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# DUBUQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## ANNUAL REPORT



**The goal of the City's approach to public safety is to make Dubuque the safest community possible with the understanding that community safety is not just about injury prevention and crime prevention; it is about increasing well-being and building a vibrant, engaged, and equitable community.**

Working to ensure residents experience an increased sense of well-being, a sustainable quality of life, a reduction in the numbers and cost of injuries, the preservation of income and assets, and improved perceptions of safety is a top priority for Dubuque city government.

**Dubuque has had a **29% reduction in overall crime** from 2015-2023**



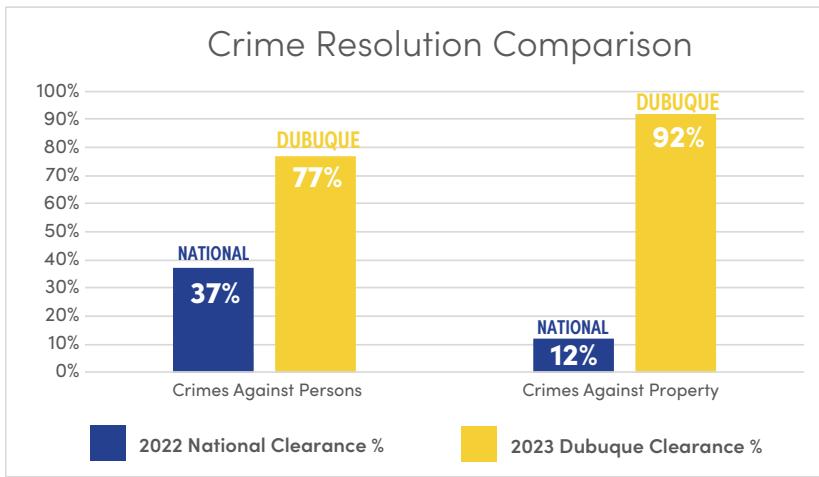
## CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Dubuque Police Chief Jeremy Jensen

The Dubuque Police Department is dedicated to delivering exceptional police services, a commitment realized through robust community partnerships. Our annual report serves as a tool for both the department and the community, offering valuable insights into trends, informing resource allocation decisions, and highlighting opportunities for supporting our community. What insights does the report offer? It underscores Dubuque as a safe community, showcases the transparency and dedication of our police department to excellence, and reaffirms our unwavering commitment to serving the people with integrity and care.

While it is impossible to prevent some crimes from occurring, it is important to know that the Dubuque Police Department excels in solving crimes.

In 2024, the Dubuque City Council approved the Police Department's request to implement a license plate reader camera system. The system will use 22 cameras installed at Dubuque's major intersections and entry points to record vehicle license plate data. The technology will serve as a force multiplier for the department, helping authorities identify and track wanted vehicles and aiding in criminal investigations.



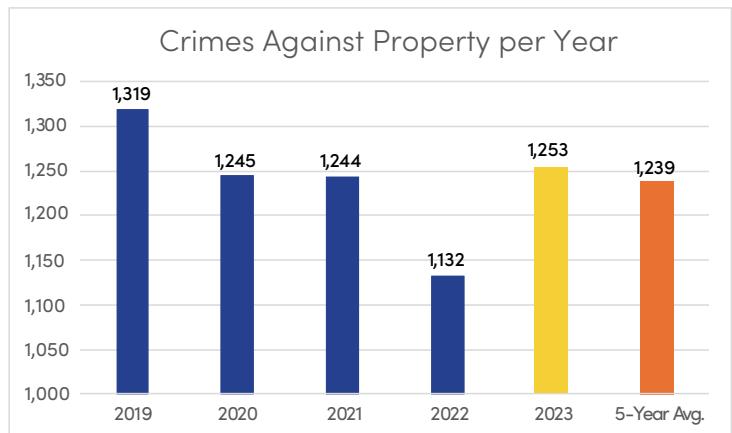
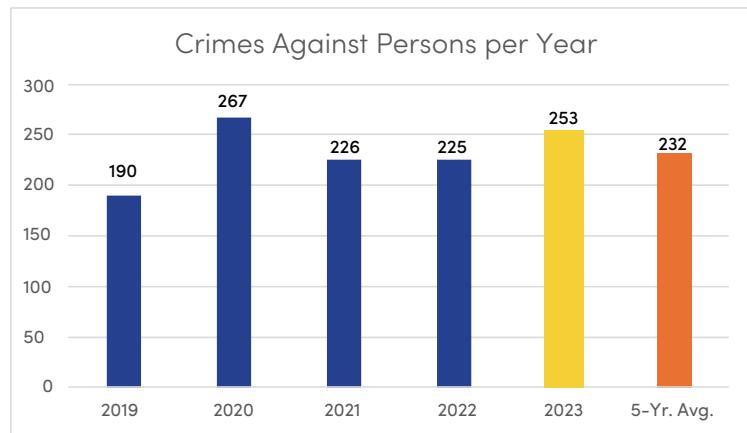
*The resolution rate of the Dubuque Police Department encompasses cases that are suspended due to exhausted leads, thus halting further investigation. It's important to note that the calculation method for the national resolution rate may differ from ours.*

In 2023, Dubuque Police resolved **77%** of all Crimes Against Persons committed in the city. The national average for 2022 (the most current on record via FBI data) was 37%.



Dubuque has one of the most robust camera systems in the region, significantly contributing to the crime resolution rate.

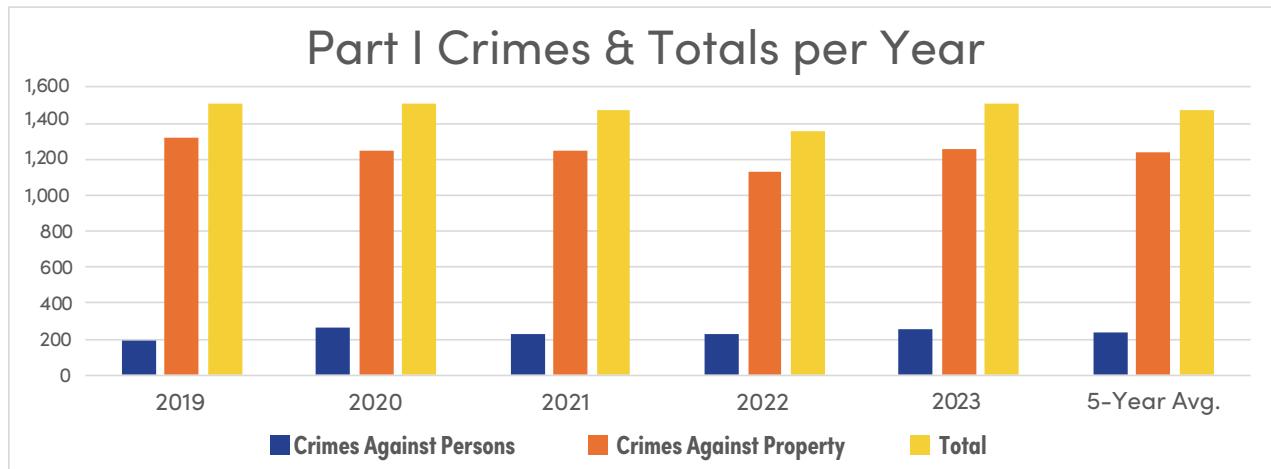
# PART I CRIMES



	2022	2023
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	125	171
<b>Sexual Assault</b>	77	73
<b>Robbery</b>	22	7
<b>Murder</b>	1	2
<b>Total</b>	225	253

	2022	2023
<b>Theft of Motor Vehicle</b>	53	46
<b>Arson</b>	6	8
<b>Burglary</b>	213	171
<b>Theft</b>	860	1,028
<b>Total</b>	1,132	1,253

A robbery happens to a person and a burglary happens to a place (home, garage, car, etc.).  
From 2020 to 2023, reported sexual assaults in Dubuque decreased by over 30%.





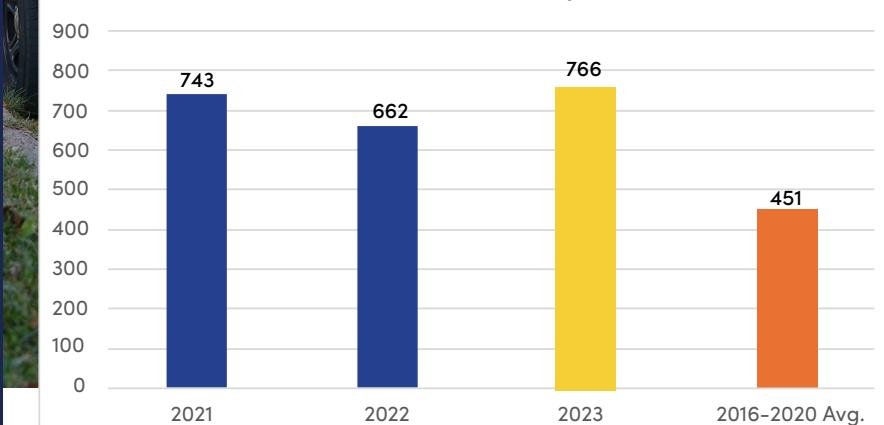
## Crisis Intervention Team

The Dubuque Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) aims to use the Secondary Responder model to assist individuals who may be experiencing a brain health or substance abuse crisis. In situations where first responders identify that the subject is dealing with these issues, a secondary responder trained to specifically deal with mental health, substance abuse, and homelessness, provides assistance and follow-up.

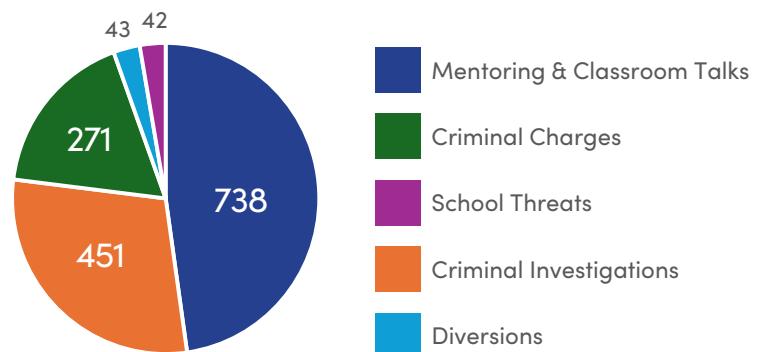
## Community-Oriented Policing

The Dubuque Police Department subscribes to the Community Oriented Policing strategy of working directly with residents to address crime, perceptions of police, and overall community quality of life through positive police interactions and relationship building in the community. DPD's Community Policy Division includes a bicycle patrol unit, School Resource Officers, and a crime prevention and public information unit.

Brain Health Calls by Year



## 2023 School Resource Officer Activities



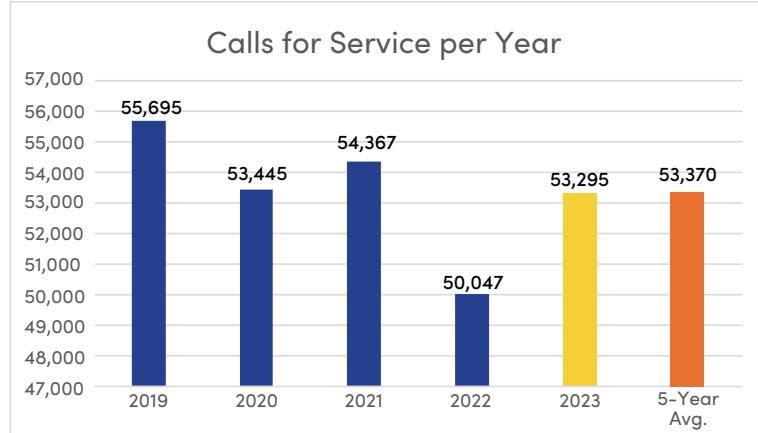
## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

School Resource Officers (SROs) serve within all Dubuque's public schools within city limits, as well as Holy Family Catholic Schools on a limited basis, providing support ranging from counseling and mentoring students to addressing crimes that are committed on campus. SROs are paid 50% by Dubuque Community Schools and are vital members of their school's administrative team, helping to solve problems in the school community, while also being an educational resource and positive role model for students.



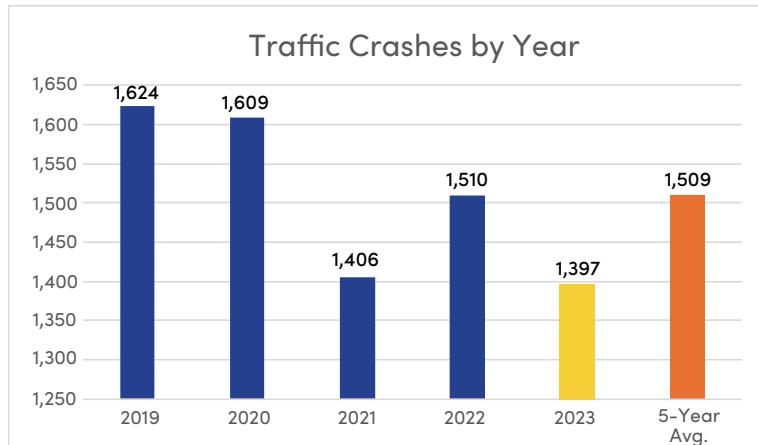
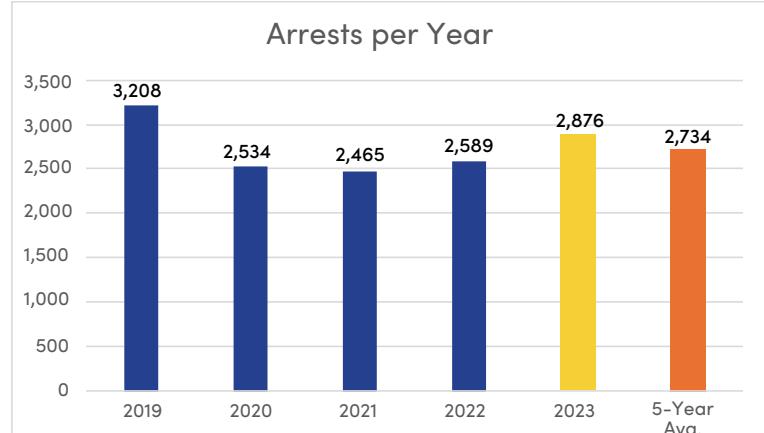
## Calls for Service

Calls for service remain consistent across the five-year average. Because of the 24/7 nature of law enforcement, Dubuque Police Department continues to respond to calls for service ranging from nuisance calls to the Part I crimes listed in the chart on page 3.



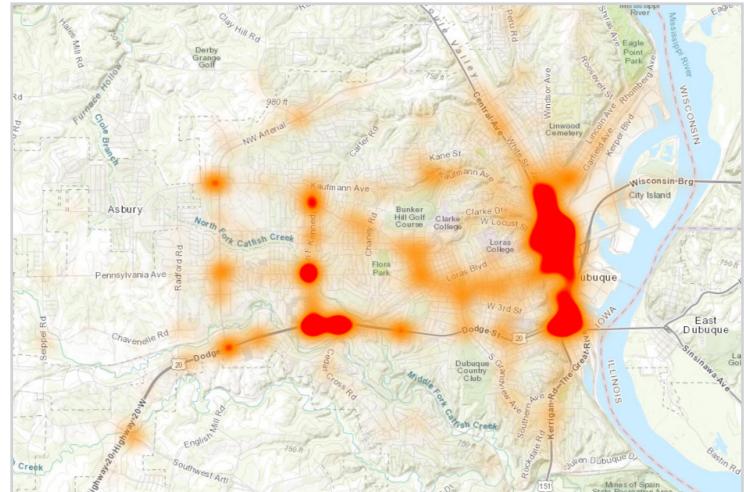
## Arrests

The arrest count includes arrests that are custodial, as well as arrests when suspects were cited and released. This does not include simple misdemeanor traffic violations. Arrests range from simple misdemeanors such as public intoxication to Class A felonies such as murder.



Traffic crashes consist of property damage, personal injury, and fatality crashes. In 2023, there was one fatality and 15 serious injury crashes. Overall, 200 injuries were reported in crashes. The most common crash causations were speed and failure to maintain control, which includes rear-end accidents.

The heat map to the right illustrates the locations of traffic crashes in Dubuque in 2023. The red areas represent locations of more frequent traffic crashes.



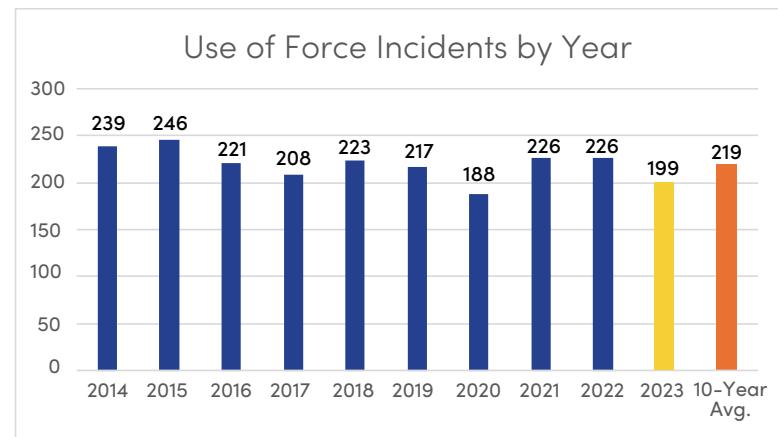


## Use of Force

Dubuque Police Department policy states a Use of Force Report (UOF) is to be applied under the following circumstances:

*All incidents requiring the application of force involving the use of lethal or less-lethal weapons will be reported in writing to the chief of police. A Reportable Use of Force report will be submitted in all cases where an injury or death results from, or is alleged to have resulted from, actions by an employee of the department whether through the use of lethal, less-lethal, or weaponless physical force; or whenever physical force is used at a level greater than soft hand techniques or simple handcuffing.*

*Officers will file a use of force report to the chief of police, through their immediate commanding officer, detailing any incident in which the officer draws and displays a departmental firearm. A use of force report will generally not be required in instances where an officer has drawn his/her weapon as a safety precaution only, such as during a building search.*



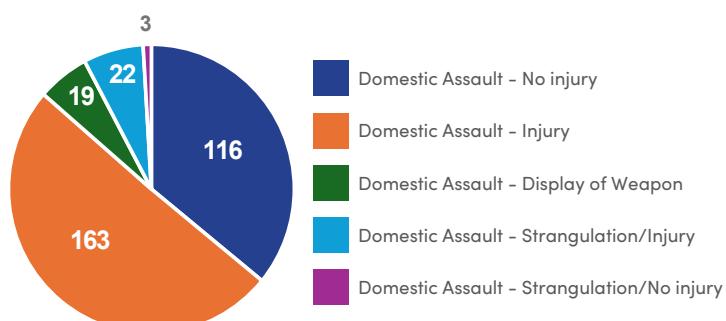
### 2023 Percentage of Arrests Involving Use of Force

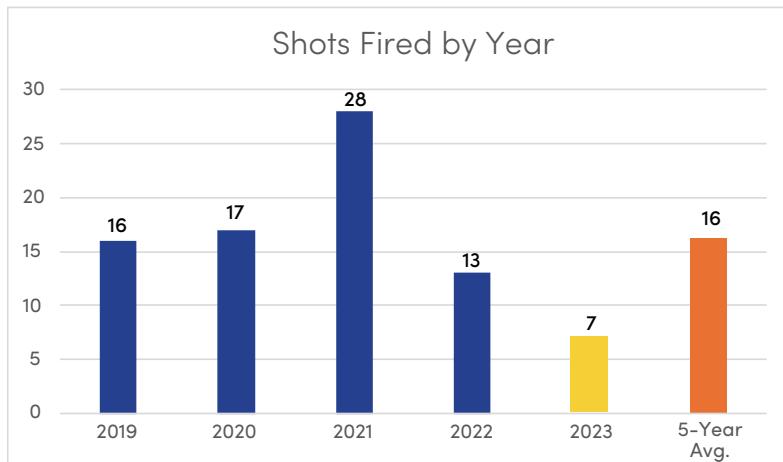
Arrests without Use of Force	93%
Arrests with Use of Force	7%

### 2023 Taser Deployment & Voluntary Compliance

Voluntary Compliance Obtained	88%
Voluntary Compliance Not Attained	12%

## 2023 Domestic Assaults by Offense





In 2023, the Dubuque Police Department responded to seven incidents of shots fired. This is a significant decrease since 2021. Reduction is credited to a number of factors that include an extensive public safety camera network and diligent police work.

Additionally, a Dubuque Police officer is assigned as a Task Force Officer (TFO) to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. In 2023, this officer investigated 30 Federal firearms violations, which included indictments in 23 of those cases.

## Dubuque Drug Task Force (DDTF)

The Dubuque Police Department is in a joint drug task force with the Dubuque County Sheriff's Department. While marijuana accounts for the majority of drug investigations, opioids and drug overdoses have become the most concerning.

In the past 20 years, methamphetamine was the concerning drug. In 2023, there were no methamphetamine labs reported or investigated. However, the most concerning drug currently is Fentanyl, which is now being found in all types of drugs and is being made to look like common over the counter drugs or even candy. Fentanyl was a contributing factor in all of the opioid death cases.

## Drug Investigations – 2023

General Investigations	323
Overdose Investigations	29
Opioid Death Investigations	7
Overdose Investigations	29

In addition to investigations, the DDTF conducted **21 educational presentations** to the public.

# CALEA

SINCE 1993

Agencies (CALEA) since 1993. To retain accredited status, department has to comply with 459 standards in order to retain accredited status. Accreditation is an important achievement because it tells the citizens and persons dealing with the police department that it is organized and operating consistent with best practice professional standards.

The Dubuque Police Department has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement

The Dubuque PD employs

# 115

sworn officers across six divisions: patrol, criminal investigations division, community policing, special operations,

professional standards, and staff bureau. Staff includes graduates of the FBI National Academy, Northwestern University School of Police Staff & Command, and the Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police.



## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

All allegations of employee misconduct or complaints made against the Department, including anonymous complaints, are appropriately received, recorded and investigated.

Complaints which are less serious in nature, such as alleged rudeness, tardiness, etc. are referred to and investigated by the employee's immediate supervisor.

Complaints of a serious nature, such as, allegations of criminal misconduct, corruption, excessive force, breach of civil rights, or

ongoing negative behavior by an employee are referred to the Police Chief, Assistant Chief, or Professional Standards Supervisor for formal investigation.

In 2023 there were 40 complaint cases completed. Thirty-four cases were initiated by citizens, one was initiated by an officer, and two were initiated by DPD command staff. Six cases rose to the level of a Formal Investigation.

Thirty cases remained at the Inquiry or Informal Complaint level. Five of these cases were founded.

Thirty-five complaints were for poor job performance. Two complaints of excessive force were submitted, both of which were unfounded.

Thirty-one of 40 complaints were deemed unfounded once the investigation had concluded.

Due to the use of body worn cameras and in-car camera systems, Professional Standards is able to accurately review most officer/citizen interactions.



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