



# **Annual Report**

## **2021**

## **Table of Contents**

<b>Mission</b>	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Message from the Chief</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Employee Staffing</b>	<b>6-7</b>
<b>Vehicle Inventory</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Patrol/Records</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Investigations/SWAT</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Improvements/Capitals</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>End of Year Statistics</b>	<b>12-15</b>
<b>Traffic Crash Data</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Fulton PD Survey Results</b>	<b>17-30</b>
<b>Community Policing</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Photos</b>	<b>31-32</b>
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>33</b>



## **“Service with Pride and Professionalism”**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

WE, the members of the Fulton Police Department, are committed to providing ethical, quality and responsive service to the community with pride and professionalism. WE are committed to improving the quality of life for those we serve by delivering the highest standard of police services.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

WE envision a future where law-abiding citizens feel safe and take pride and comfort in the quality of life in our community; a future where disorder and criminal activity continues to be vigorously and intelligently pursued. WE envision our department as a superior service-oriented organization that incorporates innovative strategies, contemporary technologies, proven community policing philosophies, positive leadership, and efficient and effective use of resources into all organizational decisions.

## **OUR ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES**

### **Commitment to Service**

WE believe our primary duty is to safeguard lives and property, while respecting the human and constitutional rights of all.

### **Commitment to Community Involvement**

WE believe community partnerships are critical elements of our organization. Collaboration, cooperation and communication with our citizens and businesses are the framework for successful community-oriented policing.

### **Commitment to Our Employees**

WE believe that our employees are the greatest and most valuable assets of our organization; and that through regular training, education, career development, exemplary leadership and organizational support, our employees will reach the highest standards of performance and professional satisfaction, while serving the needs of our community.





# **CITY OF FULTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**Nicholas Neblung**  
**Chief of Police**

**415 11<sup>th</sup> Ave**  
**Fulton, IL 61252**  
**(815)-589-3617**  
**Fax (815)-589-2033**

Residents and visitors of the Fulton Community:

I am proud to present the 2021 Annual Report. The officer and staff have once again exceeded expectations. This report is a testament to their continued dedication and hard work. Covered within this report, you will see a summary of their accomplishments in 2021, in addition to statistics, crime figures and survey results from our Community Survey.

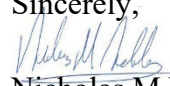
The year 2021 was a continuation of what 2020 brought our community and country in wake of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. I commend the efforts of the men and women of this agency for the continued challenges we faced in 2021. I also applaud the partnerships and assistance we receive from residents, visitors, and business owners throughout the year. We are beyond fortunate to live in a town that supports their police department.

Throughout 2021 we continued to be faced with challenges that our staff and I worked to overcome. As we look ahead, we will continue to employ new tactics, and build new partnerships to ensure a safe and enjoyable community for our citizens.

I would like to close by thanking the men and women of this department for their ongoing commitment and dedication to this great community. The overwhelming community support is held with high regard. Their sacrifice and hard work coupled with the positive partnerships we share with our community make it possible to maintain the high quality of life we enjoy here in Fulton.

**“They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.”**

**-Carl W. Buehner**

Sincerely,  
  
Nicholas M Neblung  
Chief of Police



## **Fulton Police Department Staff**



Chief of Police  
Nicholas Neblung



Sergeant  
Dwayne Hamilton



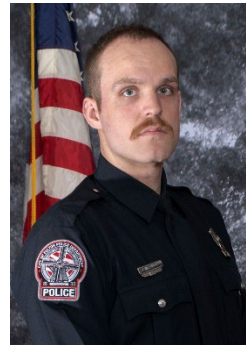
School Resource Officer  
Jeremy Leitzen



Officer  
Adam Wherry



Officer  
Corie Flack



Officer  
Jacob Willging



Officer  
Ethan Jones



Officer  
Benjamin Eshelman



Administrative Assistant  
Renee Grant

**Part time Officers**

Chad Hermes  
Susie Bogart  
Robb McNabb  
Shaun Magill  
Jacob Jordan



Group photo including some of our mutual aid partners: Illinois State Police, Morrison Police Department, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Eire Police Department, Whiteside County Sheriff's Department, and Clinton Police Department.





### Police Vehicles

2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Marked Patrol- Squad 101

2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Marked Patrol- Squad 102

2021 Chevrolet Tahoe Marked Patrol- Squad 103

2019 Chevrolet Tahoe Unmarked Patrol/Investigations- Squad 104

2013 Dodge Durango Marked School Resource Officer- Squad 105





## **Patrol Division/Records Unit**

### **PATROL**

The Patrol Unit is the largest segment of the Fulton Police Department. It is led by Sgt. Dwayne Hamilton, and includes six patrol officers as well as four part-time officers.

It has an expansive range of duties based upon providing service and ensuring the safety of a broad range of citizens, visitors, and travelers within the City of Fulton and surrounding area.

In 2021 the Patrol Division responded to 5,249 requests for service that included 911 calls, medical emergencies, crimes in progress, citizen concerns, requests for assistance, vehicle crashes and a variety of other emergency and non-emergency requests.

The Patrol Division is focused on service with compassion, integrity, and professionalism, with safety and security as the goal.



### **RECORDS**

The Records Unit performs a wide variety of specialized, technical, office activities and supports service functions that assist the department.

It is staffed by one civilian employee. The Records Unit processes police officer crime reports and ensures the data is accurately identified and properly coded to meet state and federal Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) requirements. Crime reporting data is then retrieved for statistical reporting for internal and external law enforcement needs and public data requests.

Records Office Assistants work on the case management process with the Investigations Unit. They perform quality control measures to assure the proper management and consistency of case statuses and dispositions.

They assure that incident and arrest reports accurately reflect the report and UCR guidelines. They also organize and electronically prepare reports, supplemental reports, statements and other related report documents for submission to the city or county attorney's office for formal charging.

In addition, Records is responsible for completing FOIA requests, city licenses for alcohol sales, cannabis sales, video gaming and registrations of sexual offenders.

## **Investigations/ Whiteside County SWAT Team**

### **INVESTIGATIONS**

Chief Nick Neblung supervises the Fulton Police Department Investigations Unit.

The Investigations Unit includes:

One Part-time Investigator

One School Resource Officer

In 2021, the Investigations Unit reviewed cases forwarded from Patrol Officers, provided video/audio to other agencies and Courts.

Investigations handled multiple sexual assault and abuse cases, drug-related investigations, theft/burglary investigations, and supplemented patrol functions due to staffing issues during the year.

Investigations continue to work with other agencies, locally and federally, on cases as they impact the area.



### **WHITESIDE COUNTY SWAT TEAM**

The Fulton Police Department partners with Whiteside County Sheriff's Department and Prophetstown Police Department to provide critical incident and high-risk warrant service within Whiteside County.

There are officers from all of the listed jurisdictions assigned to the County SWAT Team. Assigned officers are full-time members of their respective departments and participate as additional duty.

The Fulton Police Department has four Officers and one Negotiator currently assigned to the Whiteside County SWAT Team. The Team has about 15 SWAT operators between all departments.

Team members are on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are selected based on exceptional work performance and competency.

The SWAT team responds to high-risk situations such as:

High-Risk Warrant Service

Barricaded Suspects

Hostage Situation

## Improvements and Capitals

During 2021, Fulton Police Department in serviced three (3) new 2021 Chevrolet PPV Tahoe's. This was mostly funded with trades of our current aging fleet and asset forfeiture funds. These new squad's graphics were chosen based on community feed back and involvement. They represent the colors of our local community school district and are each memorialized with the name of a fallen officer. They have been a great addition to the fleet and provide more room inside for storage of equipment, use of in-service technology, and officer comfort.

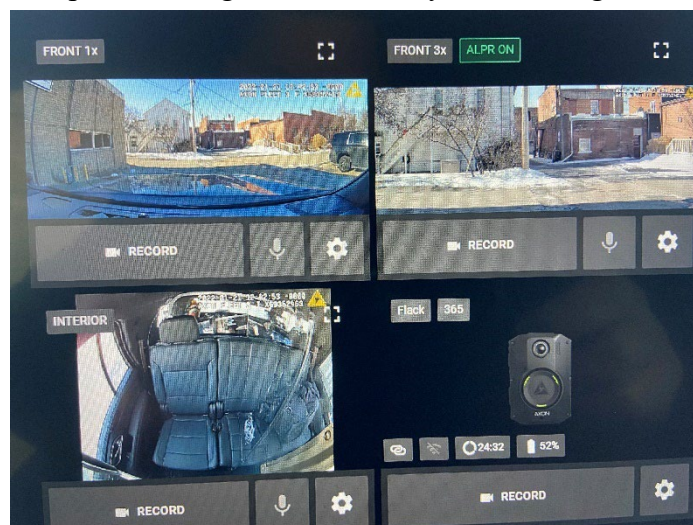


Each new squad and the unmarked 2019 Tahoe were equipped with new AXON in car video system, along with the implantation of the Body-Worn Cameras. In April, Fulton Police began the in-service of the body-worn cameras. This technology has the potential to promote officer



accountability and bolster community relations through transparency. It also provides key evidence that allows prosecutors to make more informed decisions in the interest of justice.

Additionally, internal affairs investigations conducted by the department will benefit from body-worn cameras. Video footage of incidents may allow the investigations to be completed with greater efficiency and thoroughness.



# DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

## Reportable Incident Activity By Day and Time 2021.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Totals
12:01 am-3:00am	6	7	8	8	14	28	23	46	6	6	6	8	166
3:01 am- 6:00 am	1	2	3	23	14	9	9	6	15	7	6	2	97
6:01 am- 9:00 am	7	16	10	13	3	12	8	22	5	7	12	18	133
9:01 am-12:00pm	14	21	38	14	7	15	24	16	9	4	22	16	200
12:01pm-3:00pm	22	12	21	9	19	25	28	18	10	22	12	22	220
3:01 pm-6:00pm	14	11	14	9	8	15	16	20	24	18	9	11	169
6:01 pm-9:00 pm	22	21	29	22	19	13	12	6	16	21	23	8	212
9:00pm-12:00am	15	15	12	38	28	17	42	28	25	23	17	19	279
Sun	8	7	20	3	19	12	12	18	4	17	8	5	133
Mon	8	14	26	30	18	22	18	23	8	4	31	20	222
Tue	26	22	13	22	16	14	30	27	9	15	15	7	216
Wed	17	16	7	12	17	12	26	26	17	13	14	17	194
Thur	14	15	12	21	10	18	25	31	20	17	8	17	208
Fri	14	17	18	18	19	18	30	25	26	14	14	16	229
Sat	14	14	39	30	13	42	21	12	26	28	17	22	278



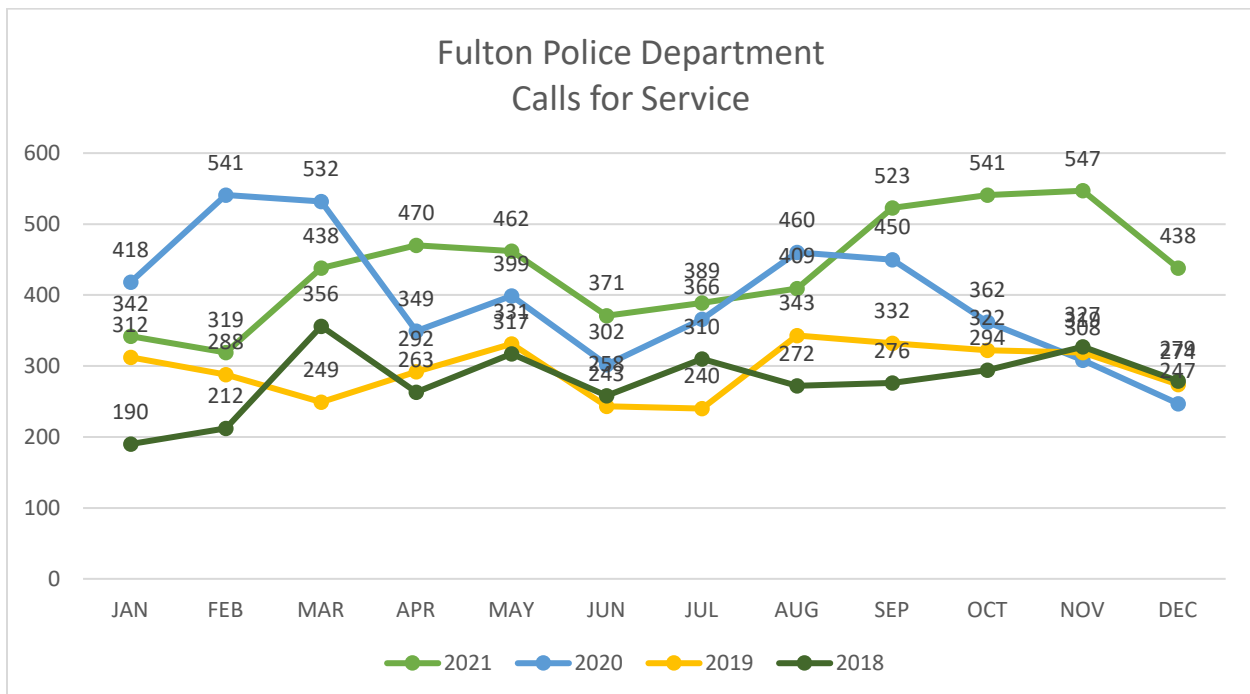


## CALLS FOR SERVICE

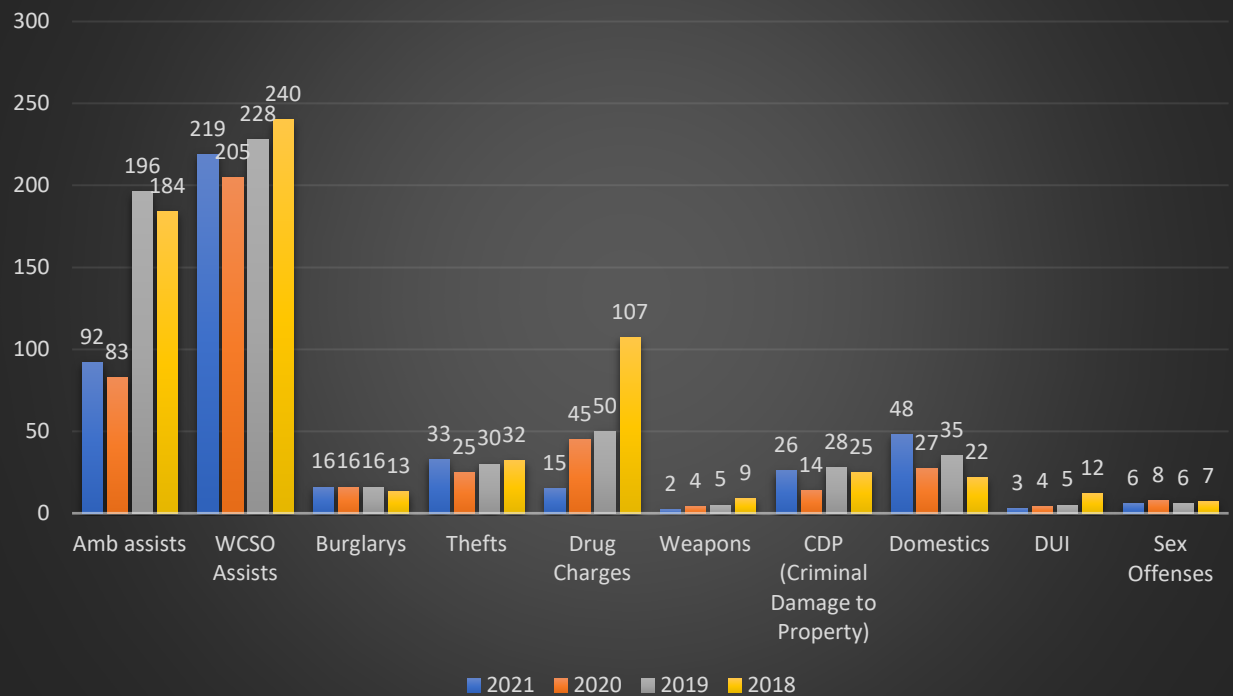
Calls for service can be initiated by an officer or advised to an Officer by a variety of means to include, but are not limited to, being dispatched by Whiteside or Clinton County communications, or approached in person. Calls for service vary in nature, severity, and level of resources needed to address the same. These calls encompass a wide variety of Police functions to include, but are not limited to, responses to crimes in progress, traffic crash investigations, disturbances, security checks, escorts, and other Officer-initiated activity.

In 2021, the officers of the Fulton Police Department responded to **5,249** calls for service, a **10.87% increase from 4,734 in 2020, and a 48.06% increase from 3,545 in 2019.**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Totals
<b>2021</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>5249</b>
2020	418	541	532	349	399	302	366	460	450	362	308	247	<b>4734</b>
2019	312	288	249	292	331	243	240	343	332	322	319	274	<b>3545</b>
2018	190	212	356	263	317	258	310	272	276	294	327	279	<b>3354</b>



## Fulton Police Department Year to Date Totals

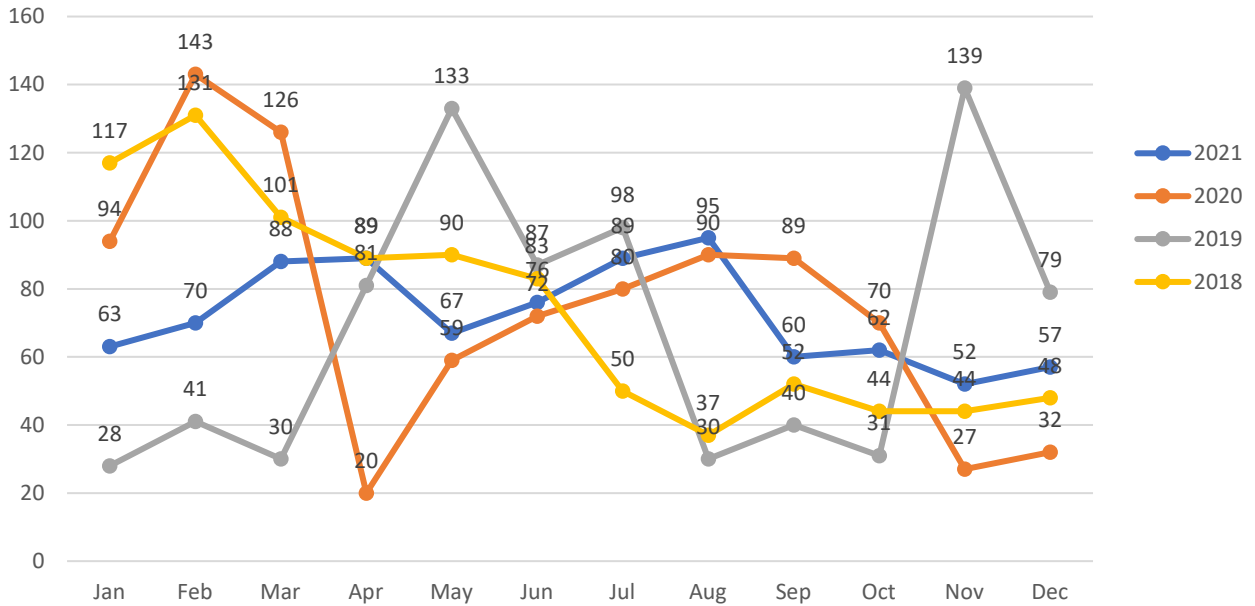


## Citations Issued/Traffic Stops

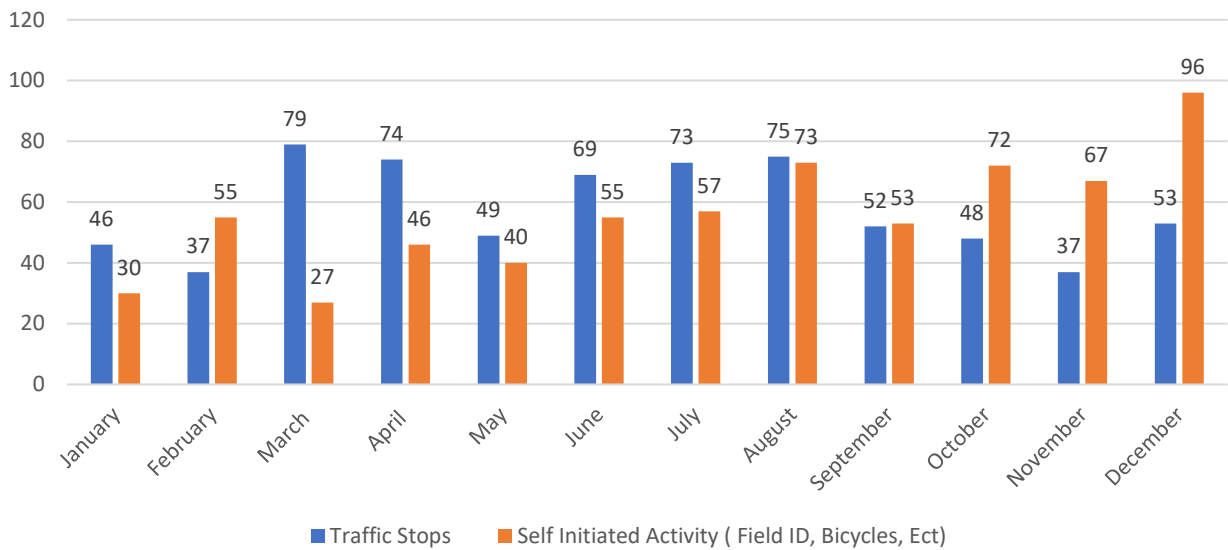
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2021	63	70	88	89	67	76	89	95	60	62	52	57	868
2020	94	143	126	20	59	72	80	90	89	70	27	32	902
2019	28	41	30	81	133	87	98	30	40	31	139	79	817
2018	117	131	101	89	90	83	50	37	52	44	44	48	886

# MONTHLY CITATION REPORT

CITATIONS INCLUDE WRITTEN WARNINGS, CITY ORDINANCE, AND STATE TRAFFIC CITATIONS

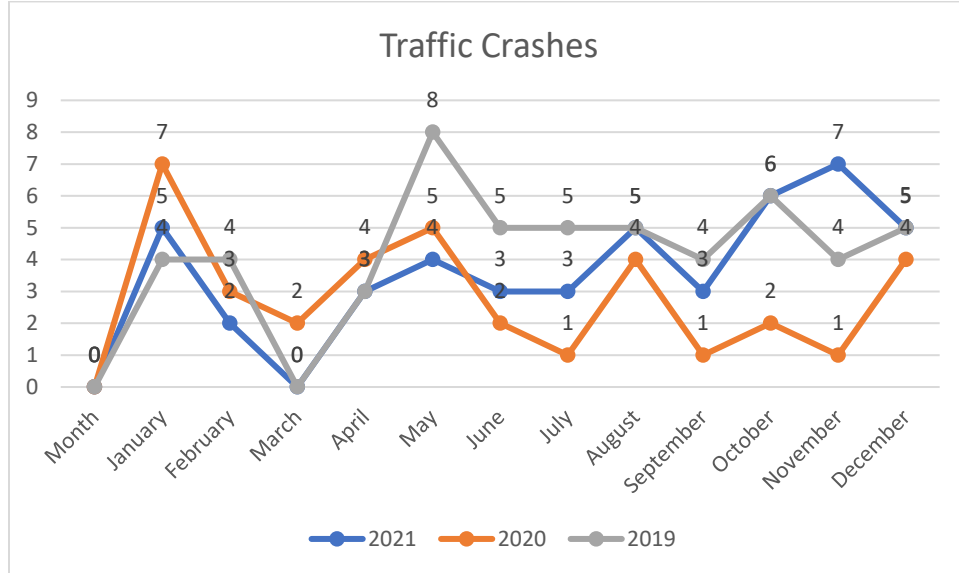


## Self Initiated Activity 2021



## Traffic Crashes

2021			
Month	Injury	Property Damage	Total
January	5	7	4
February	2	3	4
March	0	2	0
April	3	4	3
May	4	5	8
June	3	2	5
July	3	1	5
August	5	4	5
September	3	1	4
October	6	2	6
November	7	1	4
December	5	4	5
Totals	46	36	53



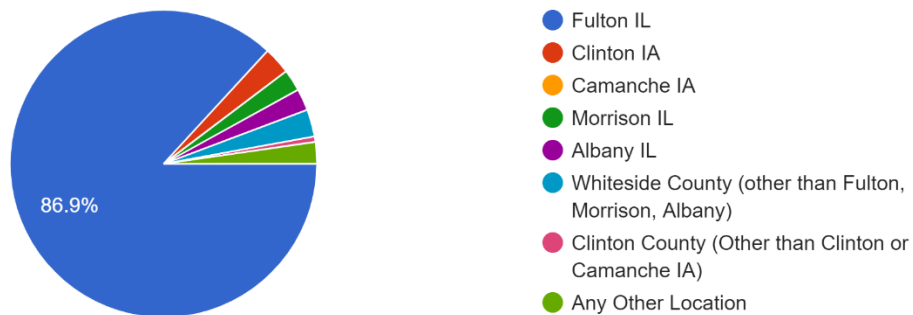


## Survey Results

In December of 2021, The Police Department and City posted a Survey in an effort to generate feedback from area residents. This Survey was meant to help facilitate the implementation of future department planning. Below are the results 2021 survey.

# 2021 Community Survey Fulton Police Department

Are you a resident of the City of Fulton? If not a resident what area best describes your location?  
175 responses

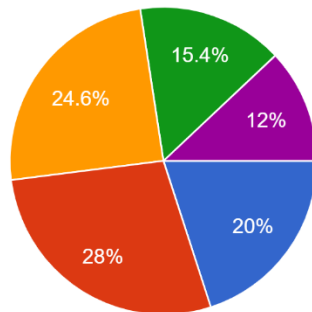


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**Please rate the seriousness of the following crimes and concerns in Fulton for the past five years.**

### Burglary

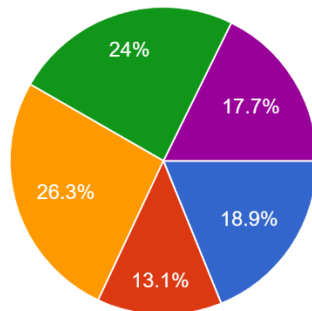
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

### Assaults

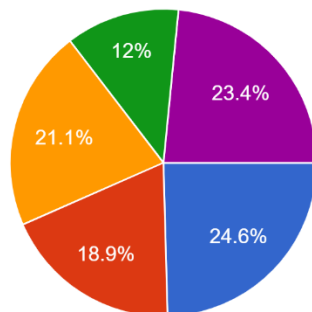
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

### Domestic Violence

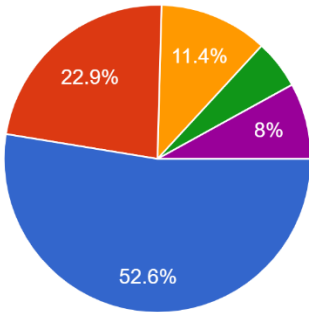
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

Unlawful Drug Use

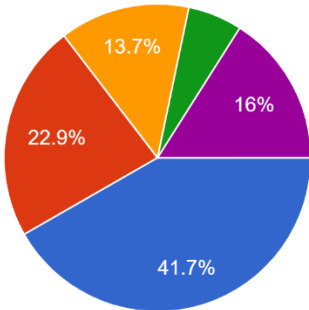
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

Unlawful Drug Use under age 21

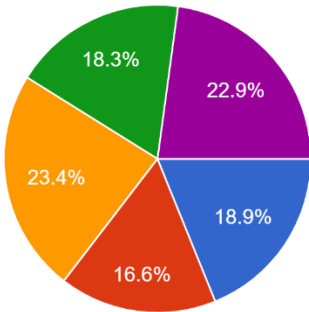
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

Unlawful weapons use

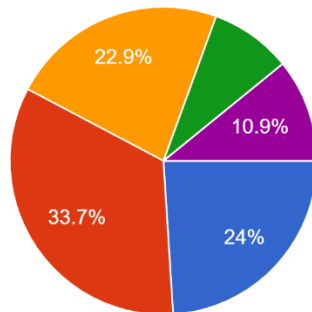
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

### Property Theft

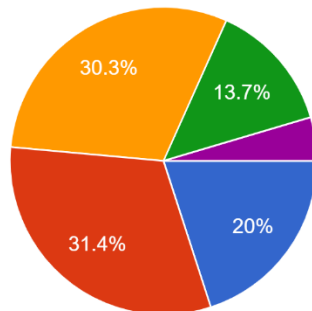
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

### Speeding motor vehicles

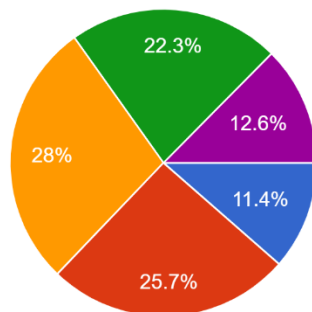
175 responses



- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know

### Other traffic issues

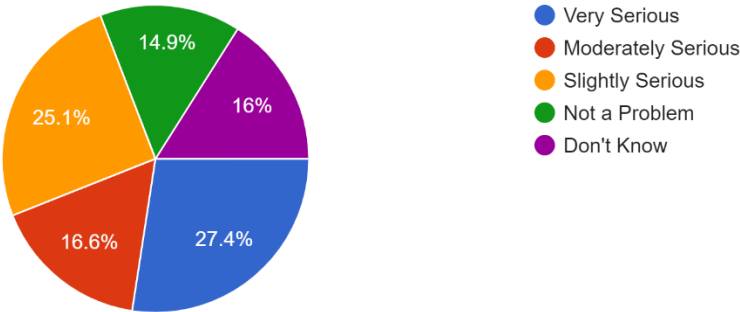
175 responses



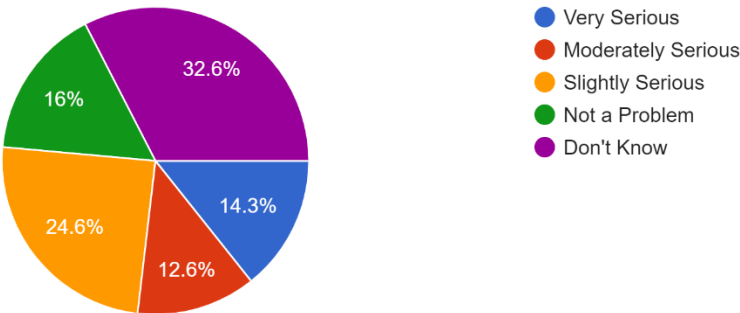
- Very Serious
- Moderately Serious
- Slightly Serious
- Not a Problem
- Don't Know



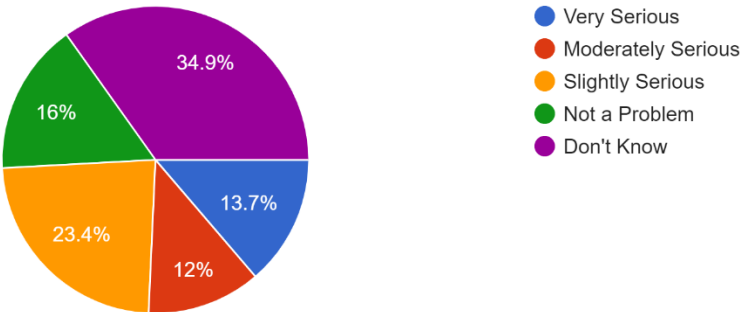
Drunk Driving  
175 responses



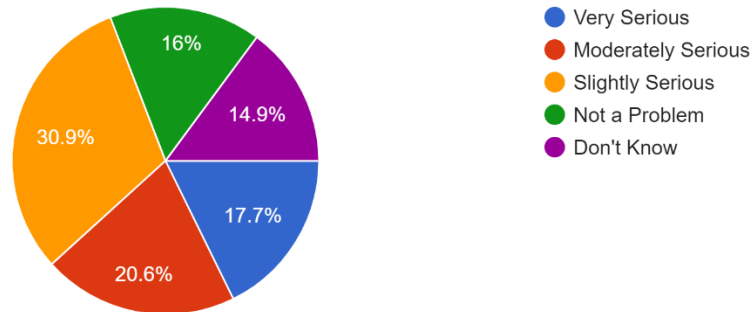
Credit Card/Check Fraud  
175 responses



Identity theft  
175 responses

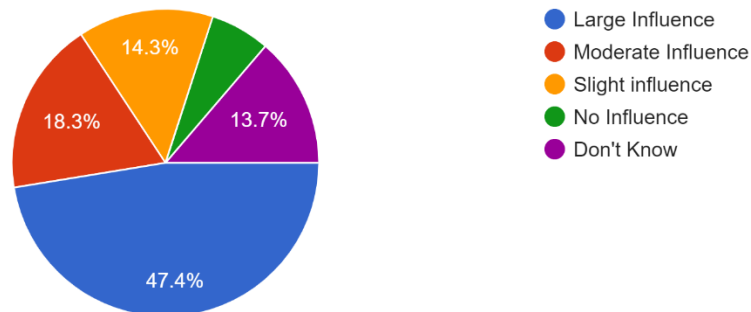


Vandalism  
175 responses



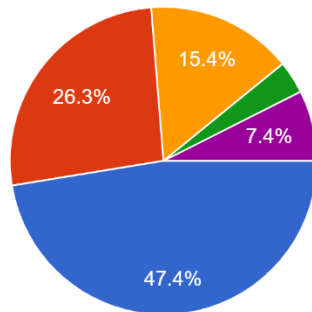
**In your opinion, how much have the following factors contributed to the crime in the City of Fulton over the past five years?**

Courts are too lenient  
175 responses



### Drug/Alcohol abuse

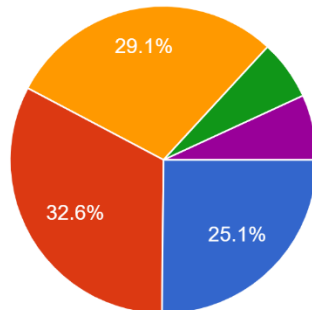
175 responses



- Large Influence
- Moderate Influence
- Slight influence
- No Influence
- Don't Know

### Lack of alternative activities for youth

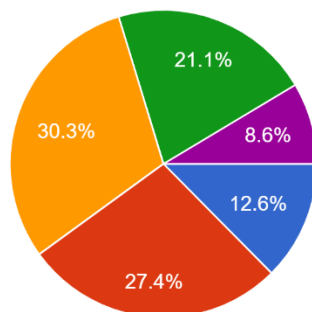
175 responses



- Large Influence
- Moderate Influence
- Slight influence
- No Influence
- Don't Know

### Lack of Education

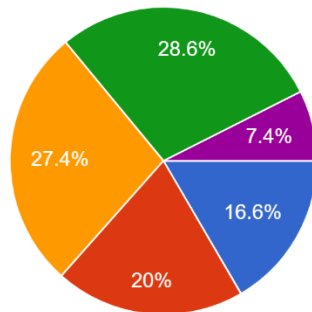
175 responses



- Large Influence
- Moderate Influence
- Slight influence
- No Influence
- Don't Know

### Lack of jobs/employment

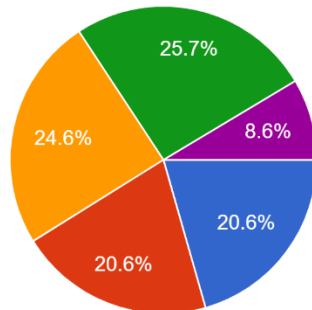
175 responses



- Large Influence
- Moderate Influence
- Slight influence
- No Influence
- Don't Know

### Limited police presence

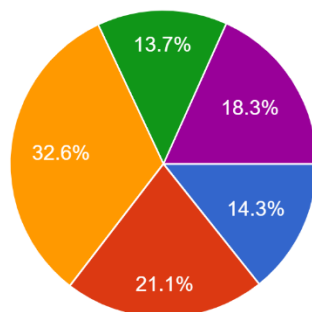
175 responses



- Large Influence
- Moderate Influence
- Slight influence
- No Influence
- Don't Know

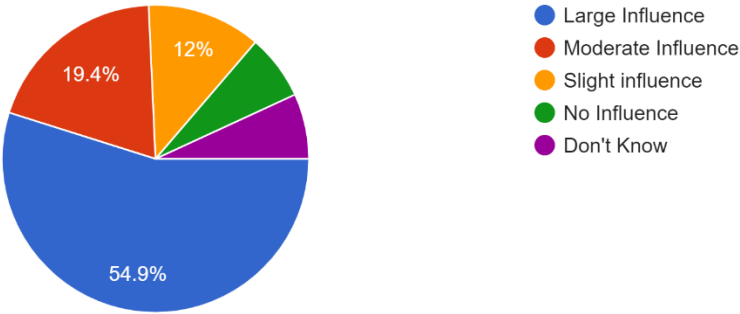
### Social programs/welfare

175 responses



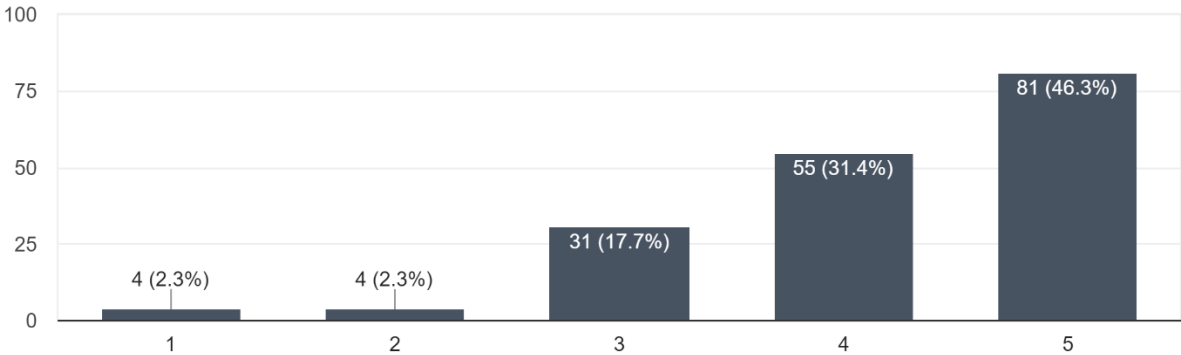
- Large Influence
- Moderate Influence
- Slight influence
- No Influence
- Don't Know

Lack of Respect  
175 responses



Satisfaction Survey

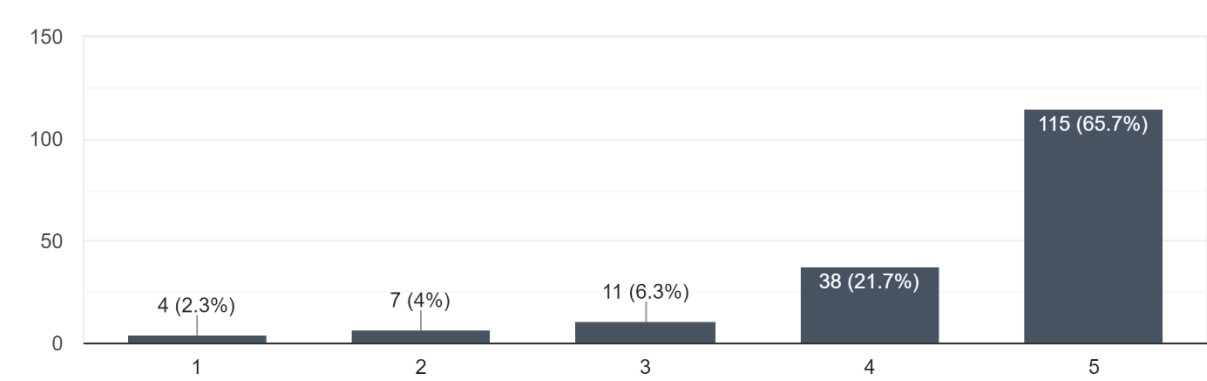
How satisfied are you with the visibility of the Fulton Police Department officers?  
175 responses





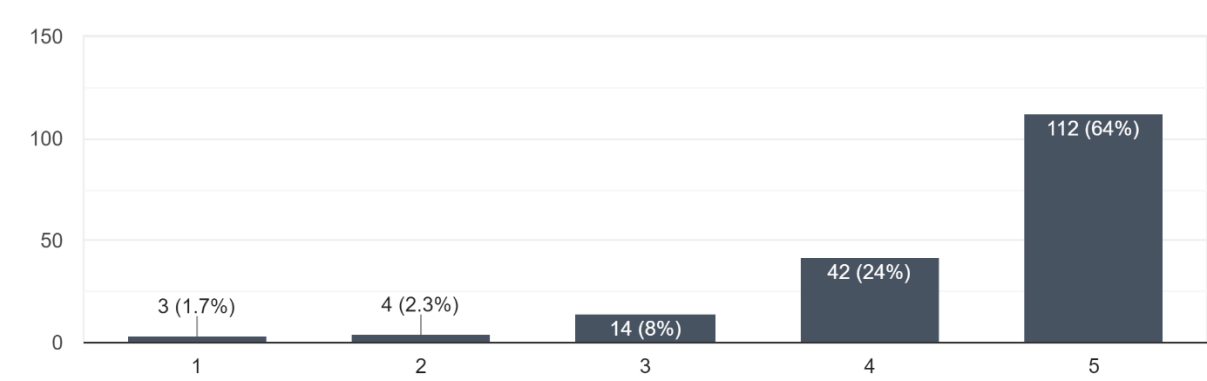
How satisfied are you with how professional the officers of the Fulton Police Department act?

175 responses



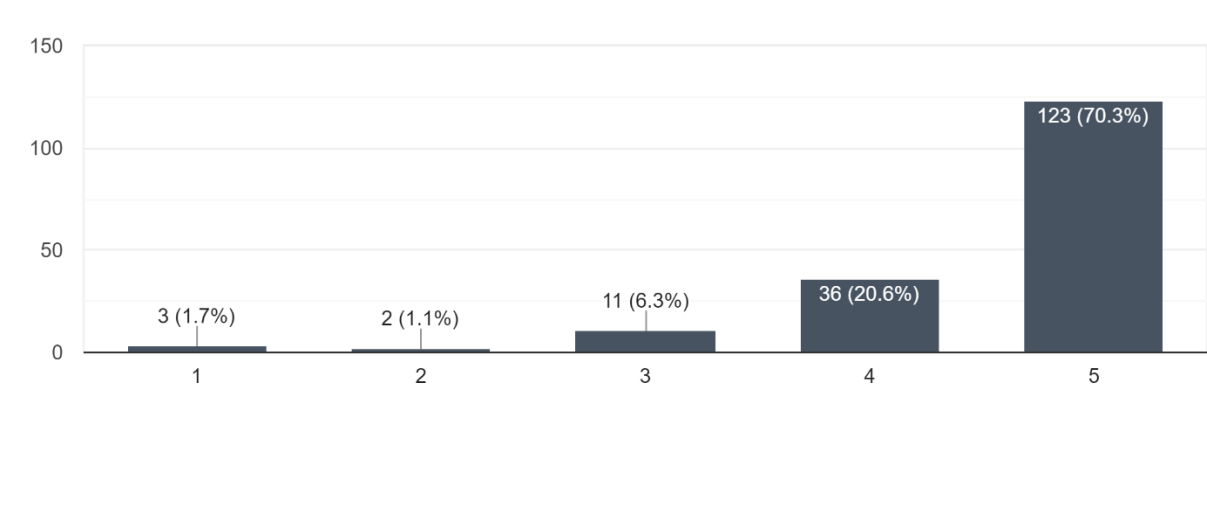
How satisfied are you with the competency of the officers of the Fulton Police Department?

175 responses



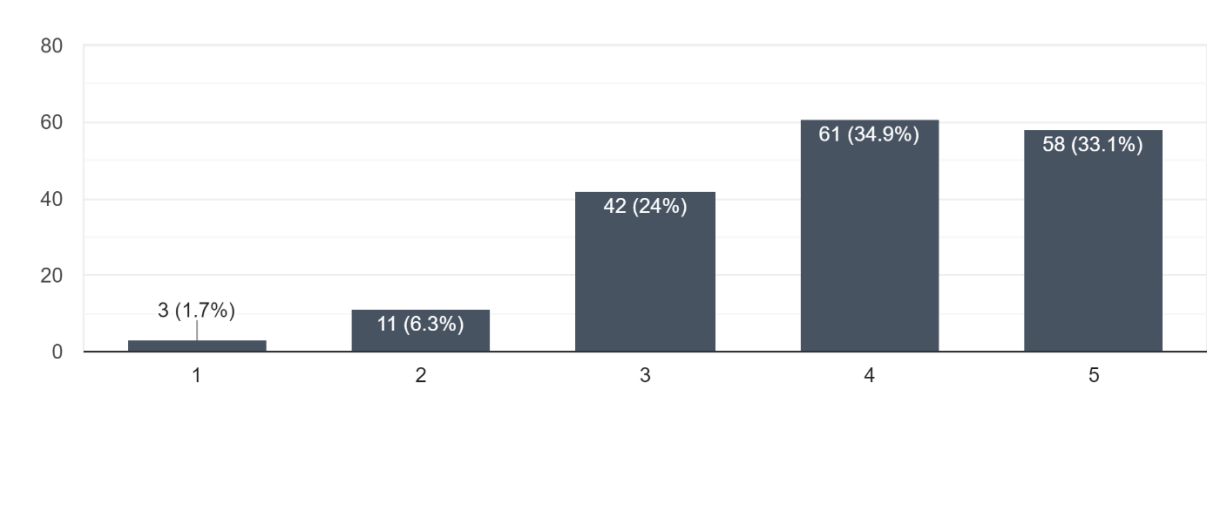
How satisfied are you with the courtesy of the officers of the Fulton Police Department?

175 responses



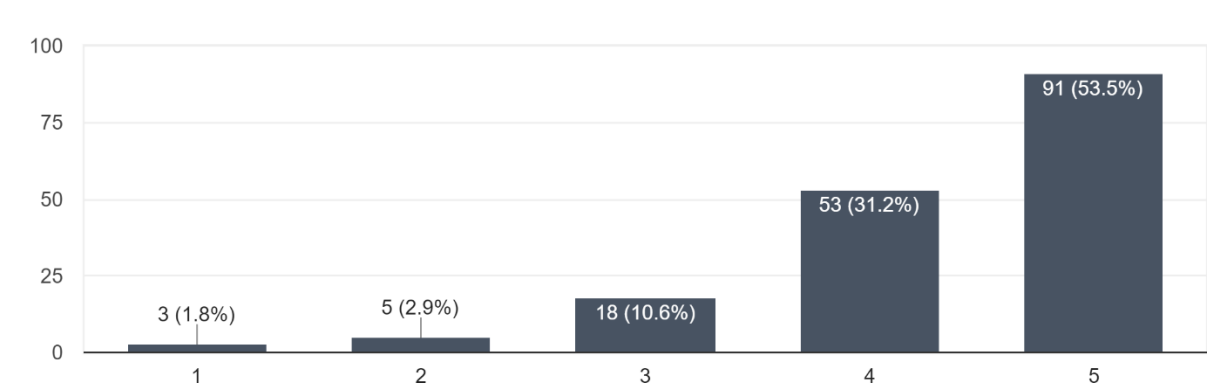
How safe do you feel walking alone in the City of Fulton at night?

175 responses



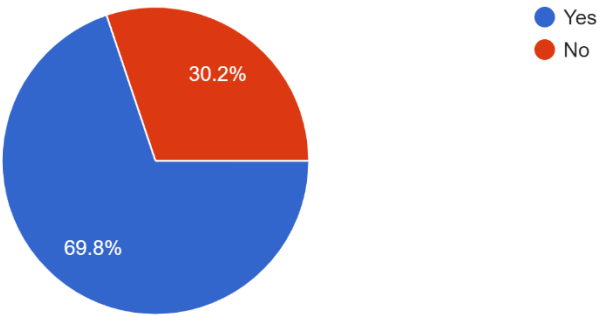
As a Fulton Resident, how safe do you feel in your home?

170 responses



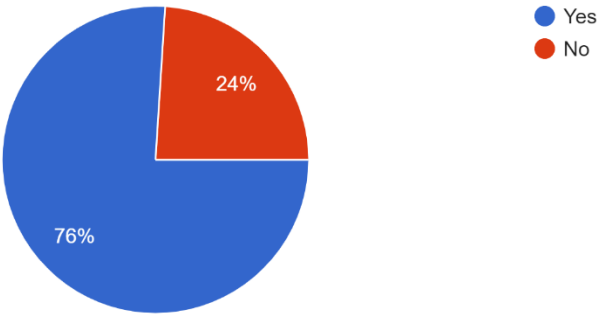
As a Fulton resident, is the Police presence adequate in your neighborhood?

169 responses



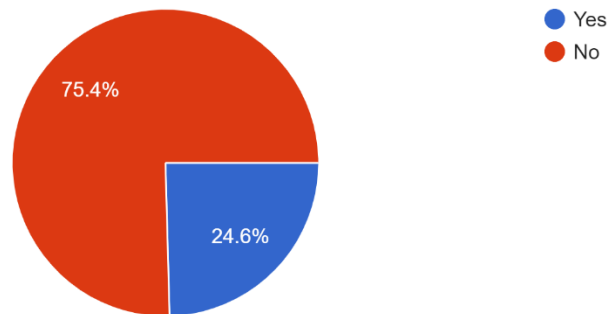
Is traffic enforcement adequate in the City of Fulton?

175 responses



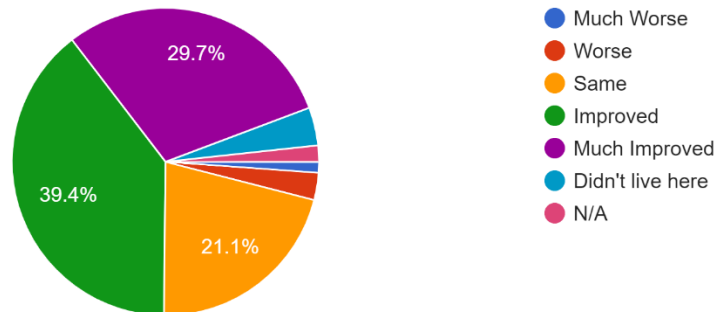
Have you ever been a victim of a crime in the City of Fulton?

175 responses



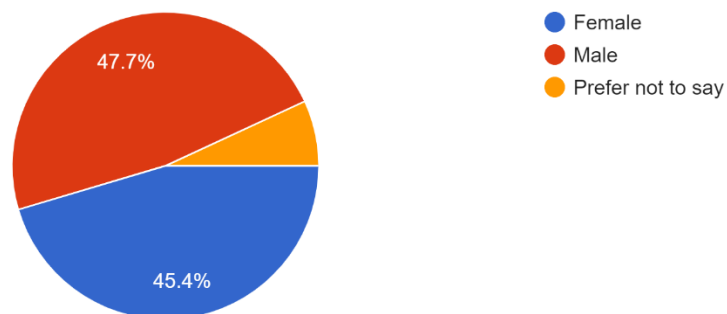
How do you feel the Fulton Police Department has changed over the past 5 years?

175 responses



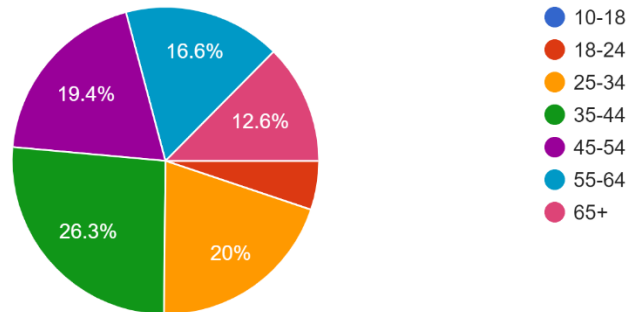
Male or Female

174 responses



Age:

175 responses



## Community Policing

Throughout 2021 Officers participated in multiple activities and events. Officers attended different churches and met with local members and clergy. Coffee with a Cop, Good Deed Awards, Turkey Stops for good driving behavior, Toy Drive, and sponsored National Night Out again for the first time in almost 15 years. Each of these events provide our staff the opportunity to meet new people, make some new friends and build on the concepts of community policing.











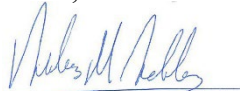


## Conclusion

This report is meant to provide the reader with information regarding the various units and activities within the Fulton Police Department and give them a glimpse into our daily operations and duties during 2021. The Fulton Police Department continues to adapt to the changing demands and trends in Law Enforcement and will work diligently to maintain a partnership with the great citizens of our community.

This report also contains information regarding crime trends in the community. We will continue to serve the citizens of Fulton to the best of our ability, by sharing data and activities with the community to keep all as informed as possible. We will continue to remain diligent in addressing crime and safety issues throughout the City of Fulton. We are here for you!

From,



Chief of Police

Nicholas Neblung

And all the members of the Fulton Police Department



Sgt Dwayne Hamilton



Jeremy Leitzen



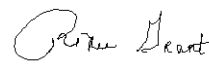
Adam Wherry



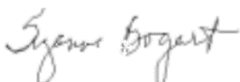
Corie Flack



Jacob Willging



Renee Grant



Suzie Bogart



Ethan Jones



Benjamin Eshelman