



Annual Report

2020

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Introduction

Each year, the Fulton Police Department gathers information on the daily operations, incidents, and activities. This year, we will begin the yearly reporting to provide transparency to the public about the Department's performance, accomplishments, organizational changes, and crime trends.

Since its inception, FPD has developed into an area recognized agency that has a strong partnership with the community and those we serve. FPD currently employs 6 full-time, sworn personnel (with an authorized, full-time staffing of 9), 6 part-time, sworn personnel, and 1 civilian Administrative Assistant.



In 2020, FPD was functioning in three noted Units: The Records Unit, Investigative Unit, and Patrol Unit. The Records Unit handles records, FOIA requests, city ordinances, liquor and cannabis licensing, and crime reporting. The Investigative Unit is responsible for the SRO, case follow-up and general crimes investigations. The Patrol Unit consists of the three, marked patrol units and the K-9 services.

FPD services 2.8 square miles and a population of approximately 3,500 residents. FPD covers the IL Rt 84 and US Hwy 136 intersections along with the IL Rt 84 and US Hwy 30 intersections. Its FY19/20 operating budget was \$852,492.00 and FY20/21 operating budget is currently \$813,785.00, a 4.5% decrease in operating costs from the previous year. The Police Department offset some general fund expenditures through the receiving of grants, drug forfeitures, and donations.



City of Fulton Police Department

To Serve & Protect

Nicholas Neblung
Interim Chief of Police

Dwayne Hamilton
Sergeant

415 11th Ave
Fulton, IL 61252
815-589-3617
Fax-815-589-2033

January 18, 2021

Mayor Ottens, Fulton City Council, and Members of the Community:

It is my pleasure and honor to report the Fulton Police Departments 2020 accomplishments. This report will provide an overview of the operations, calls, and activities over the last year.

It was another busy year for the Police Department. Our Officers responded to more than 4,700 calls for service in 2020. While this is a record number of calls for service, we have been presented with challenges that no one could have imagined at the start of 2020. Between the ongoing and sustained effects of the COVID-19 pandemic within the Department and the City, this has affected our operations in many ways. We have seen many of our staff out due to exposures and as of late 2020, testing positive for the COVID-19 virus. We continue to push forward and try to reduce the risk of infections with the use of personal protective equipment and social distancing when appropriate.

Training has taken a back seat during much of this year. Officers are doing their best to complete all necessary and mandated training online. We move into 2021 with hopes that officers can once again find the ability to get more in-depth and hands-on training.

I look forward to 2021 and the challenges it will present. As a Department, we will continue to strive to be better, more visible, and to build on the community relationships we hold dearly.

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

-Carl W. Buehner

Sincerely,

Nicholas M Neblung
Interim Chief of Police

Fulton Police Department Staff



Interim Chief of Police
Nicholas Neblung



Sergeant
Dwayne Hamilton



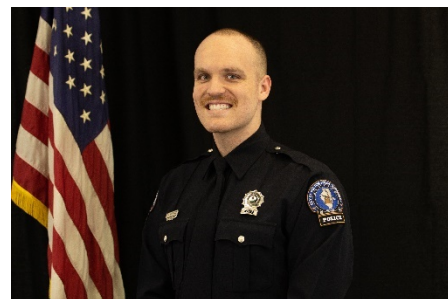
School Resource Officer
Jeremy Leitzen



Officer
Adam Wherry



Officer
Corie Flack



Officer
Jacob Willging

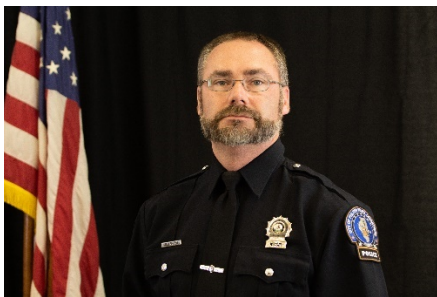


Administrative Assistant
Renee Grant

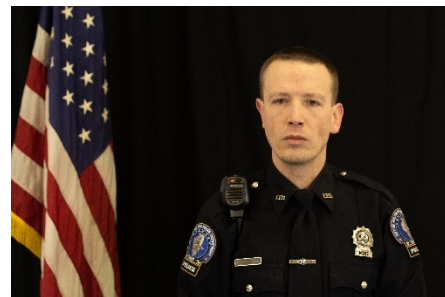
Part time Officers

Chad Hermes
Susie Bogart
Nate Petersen
Shaun Magill
Luke Guyton
Madison Howard

Separations/Retirements



Officer
Casey Simpson
Summer 2020



Officer
Courtney Grinnall
Summer 2020



Chief of Police
Dave Bartels
December 2020



K-9
Woz
December 2020



Police Vehicles

2010 Ford F-150 Pickup Investigations/Administrative

2013 Dodge Durango School Resource Officer

2015 Dodge Charger Marked Patrol

2016 Dodge Charger Marked Patrol

2017 Dodge Charger Marked Patrol

2018 Ford Explorer Marked Patrol/K9

2019 Chevrolet Tahoe Unmarked Patrol/Investigations

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 five patrol officers as well as five 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 2020 the Patrol Division responded to 4,734 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

Sgt. Nick Neblung supervises the Fulton Police Department Investigations Unit.

The Investigations Unit includes:

One Full-time Investigator

One Part-time Investigator

One School Resource Officer

In 2020, 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

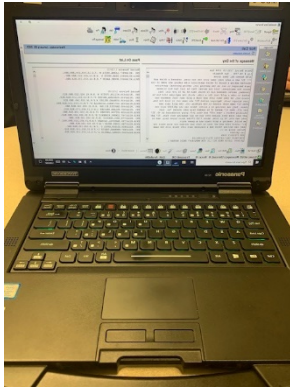
Barricaded Suspects

Hostage Situation

In 2020, the team underwent approximately 100 hours of specialized training in emergency response, weapons skills, and tactics.

Improvements and Capitals

During this year, the planned capital improvement included the purchase and outfitting of new in-squad computers. Replaced were the Panasonic Toughbook Model CF-31 with the latest model the Panasonic Toughbook Model CF-55. This upgrade brought the squads up to date with the latest versions of the Windows operating system and added GPS tracking on the new computers.

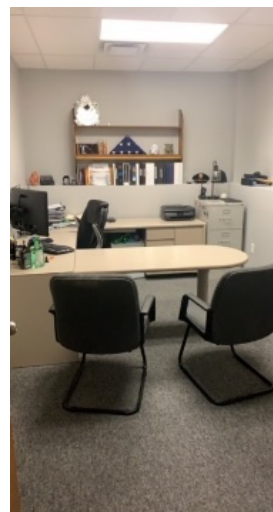


In addition, each of the squads was upgraded with a new docking station to facilitate the new computers. These docking stations included new outside-mounted antennas and charging devices for each squad. This upgrade was a major step forward in communication and safety for our officers. Since in-servicing, we have noted minimal connectivity issues with the new computers and have been able to locate and identify our officers in the event of emergency calls. This has been beneficial for outside agencies and

dispatch when Fulton Officers have been involved in active situations and backup has been requested to respond quickly and gently.



Upgrades were facilitated to the offices and interview rooms in the months of November and December. The Police Department offices were repainted, carpet replaced, and new-to-us but used office furniture located and procured. Locations of offices were moved and a better flow of workspace and daily operations was able to be obtained with these upgrades. These improvements were financed through the yearly donation of interest earned on the monies from the Quad Cities Community Foundation “Fulton Policeman’s Fund”, donation of time and services of outside individuals, and the donation of time and labor from the Officers, their family members, and support staff.



DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Reportable Incident Activity By Day and Time 2020.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Totals
12:01 am-3:00am	14	18	36	2	12	20	19	19	27	20	2	2	191
3:01 am- 6:00 am	6	15	3	0	7	5	3	2	7	5	2	1	56
6:01 am- 9:00 am	16	53	9	2	8	4	4	10	4	2	18	10	140
9:01 am-12:00pm	19	25	15	7	11	11	12	11	22	17	7	11	168
12:01pm-3:00pm	27	16	18	17	14	8	13	19	14	7	26	7	186
3:01 pm-6:00pm	26	40	11	13	21	15	21	23	16	10	9	5	210
6:01 pm-9:00 pm	29	34	64	1	18	32	16	25	26	33	5	10	293
9:00pm-12:00am	22	44	48	3	18	35	40	32	24	25	8	8	307
Sun	14	40	25	8	16	18	19	39	17	18	11	9	234
Mon	18	22	23	7	6	16	10	12	20	16	17	16	183
Tue	15	15	31	5	10	16	10	7	22	7	3	4	145
Wed	33	30	37	11	12	15	13	6	25	10	3	6	201
Thur	31	28	21	2	14	19	14	15	18	13	12	10	197
Fri	23	51	44	3	20	23	29	14	19	28	13	4	271
Sat	25	43	23	8	30	23	33	48	19	27	18	5	302

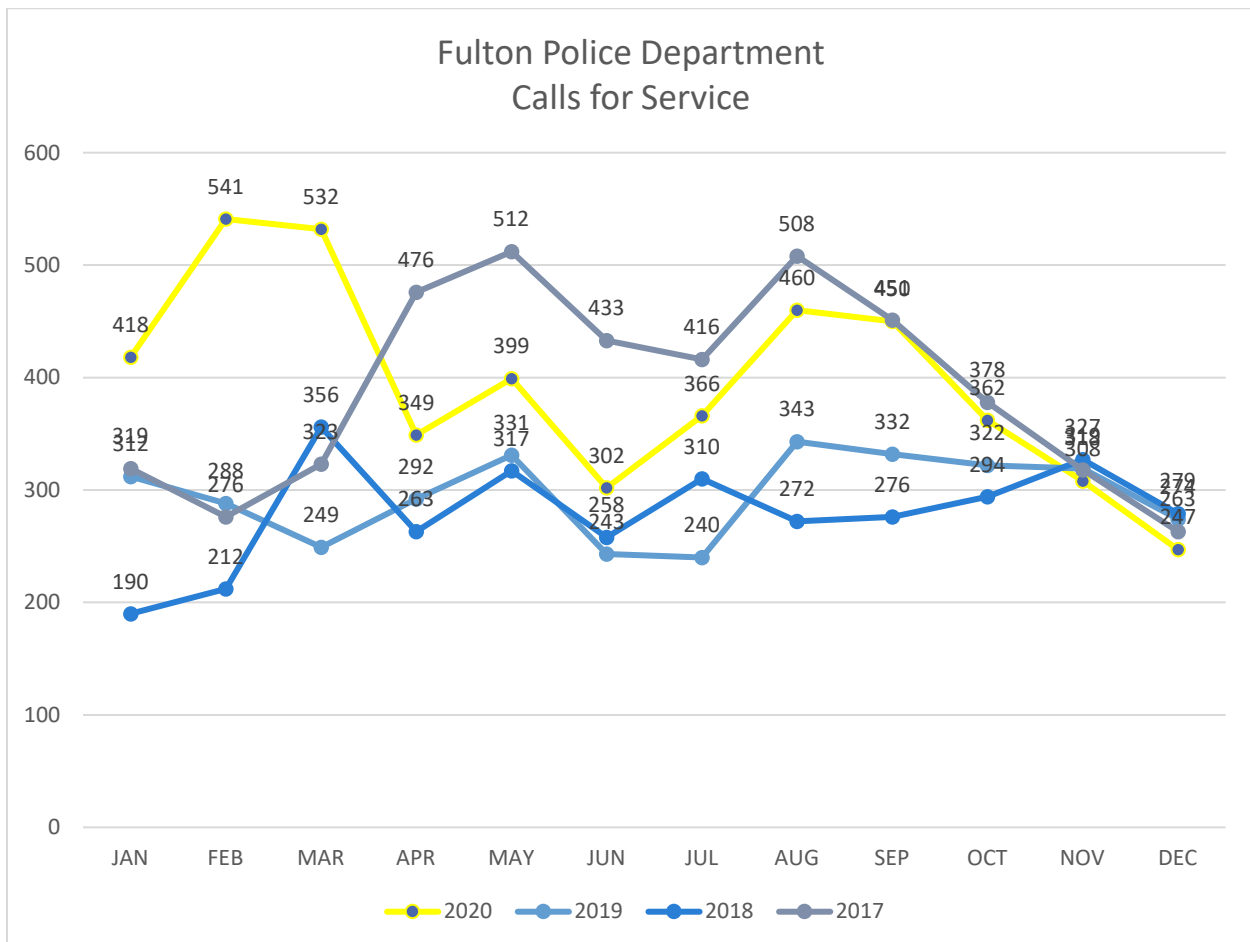


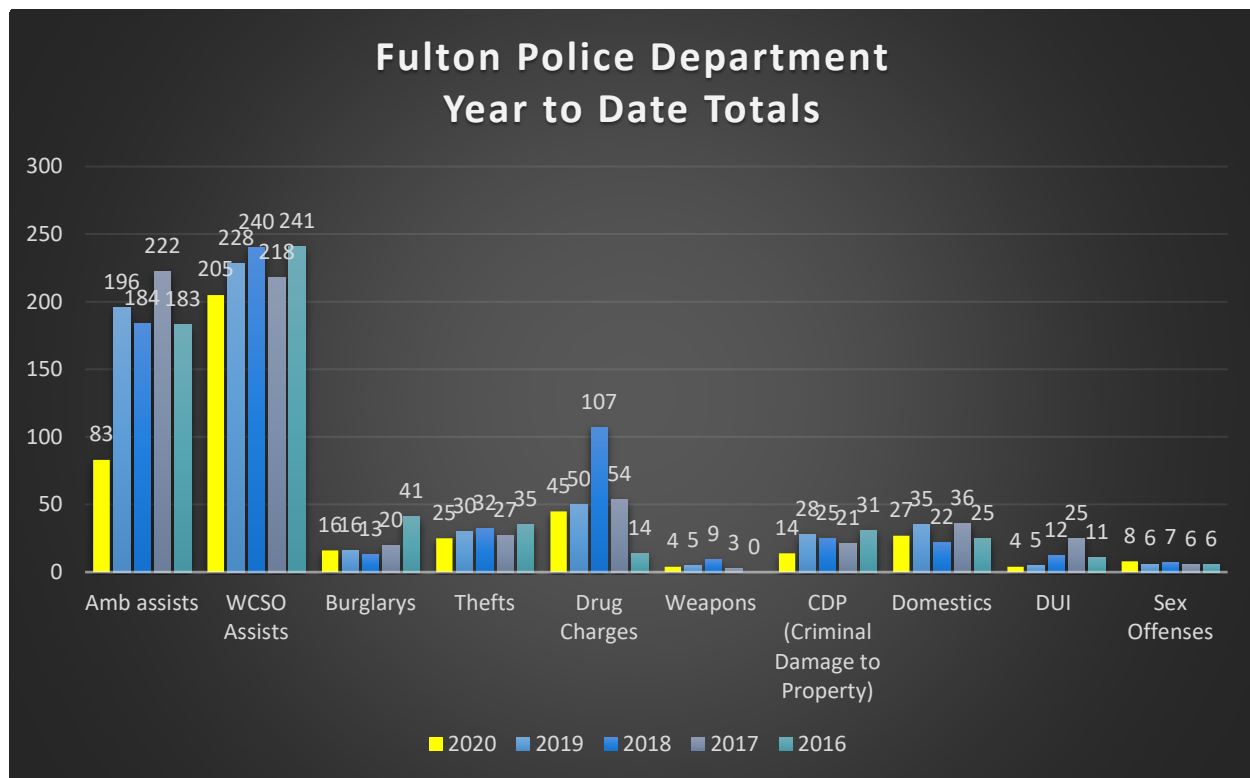
CALLS FOR SERVICE

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 2020, the officers of the Fulton Police Department responded to **4,734** calls for service, a **33.54% increase from 3,545 in 2019.**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Totals
2020	418	541	532	349	399	302	366	460	450	362	308	247	4734
2019	312	288	249	292	331	243	240	343	332	322	319	274	3545
2018	190	212	356	263	317	258	310	272	276	294	327	279	3354
2017	319	276	323	476	512	433	416	508	451	378	318	263	4673



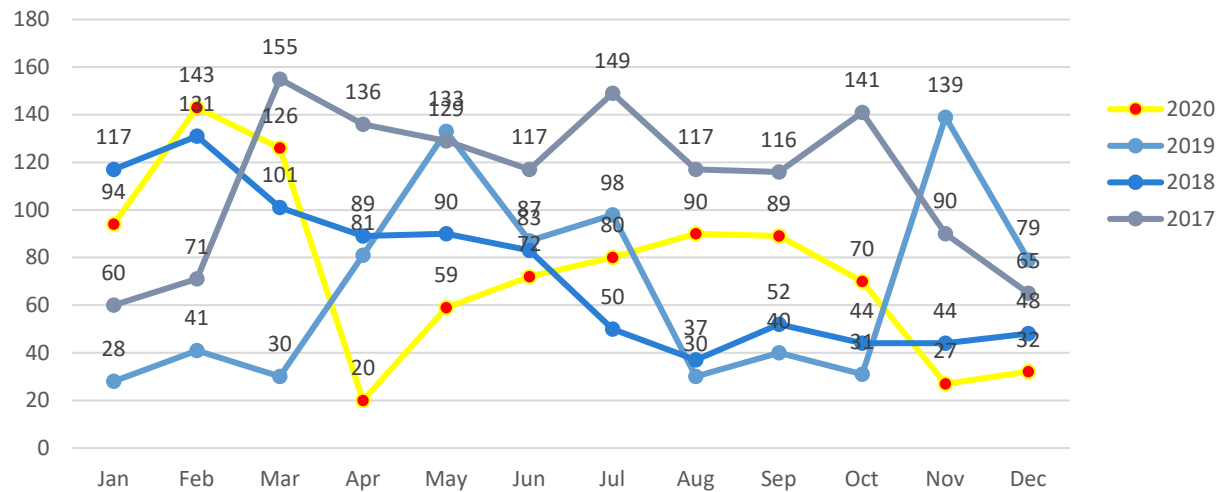


Citations Issued/Traffic Stops

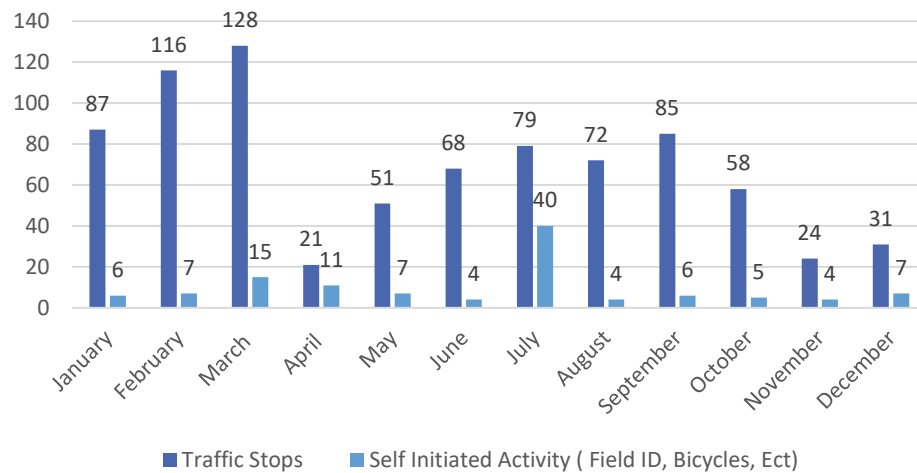
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TotalS
2020	94	143	126	20	59	72	80	90	89	70	27	32	902
2019	28	41	30	81	133	87	98	30	40	31	139	79	817
2018	117	131	101	89	90	83	50	37	52	44	44	48	886
2017	60	71	155	136	129	117	149	117	116	141	90	65	1346

MONTHLY CITATION REPORT

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

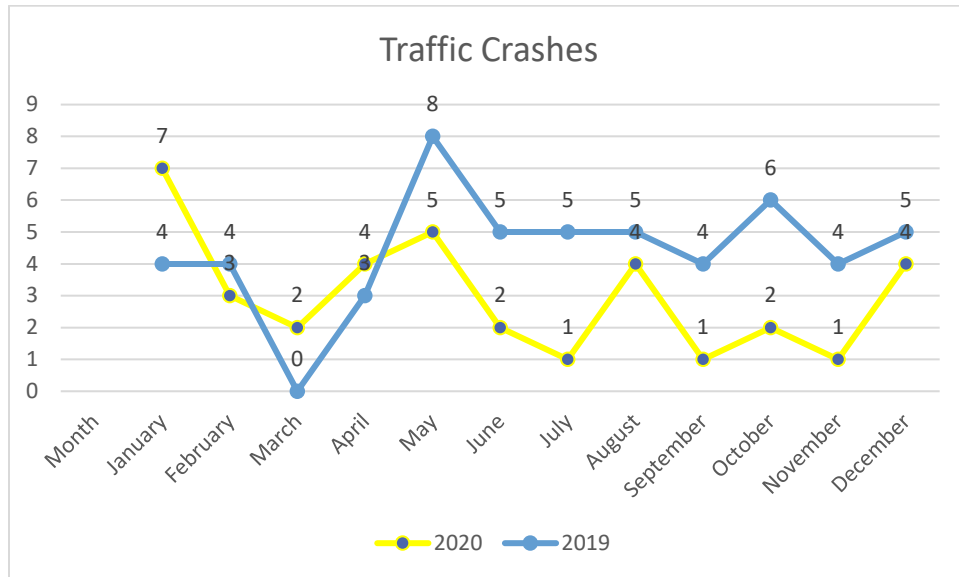


Self Initiated Activity 2020



Traffic Crashes

2020			
Month	Injury	Property Damage	Total
January	1	6	7
February	0	3	3
March	0	2	2
April	0	4	4
May	2	3	5
June	1	1	2
July	1	0	1
August	3	1	4
September	0	1	1
October	0	2	2
November	0	1	1
December	0	4	4
Totals	8	28	36

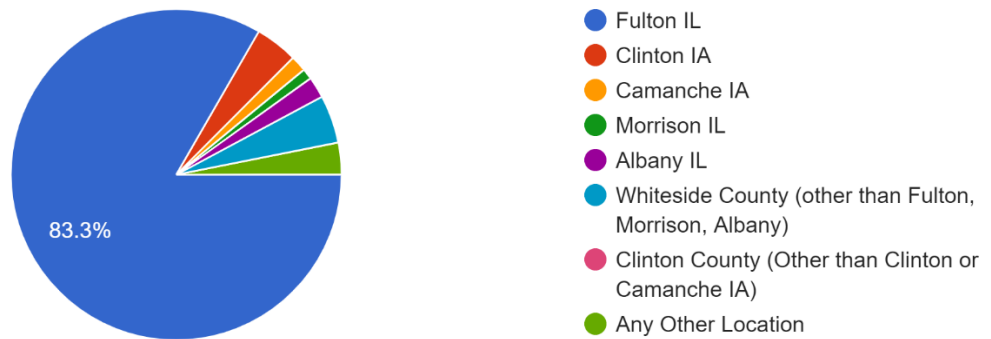


Survey Results

In December of 2020, 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 some noted areas from that survey.

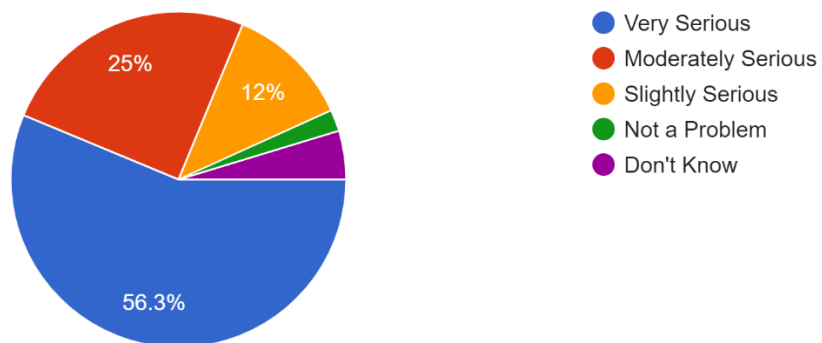
Are you a resident of the City of Fulton? If not a resident what area best describes your location?

192 responses

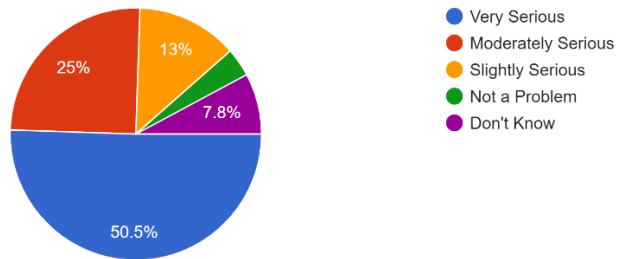


Unlawful Drug Use

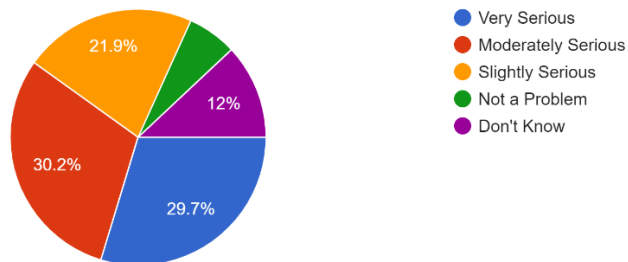
192 responses



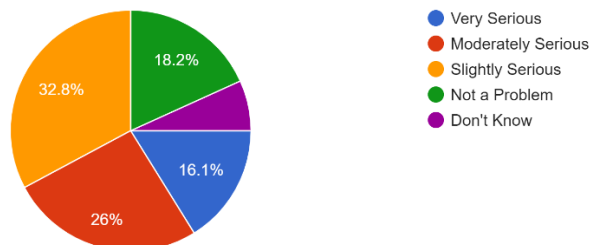
Unlawful Drug Use under age 21
192 responses



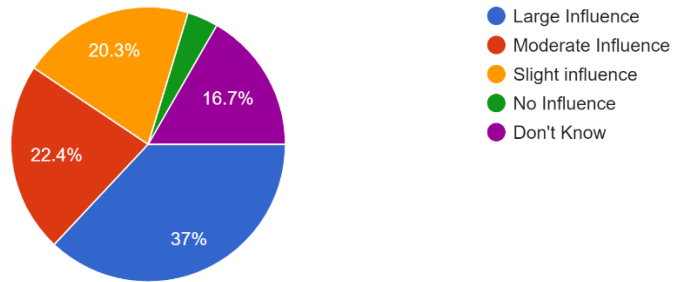
Property Theft
192 responses



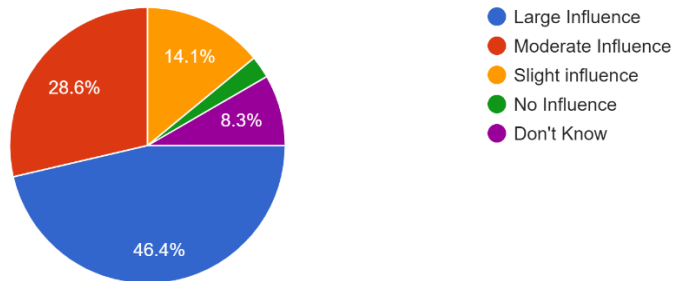
Speeding motor vehicles
192 responses



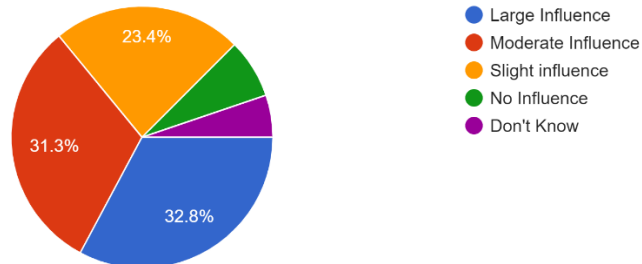
Courts are too lenient
192 responses



Drug/Alcohol abuse
192 responses

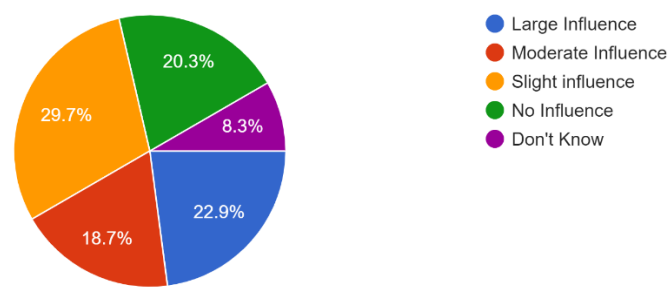


Lack of alternative activities for youth
192 responses



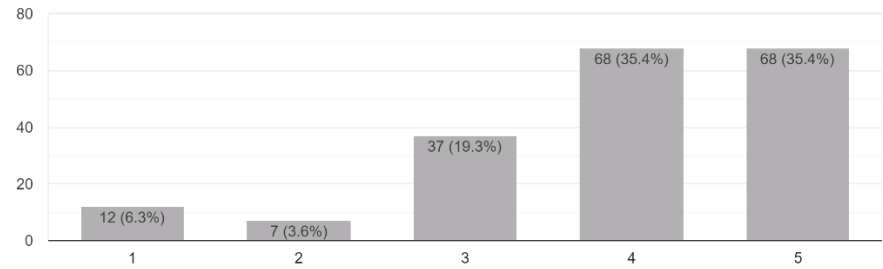
Limited police presence

192 responses



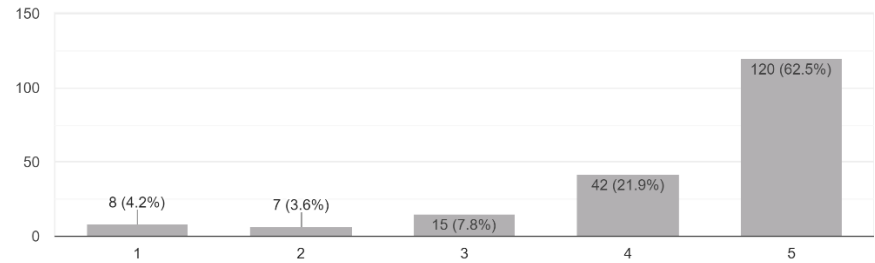
How satisfied are you with the visibility of the Fulton Police Department officers?

192 responses



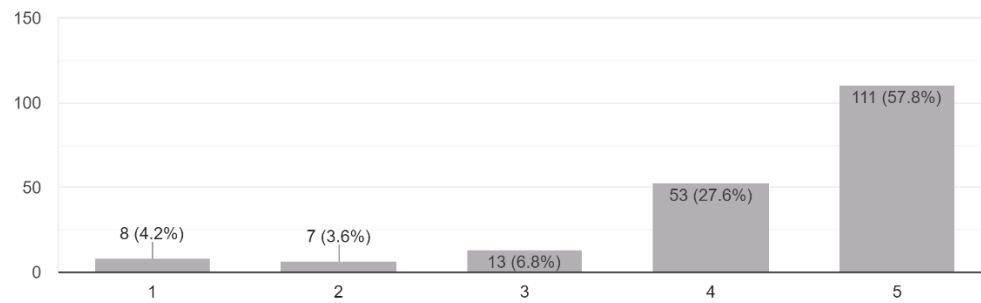
How satisfied are you with how professional the officers of the Fulton Police Department act?

192 responses



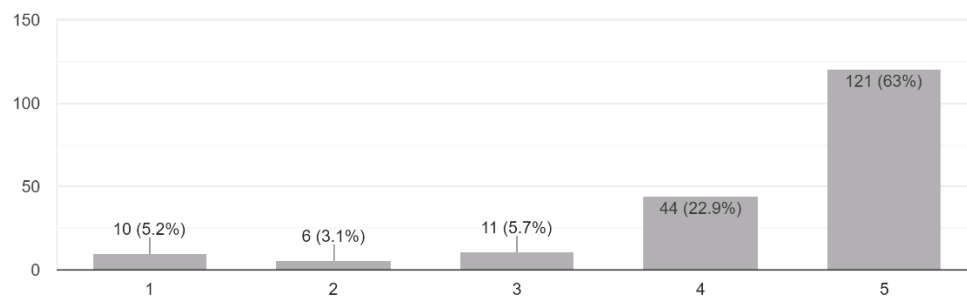
How satisfied are you with the competency of the officers of the Fulton Police Department?

192 responses



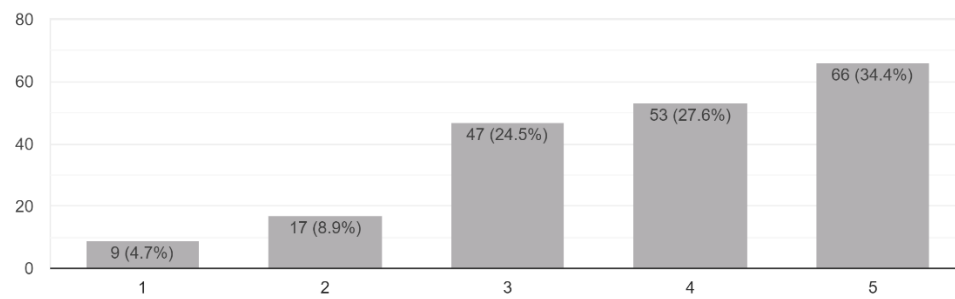
How satisfied are you with the courtesy of the officers of the Fulton Police Department?

192 responses



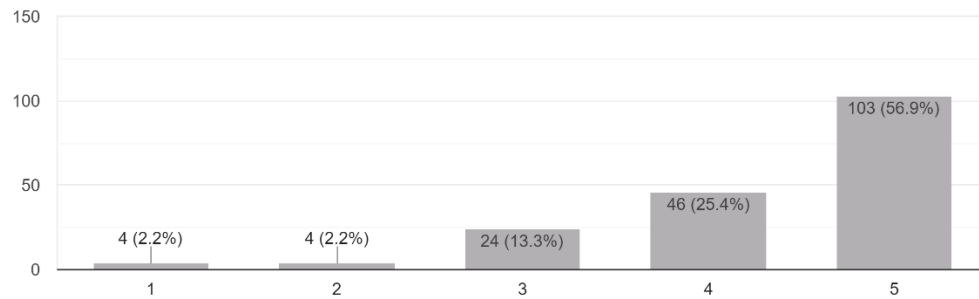
How safe do you feel walking alone in the City of Fulton at night?

192 responses



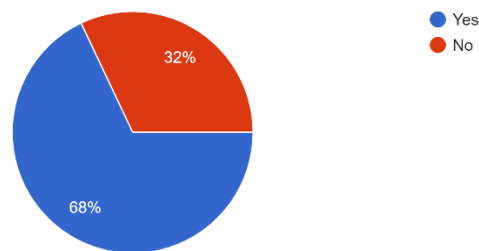
As a Fulton Resident, how safe do you feel in your home?

181 responses



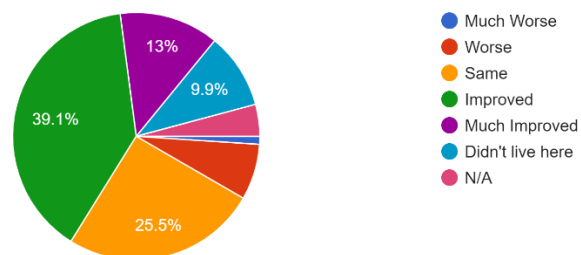
As a Fulton resident, is the Police presence adequate in your neighborhood?

181 responses



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

192 responses



These graphs represent 192 responses and will be the building blocks for the future of the Fulton Police Department.

NATIONAL INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM (NIBRS)

The Future of Crime Reporting

In December of 2020, the Fulton Police Department began submitting crime statistics to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). NIBRS was developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to improve the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement.

NIBRS captures details on each crime incident as well as on separate offenses within the same incident. Unlike data previously reported through the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program, NIBRS goes much deeper because of its ability to provide circumstances and context for crimes like location, time of day, and whether the incident was cleared.

It can provide more useful statistics to promote constructive discussion, measured planning, and informed policing. When used to its full potential, NIBRS provides greater specificity in reporting offenses, collects more detailed information, provides greater analytic flexibility, and helps give context to specific crime problems such as drug/narcotics and sex offenses, as well as modern crime issues like animal cruelty, identity theft, and computer hacking.

Some moments from the year 2020



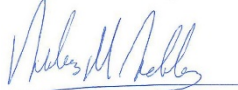


Conclusion

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 2020. 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,



Interim Chief of Police

Nicholas Neblung

And all the members of the Fulton Police Department



Sgt Dwayne Hamilton



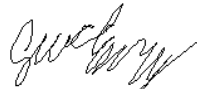
Jeremy Leitzen



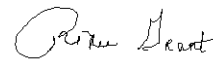
Adam Wherry



Corie Flack



Jacob Willging



Renee Grant