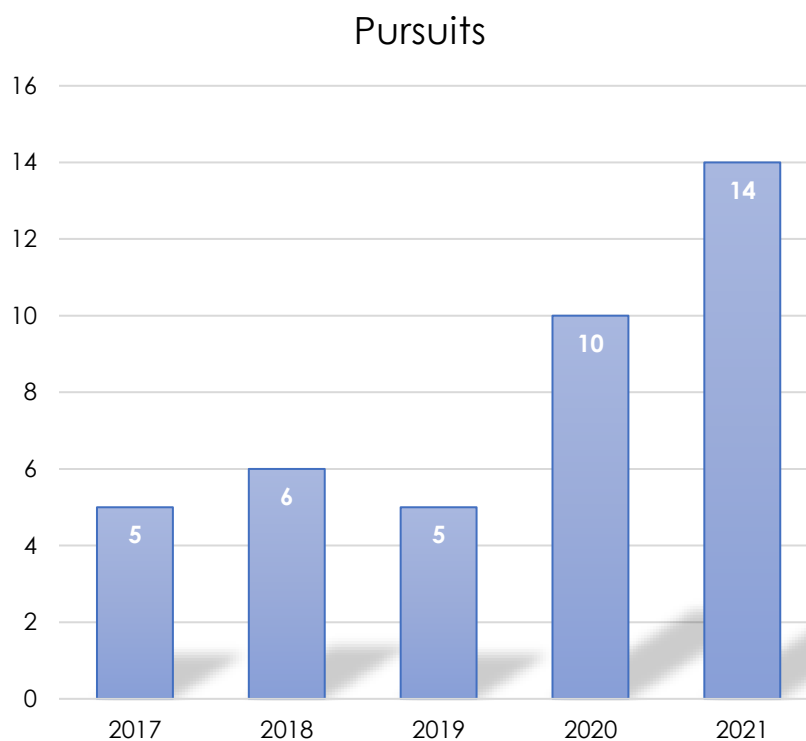


Figure-18: Pursuits 2017-2021



### Reason for Pursuit

Of the pursuits occurring in 2021, **8** involved criminal violations consisting of larceny/shoplifting (3), thefts from motor vehicle/stolen vehicles (2), DUI (1), wanted person (1), and impersonation (1) offense. The remaining **6** pursuit engagements were the result of motor vehicle charges.

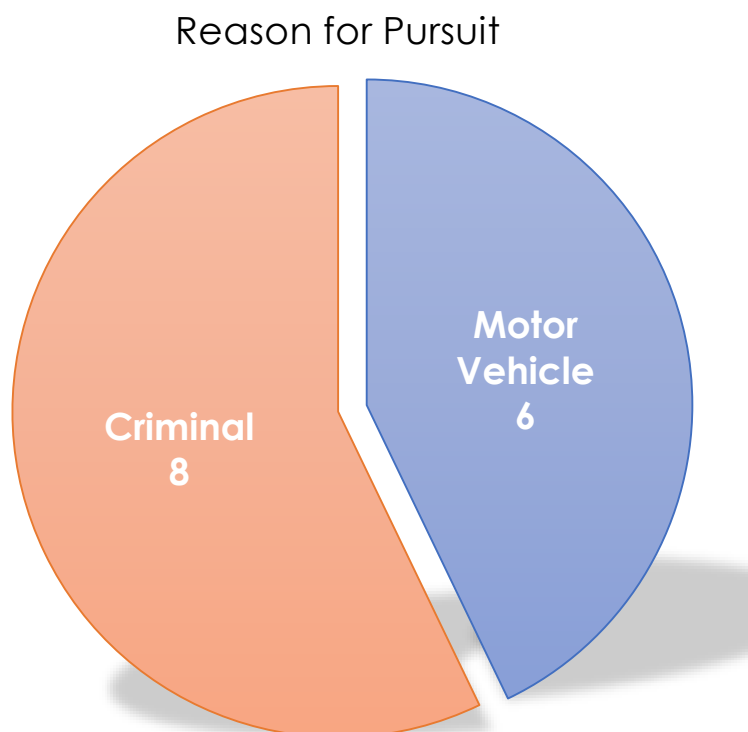


Figure-19: Reason for Pursuit 2021

### Pursuit Outcomes

The below table is a breakdown of pursuit outcomes in 2021.

Outcomes				
Crash, Injury or Death	Arrest	Terminated by Officer	Terminated by Supervisor	Termination Device
1	6	7	5	0

Table-3: Pursuit Outcomes 2021

### Duration

The average duration of the pursuits was approximately 53 seconds with the longest lasting approximately 2 minutes 48 seconds and the shortest 2 seconds.



## **Crashes and/or Injuries**

There was **1** crash resulting from a pursuit in 2021. In the incident the evading vehicle was subject to a traffic stop for motor vehicle violations. During the course of the stop it was learned that the operator was the subject of multiple active criminal arrest warrants to include family violence offenses. When asked to exit the vehicle, the operator placed the vehicle in drive and accelerated from the scene. Officers pursued the vehicle, but quickly lost sight due to high speeds. A short time later officers located the vehicle, crashed and disabled off the roadway. It was found that the wanted operator had already fled the scene of the crash on foot. In the days following the incident, the operator would turn himself in. He was uninjured as a result of the crash.

## **Arrests**

There were **5** arrests resulting from pursuits in 2021 with an arrest warrant for a sixth arrest still active. Of the arrests **2** were on-site while the remaining were effectuated days following the event either by arrest warrant or waiver.

## **Age of Offender**

The age of the offender is known for only **7** pursuits in 2021. The average age of known offenders is approximately **34** years old.

## **Conclusion**

The number of pursuits our officers are engaged in year to year continues to increase. In 2021 the Department experienced a 40% (+4) year-to-year increase in the number of incidents that resulted in officers being engaged in pursuit. There has been a 180% increase in pursuit engagements since 2017. Despite the continued increase, the ratio of pursuits to traffics stops is .4%.



## Use of Force

In 2021 there were **13** distinct incidents that resulted in officer use of force (UOF), equaling the total of distinct incidents in 2020. Of the thirteen incidents, eight involved multiple officers using force, resulting in a total of **30** officer UOF reports completed, an **11%** increase from the previous year (27). **Eight (8)** officers were involved in more than one incident and **2** officers were found to be involved in 3 or more UOF incidents with the maximum being one officer involved in **5** UOF incidents. All UOF incidents underwent supervisory review. All except two were found to be within policy. The two incidents found to be out of policy required review of the UOF policy with the involved officers.

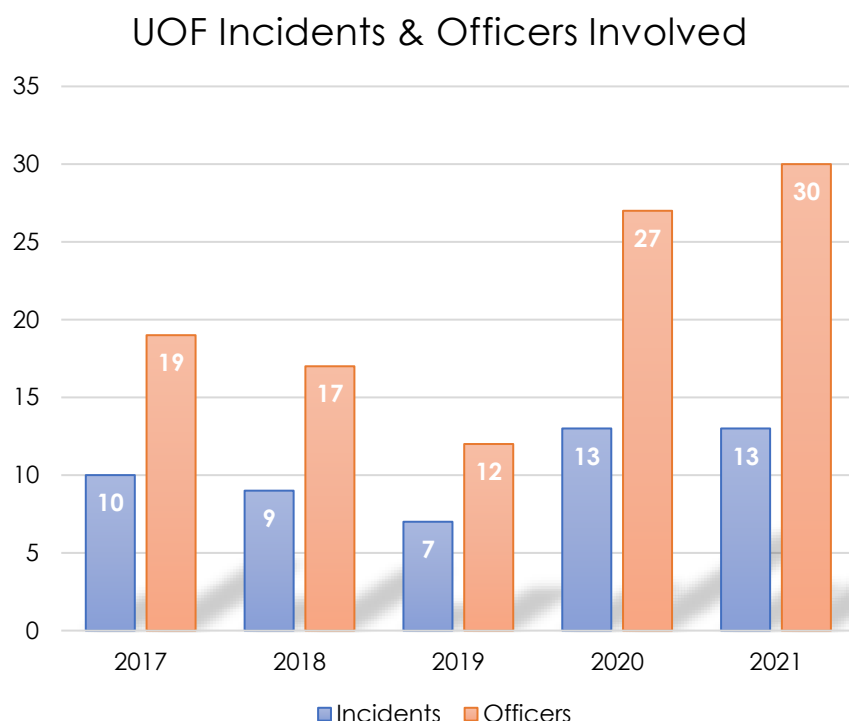


Figure-20: Use of Force Incidents and Officers Involved 2017-2021

## Call Types

All but two UOF incidents were the result of officers being dispatched to calls for service. The two UOF incidents that resulted from an officer-initiated activity were the result of DUI investigations. A breakdown of call types resulting in officer(s) UOF were family violence (5), larceny/fraud (3), DUI (3), motor vehicle crash (1), and crisis intervention (1). The majority of UOF incidents occurred on the Midnight Shift (7), followed by Day Shift (4), and Evening Shift (2).



The majority of the incidents were the result of subjects not complying with officer verbal commands or resistance to being taken into custody for arrest, resulting in forcible handcuffing. Two incidents involved the possession of firearms by the arrested subjects and in one instance the firearm was recently used during a family violence call for service.

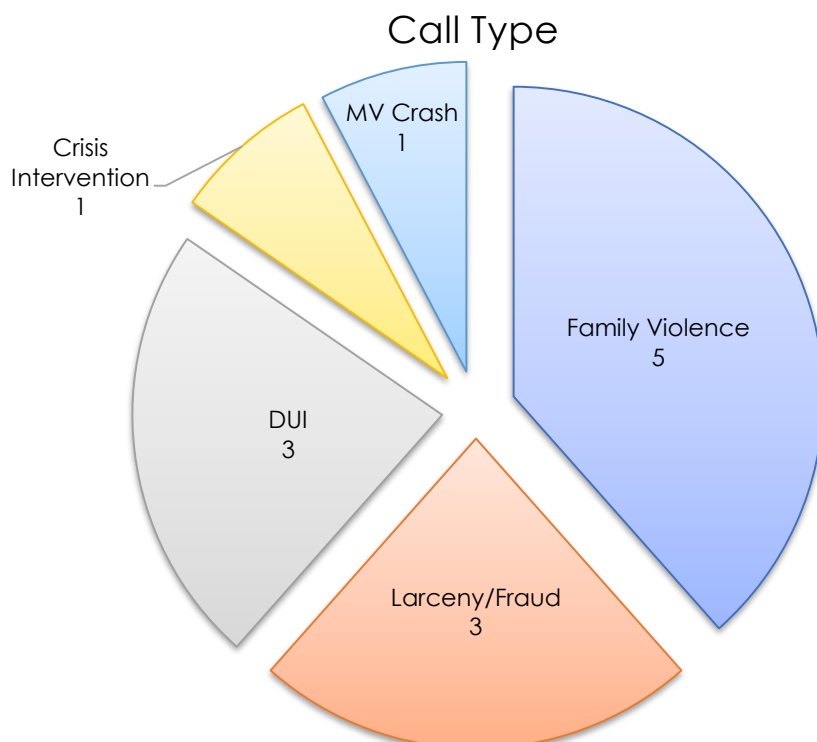


Figure-21: Use of Force Incident Data 2021

### Force Type

In 2021 physical force in the form of control holds and/or takedowns were the predominant application of force used by officers, accounting for **26** uses of force or approximately **70%** of all force applied. There were eight officers who reported uses of force consisting of pointing a firearm at the subject. It is noted that five of the officer firearm point incidents resulted from two distinct incidents. One of the incidents was a family violence call for service, wherein a firearm was recently used during the incident and subsequently recovered during the course of arrest. The other incident was a DUI investigation wherein an officer observed a firearm in plain view on the passenger side floorboard of the vehicle.



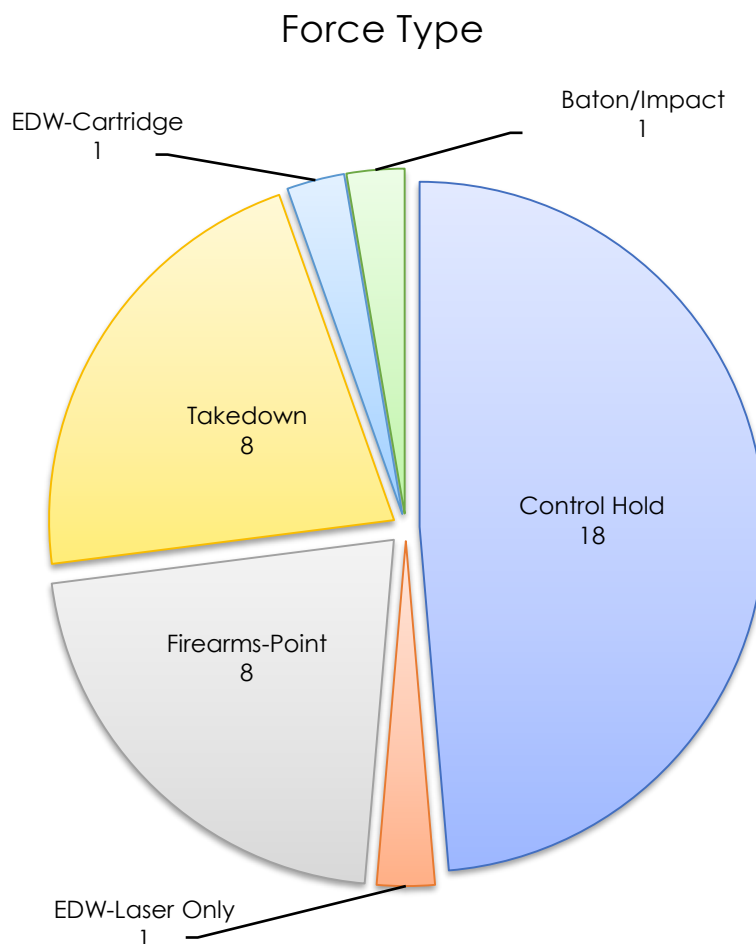


Figure-22: Type of Force Used 2021

## Demographics

In reviewing the demographics of the subjects in which force was used, **10** were male, **3** were female, and one incident is unknown due to the suspects fleeing in a vehicle. It is noted that one incident involved UOF on two subjects. The average age of known subjects was approximately **32** years old with the youngest subject being 18 and the oldest 58. The breakdown of subject race is **79%** (11) White, **14%** (2) Black, and **7%** (1) Unknown. There were zero UOF incidents involving subjects whose ethnicity was Hispanic. Three UOF incidents involved subjects who were residents of the Town of Wilton.



## Injuries

Injuries were sustained by **3** subjects of force, consisting of minor bruises and/or abrasions and in one incident the complaint of a knee injury. There were **3** officer injuries as the result of UOF incidents, all resulting in lost time from work.

## Use of Force Ratios

Of the 13 UOF incidents, **11** resulted in arrest. In 2021 the Department had 142 arrest incidents. Therefore, the Department's UOF to arrest ratio is **93%**. In other words, 93% of arrests effectuated by officers involved no level of force.

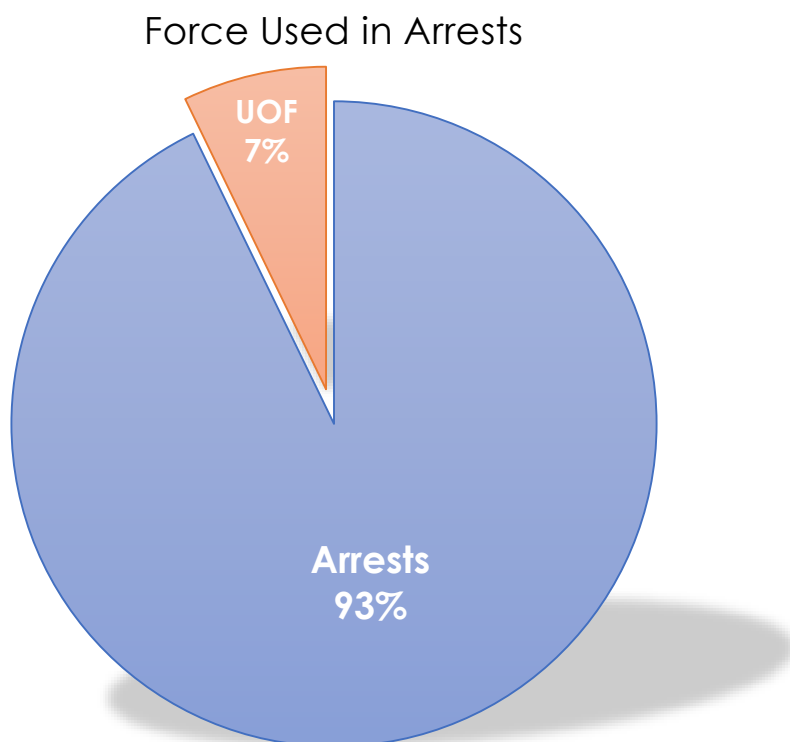


Figure-23: Use of Force to Arrest Ratio 2021



In 2021 the Department responded to 12,915 calls for service. The Department's UOF to call for service ratio was **.1%**. In other words, in 99.9% of officers documented interactions with the public, no force was used.

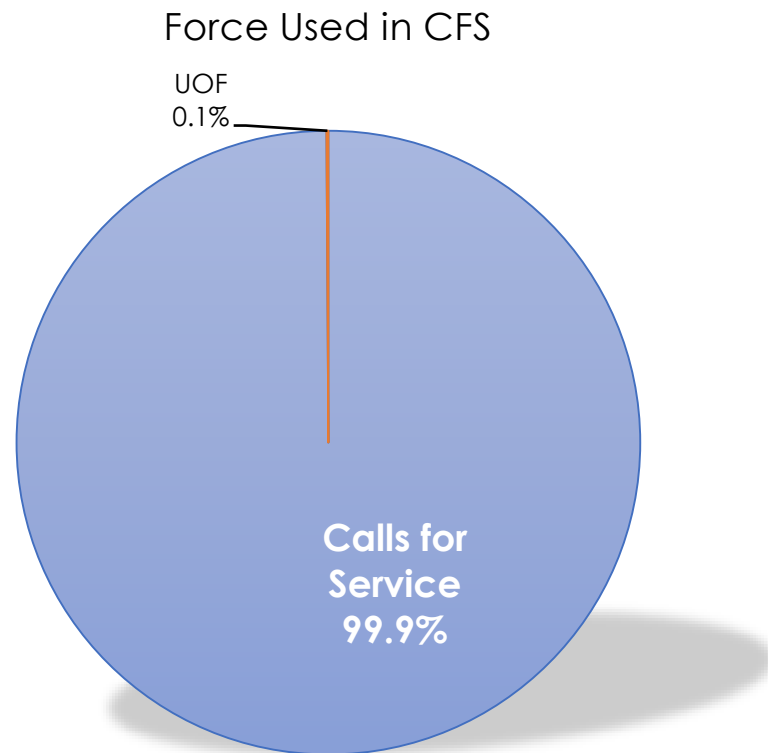


Figure-24: Use of Force to Call for Service Ratio 2021

## Conclusion

In reviewing the use of force incidents for 2021 there were no identified patterns or trends that would indicate policy, training, tactics or officer safety concerns in the Department's application of force. The Department did not receive any complaints of excessive force in 2021.



## Internal Affairs

In the interest of public trust, the Wilton Police Department will investigate all complaints against its officers. The integrity of the Department is of paramount concern. It is also a paramount concern to protect officers against false or malicious complaints. The purpose of the police Internal Affairs unit is to maintain the integrity of the Department by the use of an internal system in which objectivity, fairness, and justice are ensured by an impartial investigation.

The Wilton Police Department Internal Affairs process shall serve the following objectives:

1. Protection of the public.
2. Protection of Department personnel.
3. Protection of the Department.
4. Training of personnel.
5. Identify policy deficiencies and training needs of personnel.

In 2021 the Department initiated **7** internal affairs investigations, all of which were generated externally; i.e., citizen complaints. With the Department responding to 12,915 calls for service (CFS) in 2021, only **.05%** resulted in citizen complaint. The following is a breakdown of the nature of complaints and/or investigations.

Allegation	Number of Complaints
Demeanor	3
Standards of Conduct	2
Bias-Profilng	2

Table-4: Internal Affairs Complaint Type 2021

Of the **7** investigations, **4** were investigated at the first line supervisor and/or command level, while **3** were investigated by an Internal Affairs officer due to the seriousness of the allegation. The average length of investigation, date of complaint to finalized report of investigation submitted to the Chief of Police for disposition, was approximately **38** days. The following is a breakdown of investigation dispositions <sup>11</sup> in 2021:

Dispositions		
Unfounded	Not Sustained	Sustained
6	1	0

Table-5: Internal Affairs Dispositions 2021

<sup>11</sup> Department Standard Operating Procedure [1-12 Complaints/Internal Affairs](#) outlines eight disposition classifications



There were zero Union grievances related to Internal Affairs and/or discipline filed in 2021. A grievance filed in 2019 related to an employee termination recently received a ruling. The termination was upheld. There are no pending grievances.



## Crisis Intervention Team

The goal of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is to facilitate safe resolutions to crisis situations for all parties involved: officers, community, and person in crisis. In addition, similar to providing a victim of domestic violence with information on appropriate advocacy services, the CIT will link persons in crisis to appropriate services that may benefit them. Resources include, but are not limited to referrals to 211, the Franklin S. DuBois Center, Office of Victim Services, Department of Developmental Services, and Wilton Social Services.

In 2021 officers responded to **61** incidents classified solely as CIT calls for service. Some consumers required multiple calls for service throughout the year. Officers respond to a myriad of other calls for service that involve subjects with underlying mental health and/or substance abuse issues, but may be classified as a different call type, such as family violence. A total of **57** Police Emergency Examination Request (PEER) <sup>12</sup> forms were completed in 2021. The below chart is a breakdown of CIT calls for service by age group.

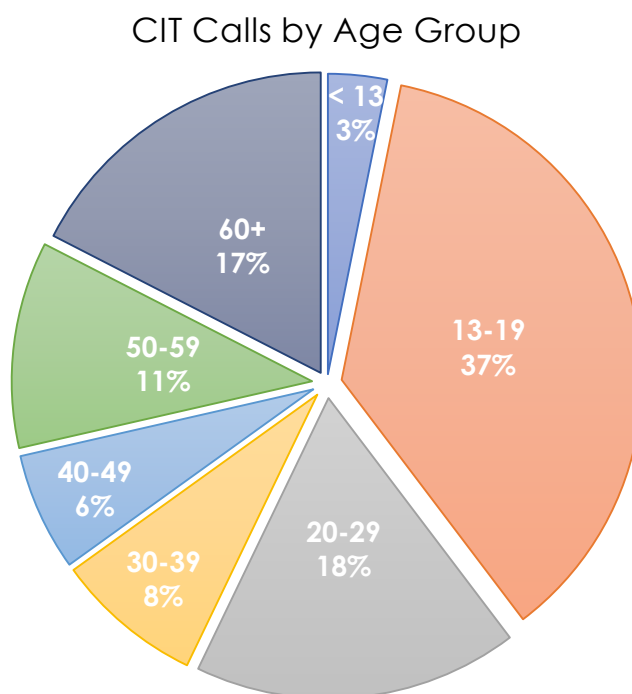


Figure 25: CIT Calls by Age Group 2021

<sup>12</sup> C.G.S. 17a-503 states, “Any police officer who has reasonable cause to believe that a person has psychiatric disabilities and is dangerous to himself or herself or others or gravely disabled, and in need of immediate care and treatment, may take such person into custody and take or cause such person to be taken to a general hospital for emergency examination under this section.”









## Notable Arrests

### **Family Violence Incident with Firearm**

In January 2021 in the early morning hours, officers responded to the reports of shots fired outside of a residence in the Town of Wilton. Responding officers discovered damage to an unoccupied vehicle in the driveway consistent with a bullet hole. Patrol officers located a vehicle traveling on an adjacent roadway, conducted a traffic stop and found it to be occupied by two adult males, one of which was the ex-boyfriend of the victim resident. A firearm was recovered from the vehicle, which through laboratory analysis, was later found to be the firearm that was discharged in the driveway of residence. Both adult males were arrested and charged with Stalking, Firearms, Reckless Endangerment, Trespassing, and Criminal Mischief offenses.

### **Stolen Checks**

In February 2020 a resident at a senior living facility in the Town of Wilton reported fraudulently negotiated personal checks. Investigation revealed that the checks were made payable to an adult female who was providing private care for another resident at the facility. The adult female was arrested by warrant in January 2021 for Larceny and Forgery offenses.

### **Assault on an Officer**

In December 2020 officers responded to a residence in the Town of Wilton for an adult male in crisis. While attempting to have the male engage services at Norwalk Hospital, the male became combative and punched an officer in the face. The officer suffered a broken nose. In January 2021 the adult male was arrested by warrant for Assault on a Public Safety Officer.

### **Mail Theft & Check Fraud**

In April 2020 a resident reported a check stolen from their mailbox. The check was subsequently fraudulently negotiated. That investigation identified an adult male who deposited the stolen checks into a personal banking account. The adult male was arrested by warrant in February 2021 for Larceny and Forgery offenses.





### **Check Kiting Fraud**

In February 2021 a local banking institution reported several accounts opened that had been flagged for suspicious activity. Upon being opened, each account received several deposits via ATM of fraudulent checks. The available funds from the fraudulent deposits were immediately withdrawn via ATM. In total two adult males and two adult females were identified. All were arrested by warrant in 2021 for Larceny offenses.

### **Identity Theft**

In January 2020 a resident reported several merchant accounts opened using his personal identifying information. Investigation entailing review of video surveillance and phone records identified an adult male from the State of New York as the offender. The adult male was arrested by warrant and extradited to Connecticut in April 2021 for Identity Theft offenses.

### **Theft from Vehicle & Credit Card Fraud**

In October 2020 a female victim reported a purse stolen from her car while at a local gas station. The victim's credit cards were subsequently used for fraudulent purchases. A review of video surveillance identified an adult male as the offender. The adult male was arrested by warrant in April 2021.

### **Commercial & School Burglary**

In August 2020 during the late evening, both a commercial location and school were burglarized. A review of video surveillance identified an adult male offender who, through intelligence sharing, was identified. The adult male was arrested by warrant in May 2021 for Burglary and Criminal Mischief offenses.

### **Risk of Injury to Child**

In February 2021 officers were dispatched to a local daycare on reports of an unresponsive infant. Medical aid was provided and the infant was transported to the hospital where it was determined that the infant had suffered abusive trauma to the head. An investigation identified an adult female employed at the daycare as responsible for the injuries sustained. The adult female was arrested by warrant in May 2021 for Assault and Risk of Injury offenses.



## **Identity Theft**

In August 2021 officers were dispatched to a local banking institution on report of an adult female attempting to withdraw funds from an account not belonging to her. The adult female offender presented fraudulent identification purporting to be the account holder. Officers arrived on scene and took the adult female into custody. The adult female was charged with Identity Theft and Larceny offenses.

## **Theft from Vehicle & Credit Card Fraud**

In March 2021 a resident reported a theft from their unlocked vehicle while it was parked in their driveway overnight. The victim further reported a credit card was stolen and subsequently used for a fraudulent purchase. Approximately one week later, an adult male was arrested by a neighboring police agency and found to be in possession of the victim's credit card. A review of the video surveillance confirmed the adult male to be the offender that fraudulently used the victim's credit card shortly after the theft. The adult male was arrested by warrant in September 2021 for Identity Theft and Payment Card Fraud offenses.

## **Assault on Elderly**

In September 2021 a resident of a senior living facility was found to have suffered visible injuries. Investigation revealed that an adult male known to the victim had been staying in the victim's apartment. Further investigation revealed that the injuries sustained by the victim were the result of assault by the adult male. The adult male was arrested by warrant for Assault and Threatening offenses.

## **Pickpocket**

In April 2019 a patron at a local restaurant reported that their wallet containing credit cards had been removed from their purse. The stolen credit cards were fraudulently used at various commercial locations in Norwalk and Stamford, Connecticut. The review of video surveillance both at the restaurant and commercial locations revealed three adult female suspects. Arrest warrants were obtained for two of the females who were identified as being from the Philadelphia area. In June 2019 one of the adult females turned herself in on the arrest warrant and was charged with Larceny. The second adult female was arrested by warrant and extradited to Connecticut in October 2021. The adult female was charged with Larceny and Identity Theft offenses.



### **Identity Theft**

In October 2021 the department received a report from a local car dealership of an adult male attempting to purchase a high-end vehicle by means of identity theft. It was determined that the adult male had completed the credit application for the vehicle purchase by using the personal identifying information of an identity theft victim in the State of Virginia. Detective personnel conducted a surveillance at the location as the adult male offender arrived to complete the purchase. When detectives attempted to contact the adult male, a brief foot pursuit ensued, and the adult male was taken into custody. The adult male was charged with Identity Theft, Larceny, Impersonation, and Forgery charges.

### **Sexual Assault of Minor**

In July 2020 a juvenile reported being sexually assaulted on multiple occasions over a prolonged period of time. A lengthy investigation resulted in the issuance of an arrest warrant for an adult male. The adult male was arrested in November 2021 and extradited to Connecticut, charged with Sexual Assault and Risk of Injury offenses.

### **Bank Robbery**

In September 2021 officers were dispatched to a local bank on the report of robbery. It was learned that an adult male suspect passed a note demanding money and stating that he had a firearm. A joint investigation with the Norwalk Police Department identified an adult male with a history of previous bank robberies as a suspect. Detectives obtained an arrest warrant for the male, which was served in November 2021 for Robbery and Larceny offenses.