



**CITY OF DIAMOND BAR
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
City Hall Grand Conference Room**

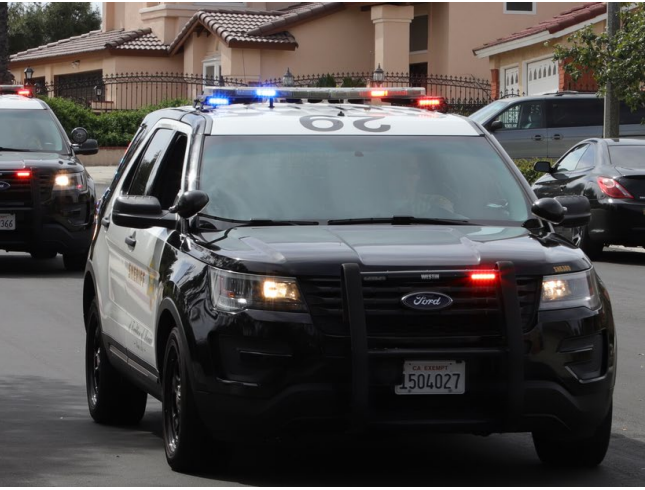
March 20, 2024

3:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comments
4. Discussion Items
 - a. Presentation of Draft 2023 Public Safety Annual Report
5. Committee Member Comments
6. Adjourn

2023

Annual Public Safety Report



Communication: Public Safety Report (Presentation of Draft 2023 Public Safety Annual Report)



diamondbarca.gov

CITY OF DIAMOND BAR PUBLIC SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT - 2023

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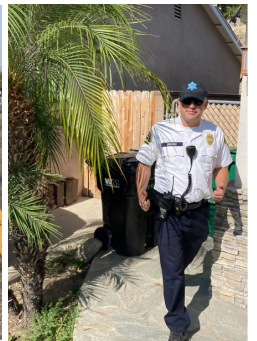
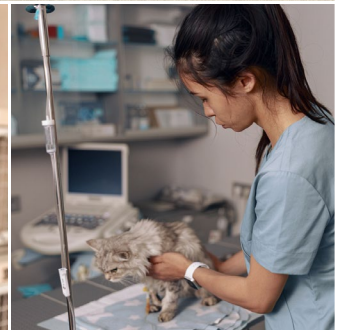
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Introduction

Since incorporation, the City Council has made public safety its top priority, a commitment that has resulted in Diamond Bar's standing as one of the safest communities in the San Gabriel Valley.

This report provides background and analysis of the City's animal control, fire protection, and law enforcement programs.



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INLAND VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY & S.P.C.A.

The Inland Valley Humane Society & S.P.C.A. (IVHS) is a nonprofit organization that provides animal care and control services under contract to Diamond Bar and 11 other cities and unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County. IVHS headquarters in Pomona is located within approximately one mile of the city's border, offering convenient access for Diamond Bar pet owners and rapid response to local enforcement and nuisance-abatement issues.

The City's annual service contract cost for Fiscal Year 2023-24 is \$544,256. This is offset by licensing and related service fees from gross service costs, bringing the annual total to \$457,500 for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Costs vary from year to year based on changes in license fee revenue collected, percentage of IVHS services consumed by residents, and any changes to the City's animal license fee schedule.

Animal Control

IVHS animal control officers and personnel enforce the City's animal-related ordinances, prevent cruelty by advocating and enforcing state animal protection laws, and investigate nuisance animals. They also are tasked with rescuing wild and domestic animals, providing medical care, shelter, and food when necessary.



IVHS Objectives



Provide a safe refuge for all sick, injured, abused, and abandoned animals that have no other alternatives.



Foster compassion for all living things through education and outreach.



Promote the health and wellness of all pets in our community by providing accessible and affordable veterinary care.



Reduce pet overpopulation.

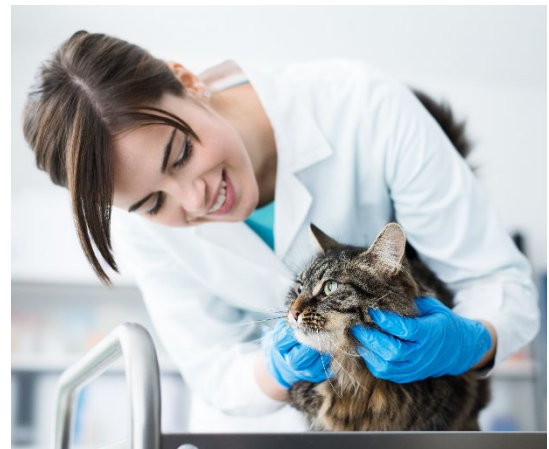


Adoptions

IVHS leads the community in finding homes for all adoptable pets. In 2015, IVHS launched the "Getting to Zero" campaign, a robust adoption outreach plan with the goal of saving every adoptable pet in their care. The adoption program features active social media and internet-based outreach efforts that have resulted in increased adoptions for the last several years. IVHS got to zero euthanasia of healthy, adoptable pets in 2017, and has continued that same sheltering and life-saving practice today. All pets adopted through IVHS are provided with free food through its partnership with Royal Canin, two weeks post-adoption veterinary care through its partnership with VCA, and if having behavioral problems IVHS provides scholarship for Good Pups online training. To assist pet owners that must unfortunately relinquish their animal, IVHS offers the "Home-to-Home" program, an easy to use direct-to-adopter opportunity that allows animals to be re-homed without having to enter the shelter.

Licensing

IVHS is responsible for issuing dog and cat licenses and collecting licensing revenue in the city. Licensing of dogs four months and older is required by state law. To better streamline licensing, IVHS partnered with DocuPet for new licenses and renewals. The DocuPet portal also allows residents to have a simple and nationally recognized website that provides a one-stop shop for licenses and customizable pet tags that can be used to reunify pets with their families.



Low-Cost Veterinary Services

IVHS opened its state-of-the-art Alex and Elisabeth Lewyt Medical Center in January 2023, and provides Diamond Bar pet owners the opportunity for low-cost spay/neuter and vaccine appointments, and other pet wellness needs. In addition, all animals are spayed or neutered, microchipped, de-wormed, and treated for fleas and ticks prior to adoption.

To reduce the growing number of cats, chihuahuas, and pit bulls that enter shelters each year, IVHS provides low-cost spay/neuter services under the "Big Meow", "Chihuahua Challenge", and "Pit Stop" programs, which are open to Diamond Bar residents at a reduced rate.

Community Outreach

IVHS offers a number of public engagement programs to Diamond Bar residents of all ages, including participation at City special events like the annual Halloween Party, special school presentations, pet therapy visits, and facility tours.

IVHS Statistics – One Year Comparison

Total Service Calls

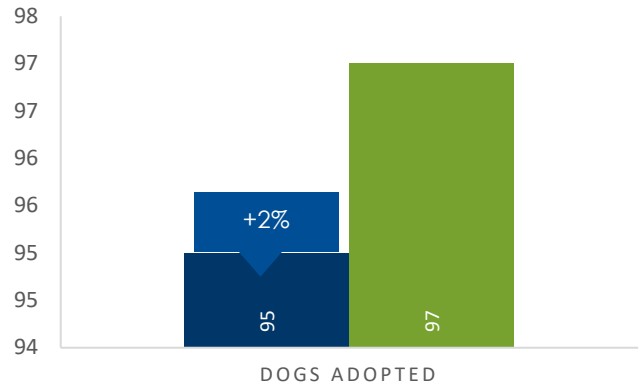
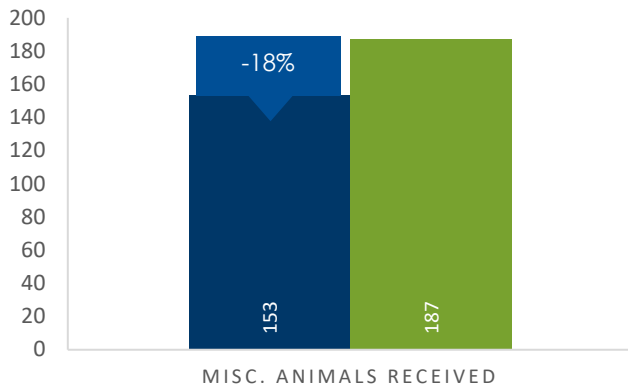
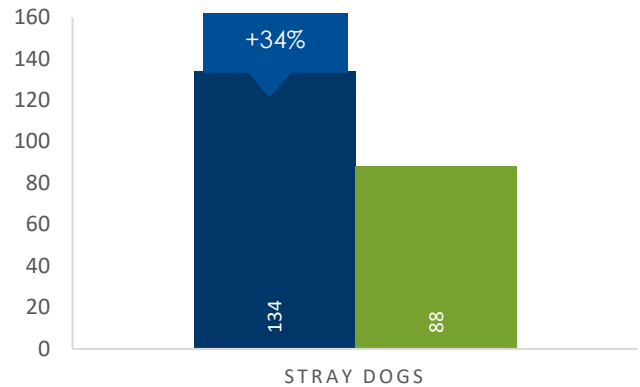
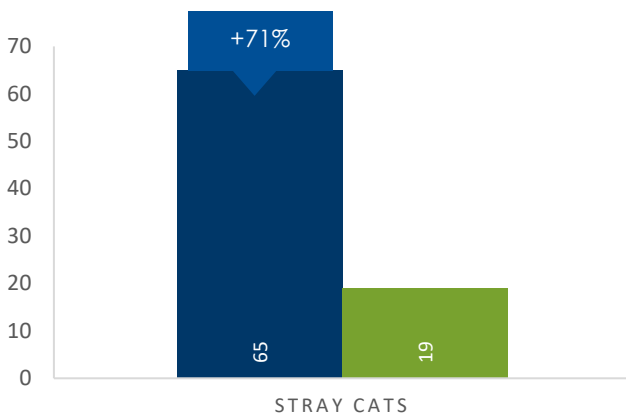


Service Time in Hours



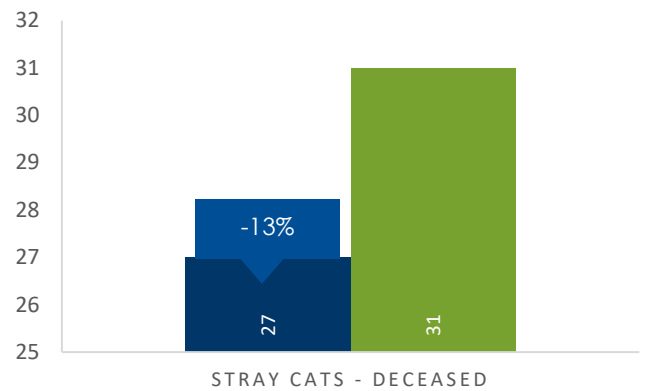
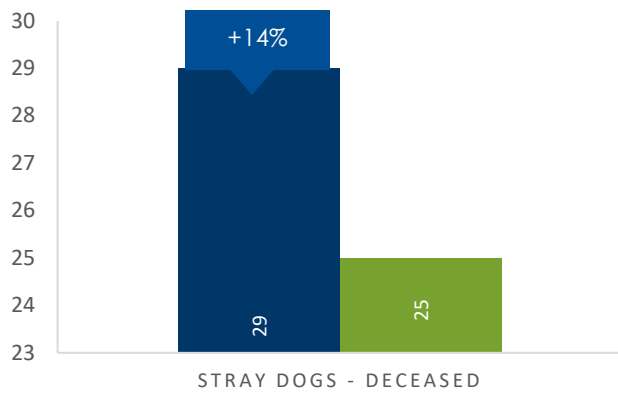
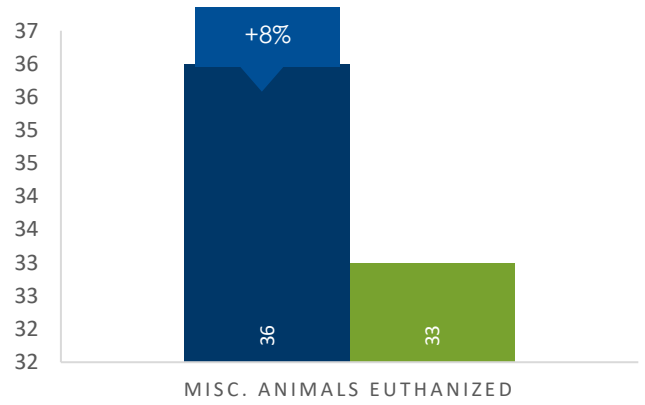
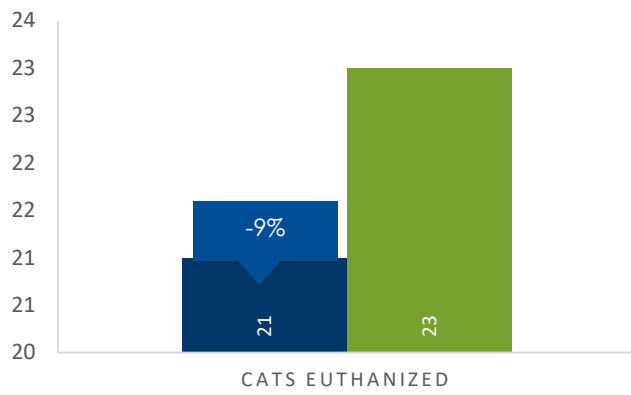
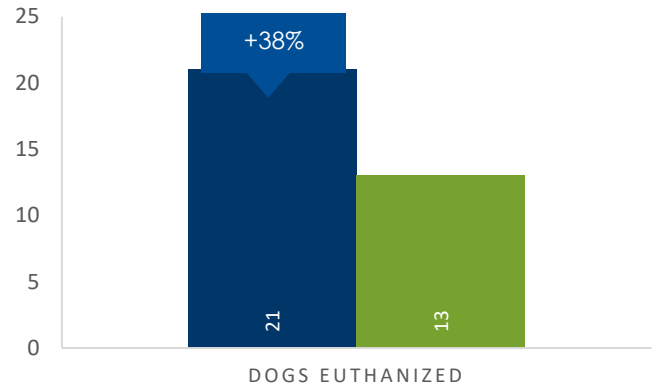
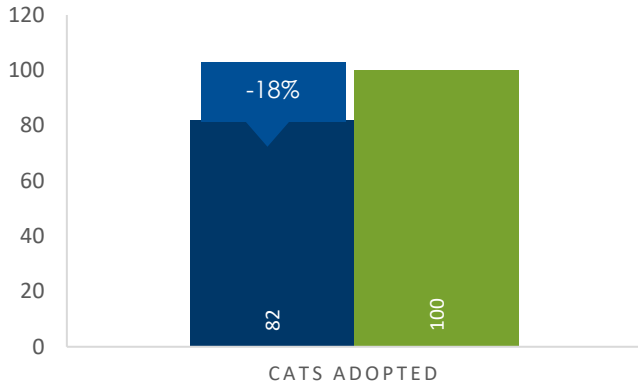
IVHS One Year Comparison

2023 2022



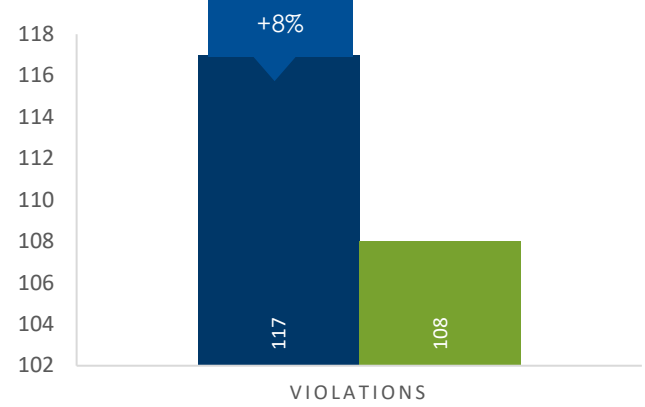
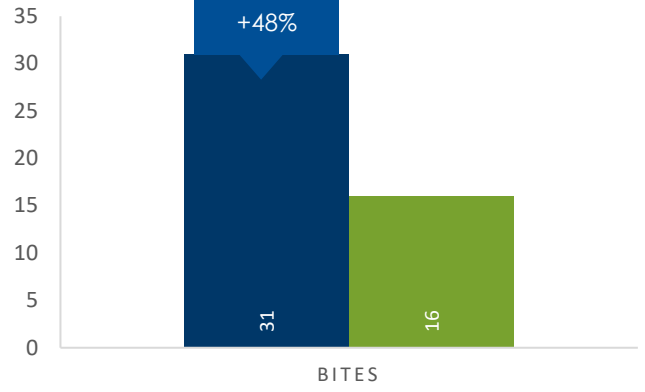
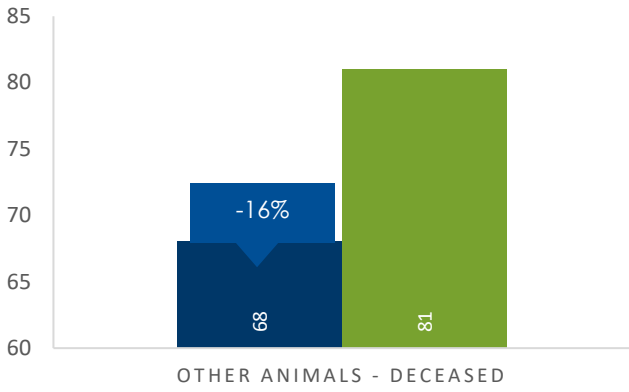
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IVHS One Year Comparison 2023 2022



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IVHS One Year Comparison ■ 2023 ■ 2022



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LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The City is served by the Los Angeles County Fire Department under the Consolidated Fire Protection District. The District, which is funded through annual property tax assessment levied by Los Angeles County, provides fire protection and prevention and emergency medical services to City residents and business owners. The District serves 59 of the County's 88 cities.

Of the base 1% property tax collected on assessed property values, approximately 16.94% of those collections are distributed directly to the Fire District to be used consistent with the budget approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.



department personnel to Diamond Bar, including the Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Captain, inspectors, and plan checker, Community Services Liaison, Division Secretary, Nurse Educator, and construction and maintenance staff, providing convenient customer service to residents and businesses.

Fire Stations



Station 119

20480 East Pathfinder Rd.

- Engine 119
- Squad 119



Station 120 (Battalion HQ)

1051 South Grand Ave.

- Engine 120
- Water Tender 120
- Patrol 120



Station 121

346 Armitos Place

- Engine 121

East County Administrative Office

The City is home to the Los Angeles County Fire Department East County Administrative Office (ECAO), which is housed in the former Diamond Bar Library building. ECAO brings many key

Personnel

Acting Assistant Fire Chief Dustin Robertson oversees eighteen fire stations, three of which are in the City of Diamond Bar. Under Chief Robertson's direction, three Battalion Chiefs are assigned and responsible for overseeing Diamond Bar fire station operations. The Diamond Bar stations are staffed with the following positions:

3 Battalion Chiefs

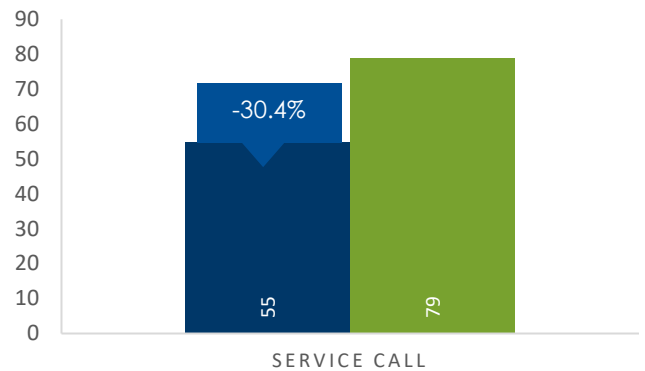
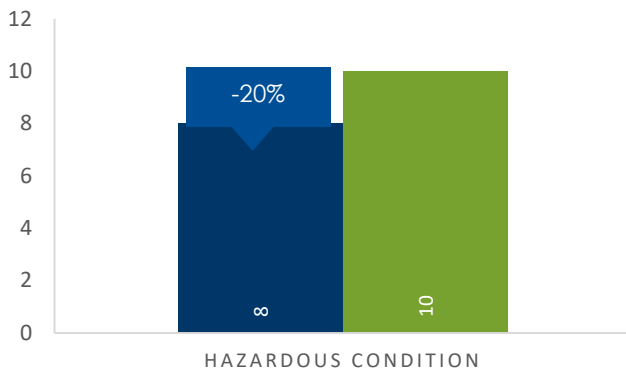
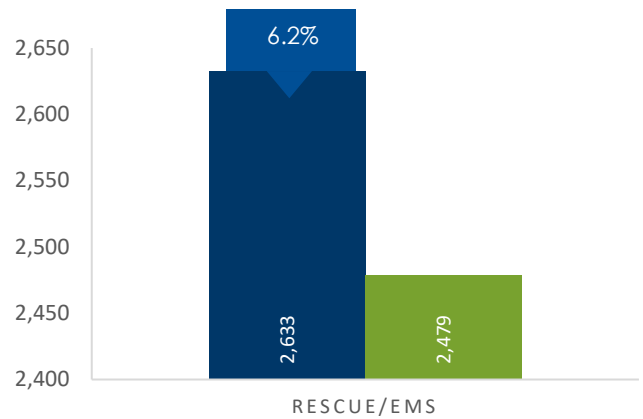
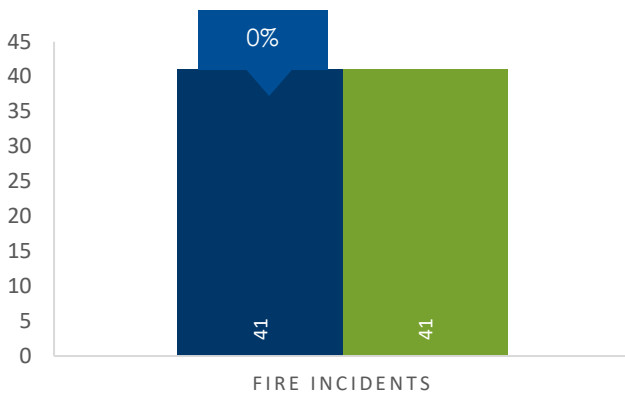
36 Firefighters

1 Community Services Liaison

Fire Department Statistics

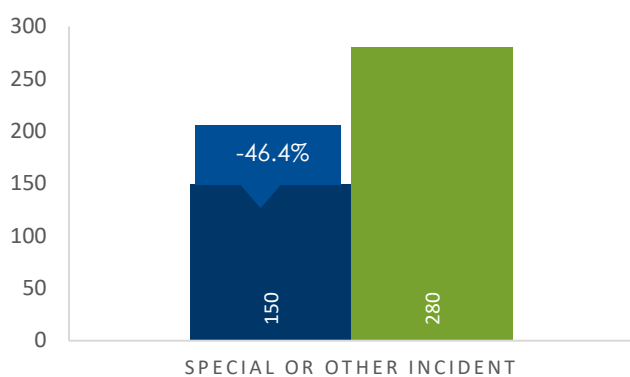
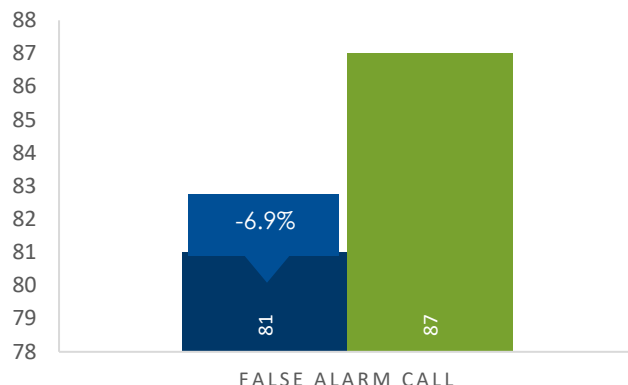
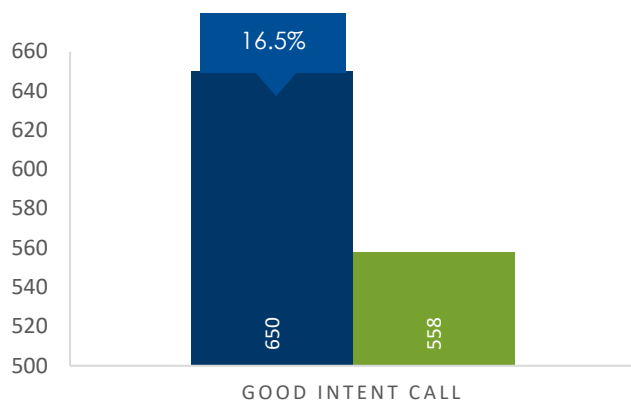
Fire Dept. One Year Comparison ■ 2023 ■ 2022

Incidents



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Fire Dept. One Year Comparison 2023 2022



Fire Prevention and Preparedness Programs

The Los Angeles County Fire Department remains engaged with the community, promoting fire and emergency preparedness through a number of outreach programs.

Multi-Jurisdictional Wildland Fire Preparation (San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside - SOLAR)

On a quarterly basis, SOLAR fire agencies gather to enhance communication and partnerships in wildfire preparedness in Tonner Canyon. Tonner Canyon is a shared geographical area for the affected fire agencies.

Following the 2008 Freeway Complex Fire, the affected fire agencies met to discuss lessons learned. As a result, they formed a mutual threat working group to address protocols, communication skills, mutual and automatic aid agreements, pre-attack plans and improve unified commands.

Meetings of the SOLAR agencies provide an opportunity to collaborate on a plan of action with numerous incident commanders based on one unified command.

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Annual Brush Clearance Inspection Program

The Brush Clearance Program is a joint effort between the Fire Department, the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, and the Weed Abatement Division.

The Fire Department's Brush Clearance Unit (BCU) enforces the Fire Code as it relates to brush clearance on improved parcels. The BCU works closely with all county fire stations, coordinating inspections, providing training for fire station personnel and to support station compliance efforts.

On May 1 of each year, Diamond Bar Fire Stations begin annual brush clearance (defensible space) inspections, focusing on designated brush areas and high fire severity zones within the City. Required clearance of native vegetation and properly maintained ornamental vegetation is the first line of defense against wildfire.

Conscientious efforts on behalf of the property owner to comply with Fire Department requirements will greatly reduce the chances of fire spreading onto property. In 2023, over 3,500 inspections were conducted in Diamond Bar.

Diamond Bar Stations look forward to working with homeowners to ensure the risk of fire hazard is reduced on their property. The Fire Department's website fire.lacounty.gov offers additional information and resources regarding annual brush inspections.

Community Emergency Response Team

Following a major disaster, fire and rescue resources may be unable to immediately respond to all those in need. In such a crisis, it will be neighbors assisting neighbors until emergency response personnel can arrive.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training provides residents with the skills and tools necessary to take care of themselves, their families, neighbors, and coworkers in the event of a disaster.



The Fire Department offers free, FEMA-approved 20-hour CERT training to the communities served. Classes educate residents on hazards that may impact their area, and basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Upon completion of the course, CERT members are better prepared to assist those in their home, neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. It is important to note that CERT volunteers do not work for the Los Angeles County Fire Department.



Ready, Set, Go!

Los Angeles County is one of the most beautiful places to live, but for those living in “wildland urban interface areas,” it does not come without risks. Drought and insect infestation has made fire season year-round and increased the ever-growing number of wildfires.

The Fire Department, along with partnering agencies, stand ready to quickly respond to contain wildfires, utilizing firefighting resources from the air and ground to help protect residents and property from wildfire. The Ready! Set! Go! Program was created to provide residents with critical information on creating defensible space around the home, retrofitting the home with fire-resistant materials, and preparing residents to safely evacuate well ahead of a wildfire.

Local fire stations encourage Diamond Bar residents living in brush areas and high fire severity zones to be ready and prepared by taking time to review the Ready! Set! Go! Program. To download a copy of the Ready! Set! Go! brochure, residents are encouraged to visit fire.lacounty.gov.

Family Instructions for Rapid Escape (F.I.R.E)

Each year in this country there are over 380,000 residential fires, causing more than 2,700 deaths and 12,000 injuries. Kids are at greatest risk for death or injury in these fires. With recent changes to home construction and furnishings, today’s fires burn hotter, spread faster, and churn out more toxic gases than ever before. In the past, residents had about 17 minutes to escape a house fire once their smoke alarm activated, but today that time has dropped to three minutes or less.



To help address the problem of fatal fires, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, is introducing a unique, new fire safety public education program called Family Instructions for Rapid Escape or F.I.R.E.

The guide provides simple steps on how to make a home "F.I.R.E." ready, teaching new strategies, so residents can escape and survive if fire strikes. Residents can download a copy of both guides by visiting fire.lacounty.gov. The F.I.R.E. program was researched, developed and written by L.A. County Fire Department Captain Brian Cieslak.



Hands-Only CPR

Hands-Only CPR is different from conventional "mouth-to-mouth" CPR and is designed to teach people basic CPR skills to aid a family member, friend, or other person in need. If provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest, Hands Only CPR (using chest compression only) can double or triple a victim's chance of survival until emergency responders arrive.

The Fire Department offers Hands Only CPR training to residents during community events and public safety presentations. In addition, Diamond Bar Fire Stations conduct free training during the annual "Sidewalk CPR Day".

"Sidewalk CPR Day" is held during the first week of June and takes place at various sites across the county.

Safe Surrender

The Safely Surrendered Baby Law was created in response to the increasing number of newborn infant deaths due to abandonment in unsafe locations, and signed permanently into state law in January 2006.

The law's intent is to save lives of newborn infants at risk of abandonment by encouraging parents or persons with lawful custody to safely surrender an infant within 72 hours of birth to any fire station or hospital, with no questions asked. Station 120 has been a Safe Surrender site in recent years.



Explorer Program

The Fire Department Explorer Program is a joint venture with "Learning for Life" designed for youth, ages 15-20, interested in learning about a career in fire service, and led by firefighters known as Explorer Post Advisers. After meeting the program's entrance requirements, Explorers have the opportunity to qualify for a 12-day training academy held on six consecutive weekends.

During the academy, Explorers are trained on firefighting skills, hose lay evolutions, ladder techniques, salvage operations, wildland firefighting procedures, proper use of firefighting tools and equipment, breathing apparatus use, and other related subjects.

Upon graduation from the academy, Explorers are qualified to ride along on an engine, truck or paramedic squad and respond to actual fire and medical emergencies.

During ride-alongs, Explorers use the training they received to assist Department personnel at emergency incidents and participate in other station activities and duties.

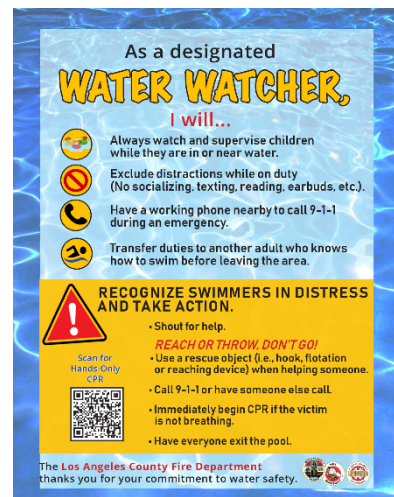
In addition to attending weekly meetings, Explorers are involved in various community service activities such as staffing booths during city functions, safety fairs, and demonstrations for public education events. Because of the Explorer Program, many have continued on to pursue a career in the fire service.

Junior Lifeguard Program

The Junior Lifeguard program is open to children between the ages of 9 and 17, teaching participants about beach and ocean skills such as water safety, physical conditioning, first aid, rescue techniques, CPR, and more.

Water Watcher

A program that reminds individuals the dangers of water and how children can drown without making a sound. Encourages always having a designated Water Watcher to supervise children, have a working phone nearby and the importance of knowing how to perform CPR.





Sirens of Silence

The Los Angeles County Fire Department created Sirens of Silence to familiarize and expose individuals with ASD to first responders. The program works with local organizations so children with ASD and their parents/caregivers can meet firefighters and lifeguards, see and touch the equipment and apparatus in a quiet, less stimulating setting.

Women's Fire and Lifeguard Prep Academies

The Los Angeles County Fire Department Women's Fire Prep Academy (WFPA) and Women's Lifeguard Prep Academy (WLPA) were developed in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Women's Fire League. The respective academies expose interested candidates to the duties and detailed responsibilities of the firefighter and ocean lifeguard positions.

Girls' Fire Camp

This one-day camp introduces girls between the ages of 14 and 19 to the career opportunities of the Department and gain some hands-on experience.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Contract Law Enforcement Program

Diamond Bar's law enforcement services are provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department under the Municipal Law Enforcement Service Agreement (MLESA) with the County of Los Angeles. The "contract law" model was dates back to 1954, when Lakewood became the first City to partner with the Sheriff's Department.

Using this initial agreement as a template, 42 of the County's 88 cities followed suit and joined the Contract Law Enforcement Program. The Contract Law Enforcement Program allows cities like Diamond Bar to develop a customized policing program at a more cost-effective rate when compared to a municipal department. The contract law model provides Diamond Bar with access to the full resources of the Sheriff's Department, including, but not limited to Aero Bureau, narcotics, and the major crimes task force.

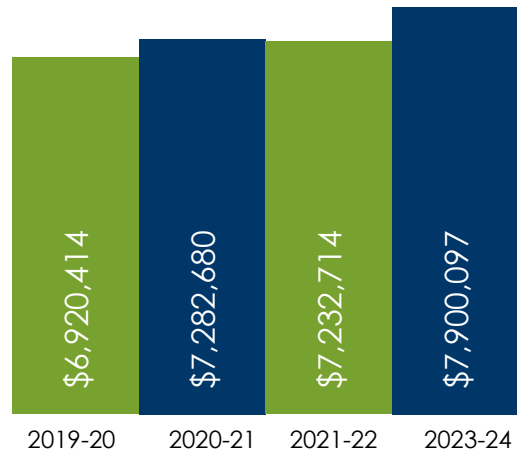


Diamond Bar/Walnut Station

The Diamond Bar law enforcement team is based in the Diamond Bar/Walnut Sheriff's Station, located at 21695 Valley Boulevard in nearby Walnut and can be reached by phone at (909) 595-2264.

Expenditures

The City's contract law expenses comprised of the per-unit cost for each deputy plus a percentage-based fee known as the Liability Trust Fund (LTF). The LTF is a County-controlled surcharge applied to fund liability-related issues resulting from the delivery of law enforcement services to contract cities. The FY 2023-24 LTF is 12%. All contract cities pay the same rate.



The City's base contract law personnel cost for FY 23-24 is \$7.9 million. This total represents nearly 25% of General Fund expenditures.

Since FY 2019-20, contract law personnel costs have increased by an average of 3.4% annually. Annual increases are due to factors including labor contract increases and LTF rates.

Law Enforcement Deployment and Volunteers

Personnel

Captain Steve Tousey leads Diamond Bar/Walnut Station, providing direct day-to-day coordination with Diamond Bar staff on law enforcement and crime prevention matters. Lieutenant Daniel Dail serves as Diamond Bar's Service Area Lieutenant.

The City's FY 2023-24 contract law personnel deployment is as follows:

1 40-Hour Deputy

10 56-Hour Deputy

5 40-Hour Deputy, No Relief (Special Assignment Team)

1 Community Services Assistant (with vehicle)

The City's contract law rates are all-inclusive, meaning that the City is not charged for the complement of command, detective, and administrative staff including the Captain, Service Area Lieutenant, Detective Bureau, and other support personnel, facilities, equipment, or emergency deployments in response to an emergency or disaster.

The City's patrol deputies are assigned to one of three shifts, with personnel levels ranging from three to eight deputies per shift. Personnel levels are adjusted by the station captain based on trends and operations and may be supplemented on any shift by additional personnel, including the Special Assignment Team.

The Special Assignment Team (made up of 40-Hour Deputy, No Relief positions) is a community policing program designed to provide maximum flexibility and responsiveness. In addition to conducting suppression patrols, traffic enforcement, and special investigations targeting specific crime trends, Special Assignment Team deputies work directly with residents, businesses, and schools to provide a consistent customer service presence from law enforcement. They also provide additional specialized traffic enforcement, lead Neighborhood Watch, represent the Department at public meetings and events, and handle community relations.



Volunteers on Patrol

Diamond Bar Volunteers on Patrol (VOPs) play a key role in the City's public safety program, performing non-hazardous duties such as residential vacation checks, park safety checks, traffic control operations, and directed patrol assignments. The City Council honors Diamond Bar VOPs at an annual holiday appreciation dinner.

Eighteen Diamond Bar VOPs provided 6,294 volunteer hours, providing over \$200,149 in value to the community.

Crime Statistics Analysis

The following analysis is based on statistics provided by LASD for the 2023 calendar year.

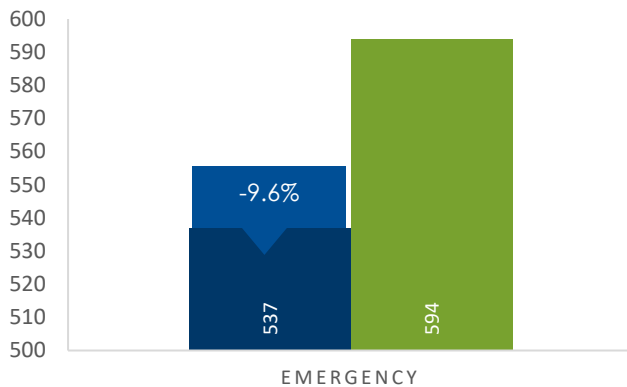
Part I Crimes Defined

Part I crimes are reported in two categories: **violent crime** (homicide, rape, aggravated assault, and robbery) and **property crime** (burglary, larceny theft, grand theft auto, and arson). These standard classifications, collectively known as "index" crime, are reported to the FBI because the crimes are considered serious, tend to be reported more reliably than others, and are reported directly to local police versus another agency.

Calls for Service

Sheriff's Dept. One Year Comparison

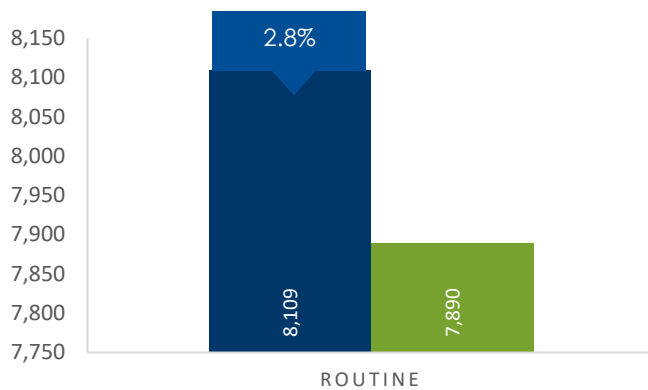
2023 2022



Historical Average: **323**



Historical Average: **1,908**



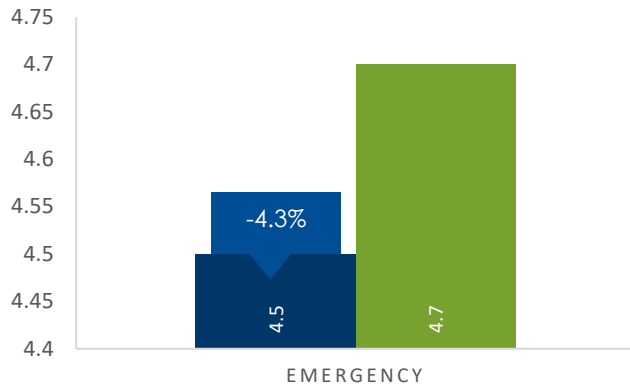
Historical Average: **9,3489**

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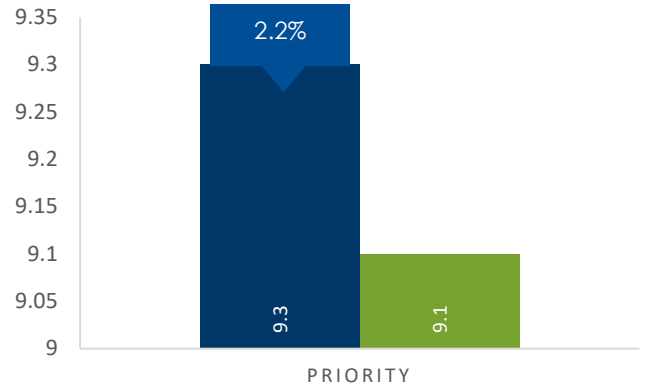
Sheriff's Dept. One Year Comparison



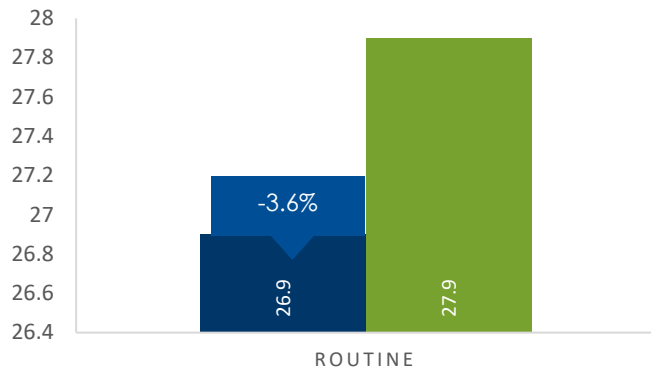
Response Times



Historical Average: **4.7**



Historical Average: **8.1**



Historical Average: **23.5**

Total Arrests – One Year Comparison

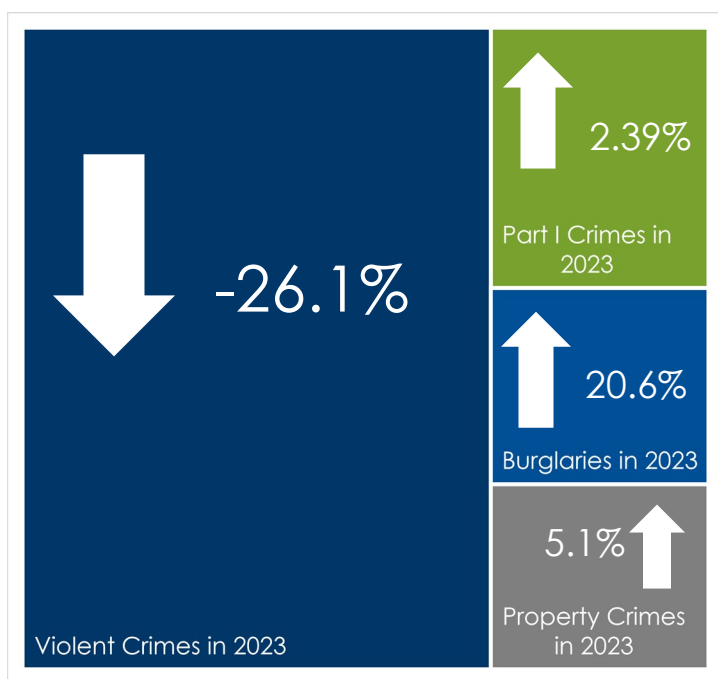


Communication: Public Safety Report (Presentation of Draft 2023 Public Safety Annual Report)

2023 Part 1 Crime Statistics Summary

Total Part 1 Crime increased by 0.7% in 2023. **When compared to 34 years of data, 2023 Total Part I Crimes were the twentieth-lowest in the City's history**, a ranking driven by the twenty-first-lowest Part I Property Crime totals. 2023 Part I Violent Crime totals came in at the sixteenth-lowest in the City's history.

One-Year Comparison (2023 vs. 2022)



In 2023, property crime accounted for 93.7% of total Part I Crime.

Part I Crime – One Year Comparison



2023

68

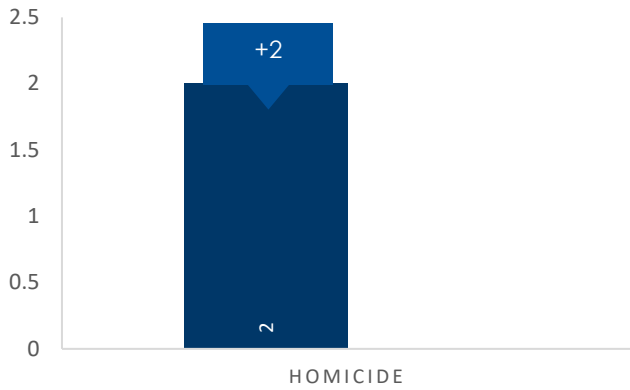
2022

92

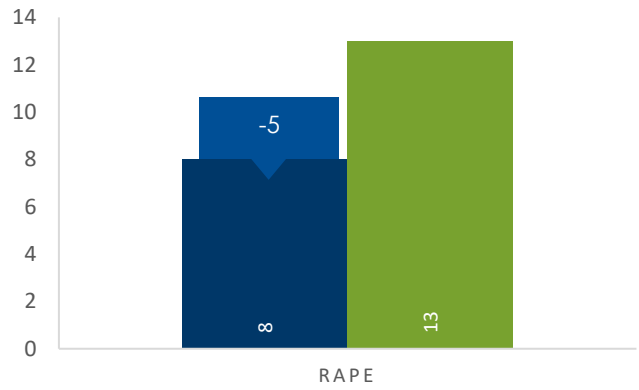
Percent Change
-26.1%

Part 1 Violent Crime – One Year Comparison

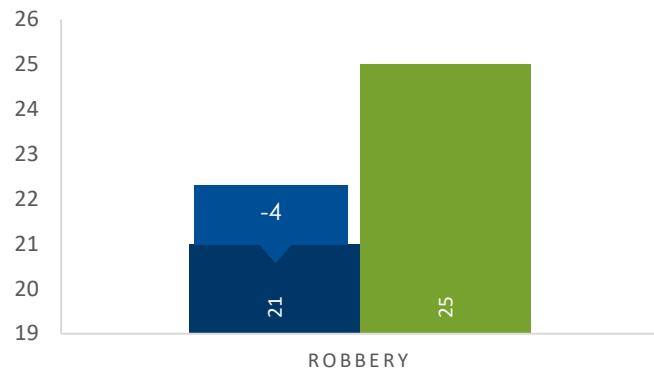
2023 2022



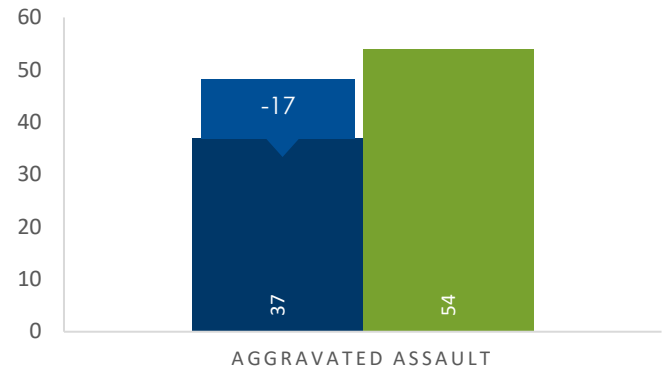
Percent Change: **N/A**



Percent Change: **-38.5%**



Percent Change: **-16%**



Percent Change: **-31.5%**

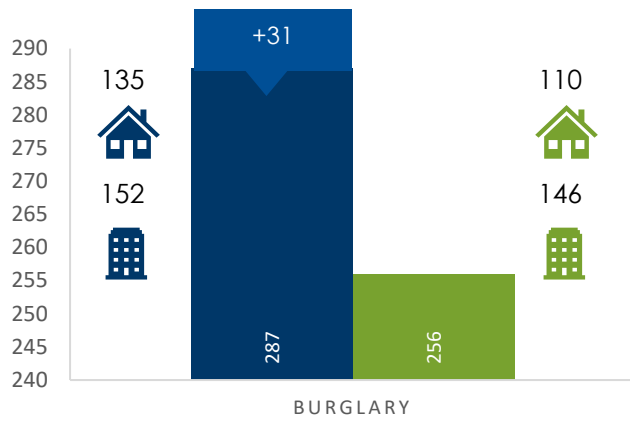
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Part 1 Property Crime – One Year Comparison

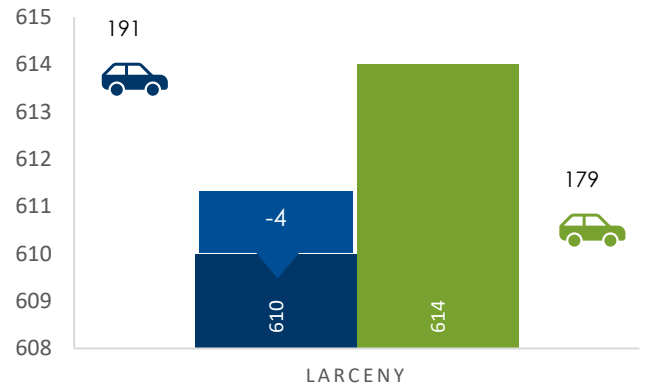
2023 2022



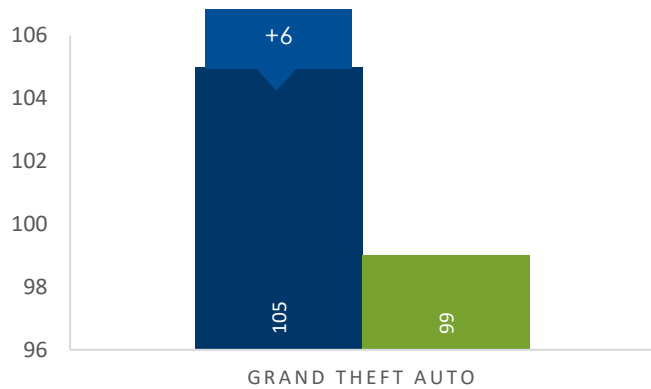
Residential
 Commercial/Other
 From Vehicle



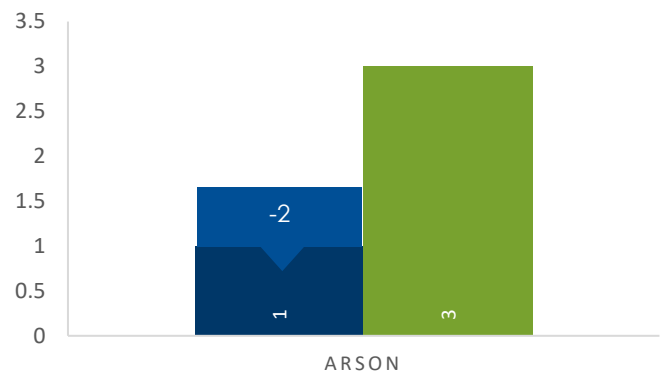
Percent Change: **12.1%**



Percent Change: **-0.7%**



Percent Change: **6.1%**



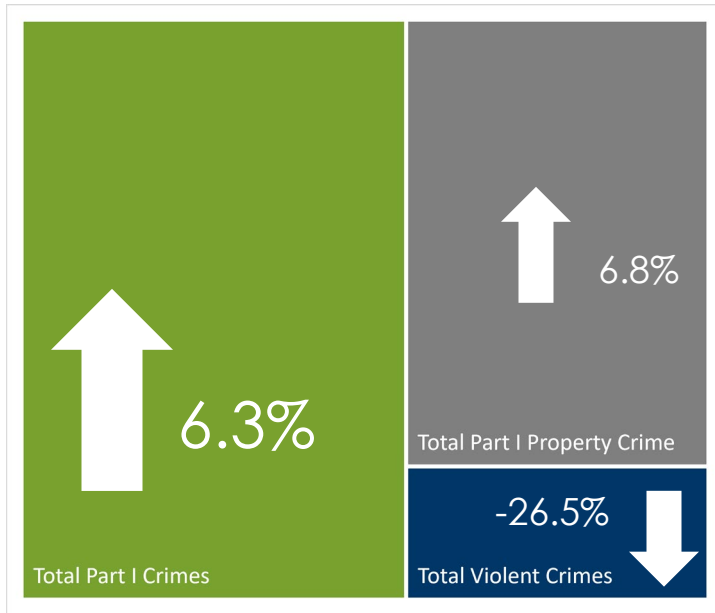
Percent Change: **-66.7%**

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Historical Comparison

The City's historic averages outpace historical medians across all categories, indicating that the historical average is influenced by the higher-crime totals in the City's early years following incorporation. Thus, the historical median may provide a more appropriate comparison.

Historical Median



Total Part 1 Crime – Historical Comparison

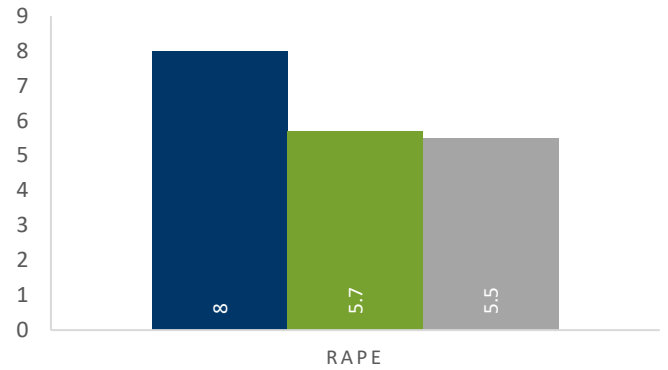
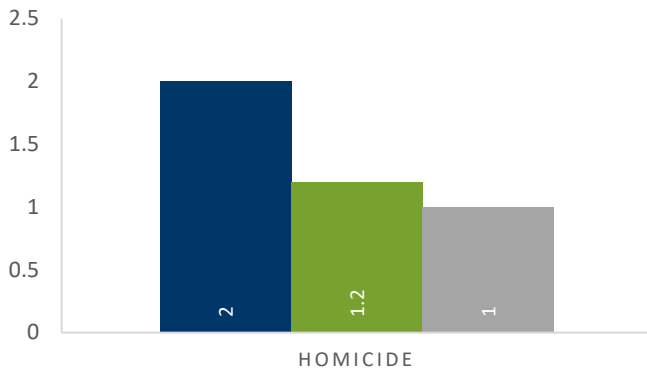
Total	Historical Average	% Difference	Historical Median	% Difference
1,071	1,150.7	-6.9%	1,007.5	6.3%

Violent Crimes – Historical Comparison

Total	Historical Average	% Difference	Historical Median	% Difference
68	129.91	-47.7%	92.5	-26.5%

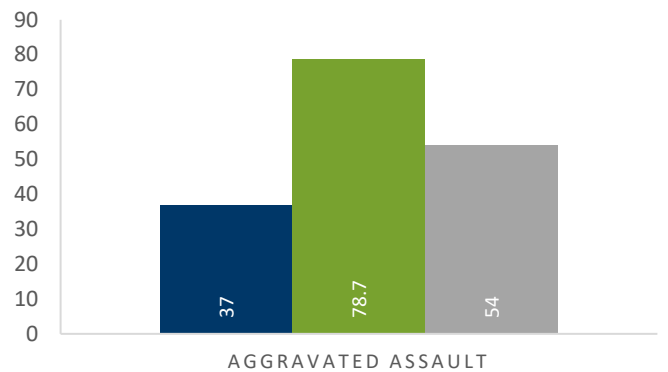
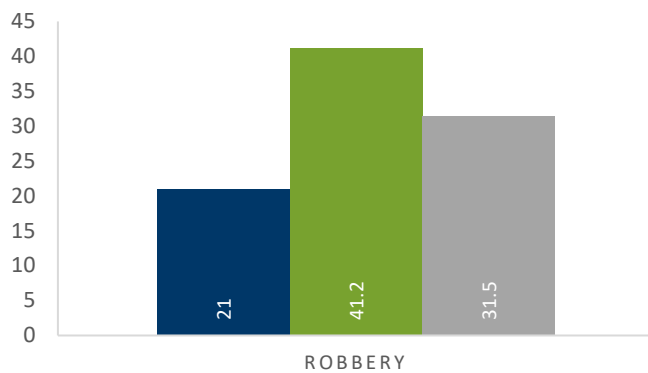
Sheriff's Dept. Historical Comparison

■ 2023
■ Hist. Avg.
■ Hist. Median



■ % Difference 69.5%
■ % Difference 100%

■ % Difference 39.4%
■ % Difference 45.5%



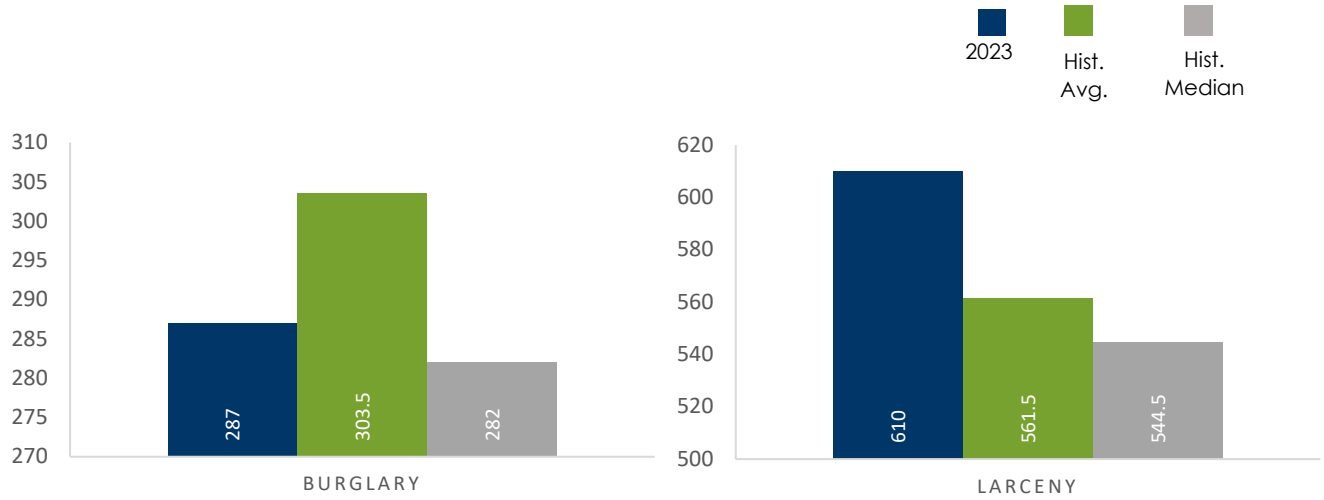
■ % Difference -49.3%
■ % Difference -33.3%

■ % Difference -53%
■ % Difference -31.5%

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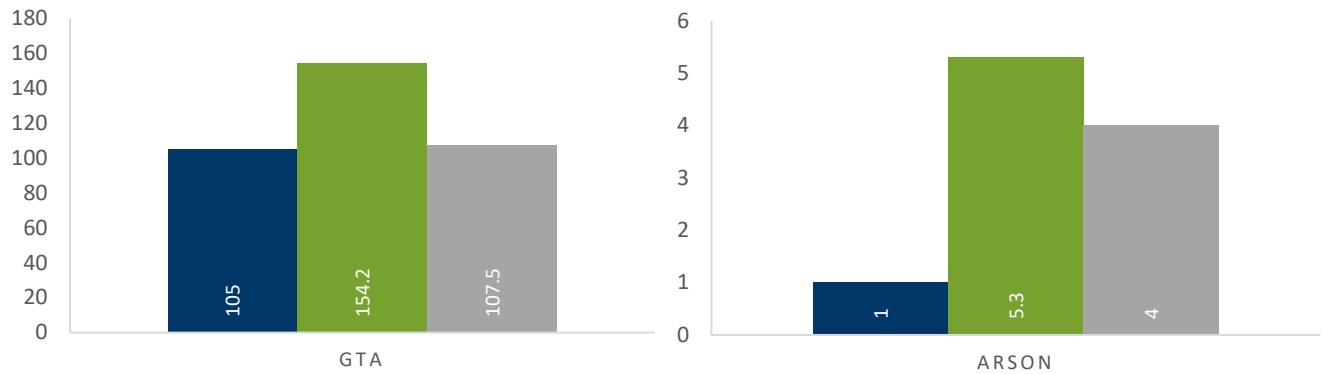
Property Crimes – Historical Comparison

Total	Historical Average	% Difference	Historical Median	% Difference
1,003	1,023.9	-2%	939.5	6.8%



■ % Difference -5.4%
■ % Difference 1.8%

■ % Difference 8.6%
■ % Difference 12%



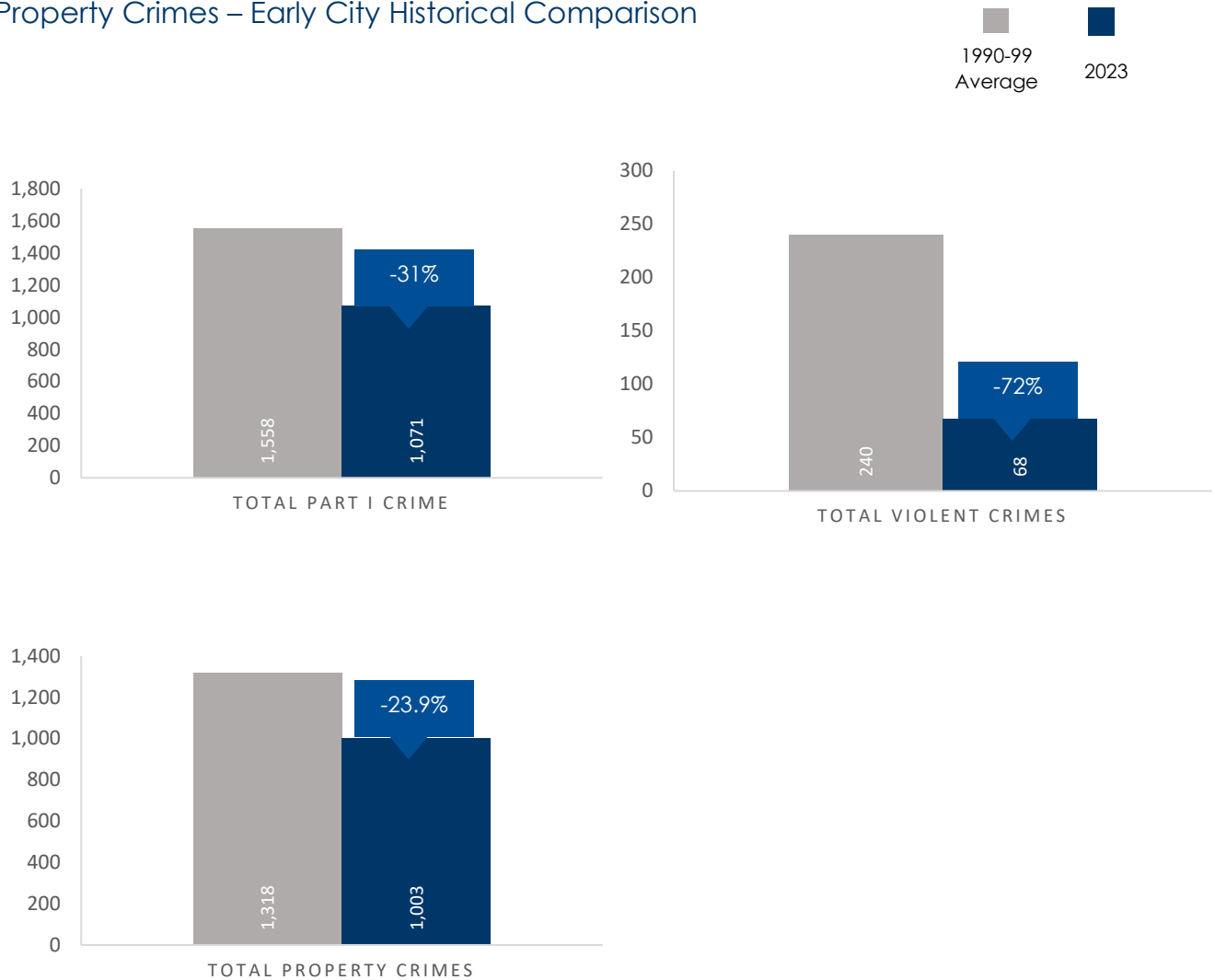
■ % Difference -31.9%
■ % Difference -2.3%

■ % Difference -81.1%
■ % Difference -75%

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While it is a popular belief that current crime rates are higher than those in early years of cityhood, the data indicates the opposite. 2023 Total Part 1 Crime is 31.3% less than 1990-1999 averages, Total Violent Crime is 71.7% less than 1990-1999 averages, and Part 1 Property Crime is 23.9% less than 1990-1999 averages. The following charts demonstrate trends in each category throughout the City's history.

Property Crimes – Early City Historical Comparison



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Five Year Comparison (2019-2023)

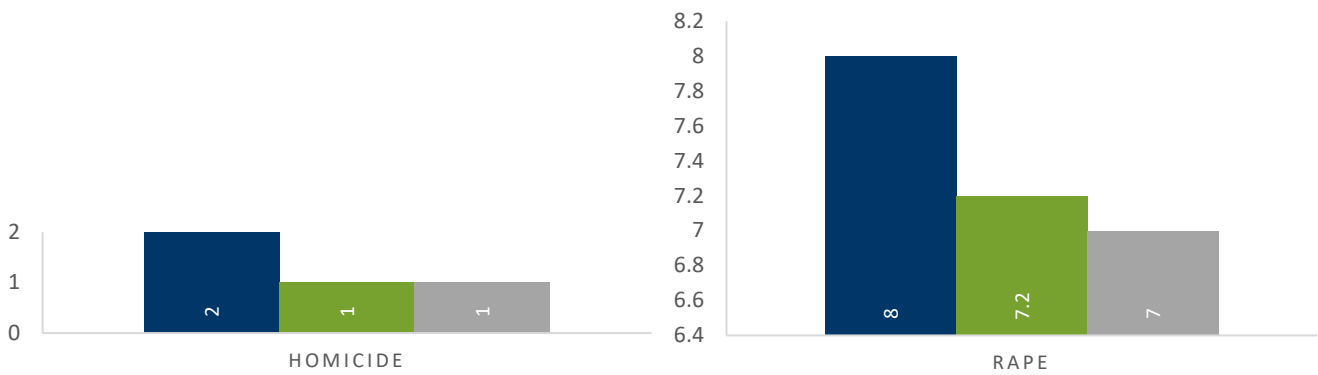
To provide a more recent sample that is less subject to the impacts of the early years of the City's history, a five-year snapshot comparison is also included in this analysis.

Part I Crime 5-Year Historical Comparison

■ 2023
 ■ 5-Year Avg.
 ■ 5-Year Med.

Total Pt. 1 Crime 1,071	5-Year Average	% Difference	5-Year Median	% Difference
	989.4	8.2%	982	9.1%

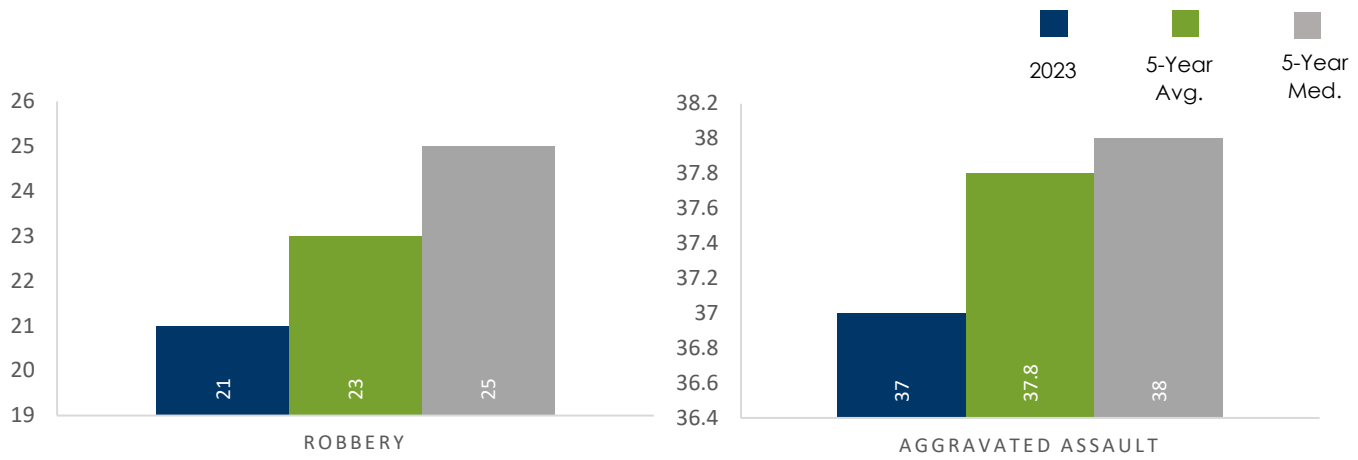
Total Violent Crimes 68	5-Year Average	% Difference	5-Year Median	% Difference
	71.4	-4.8%	68	0%



■ % Difference 100%
■ % Difference 100%

■ % Difference +7.8%
■ % Difference +7%

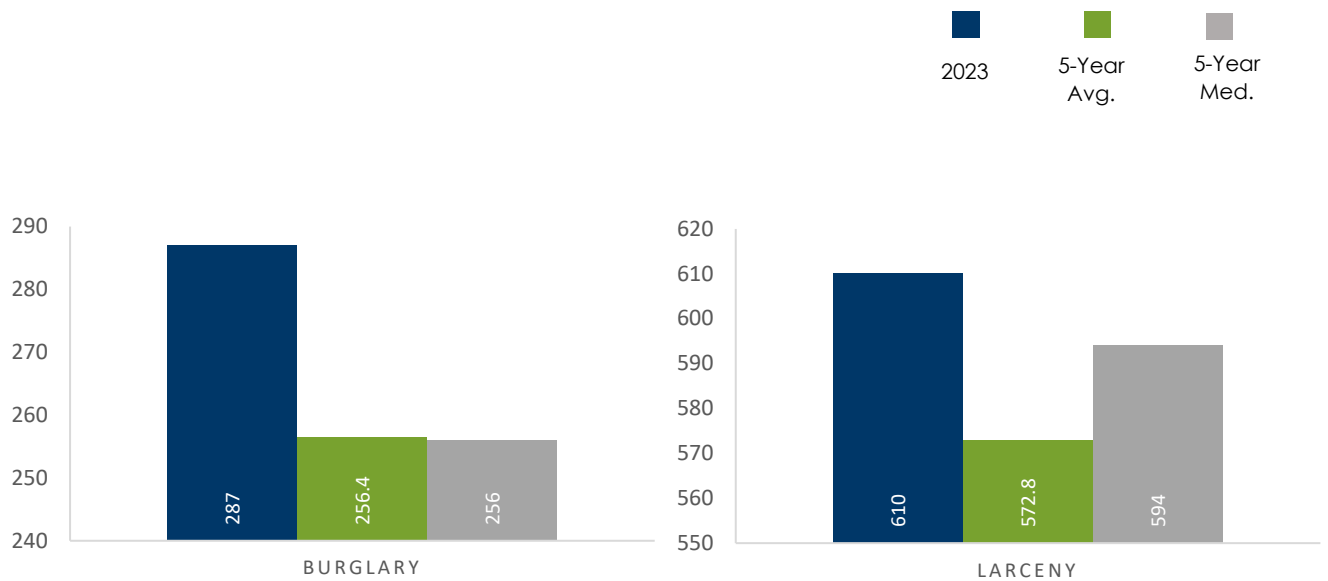
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■ % Difference -0.9%
■ % Difference 0%

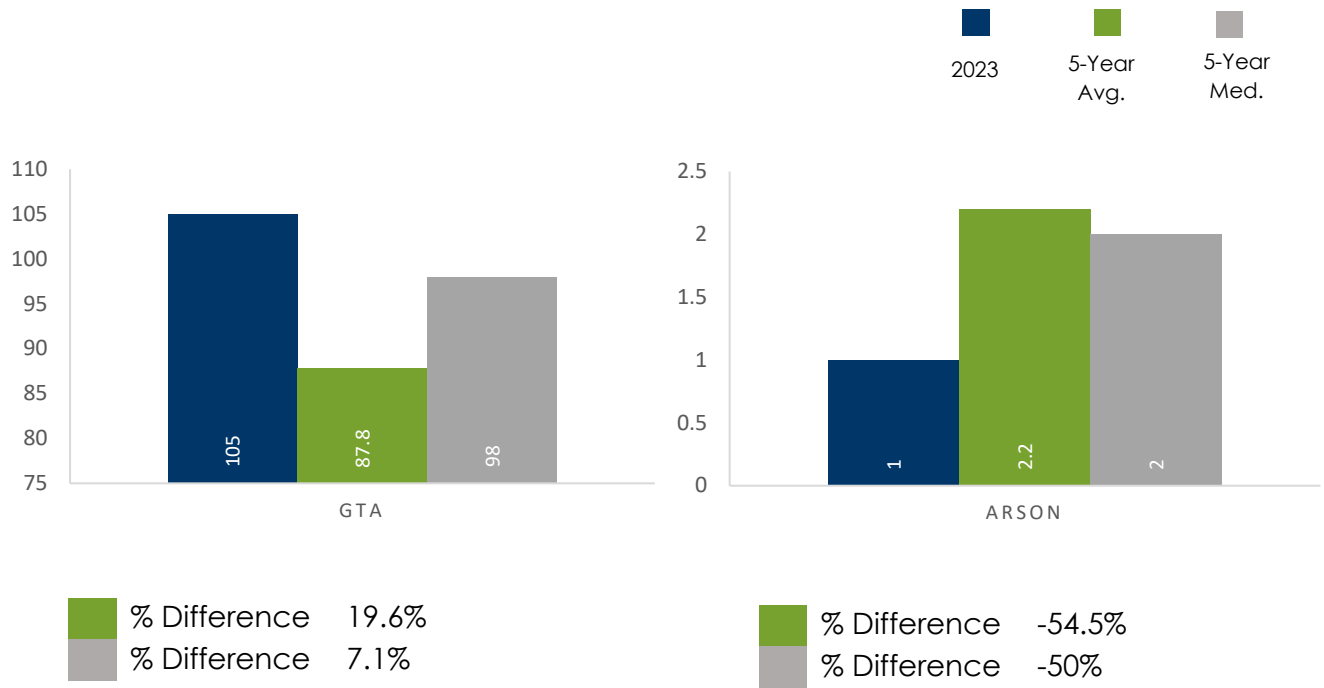
■ % Difference -10.6%
■ % Difference -2.6%

Total Property Crimes	5-Year Average	% Difference	5-Year Median	% Difference
1,003	919.2	9.1%	914	9.7%



■ % Difference 11.9%
■ % Difference 12.1%

■ % Difference 6.5%
■ % Difference 2.7%



Traffic Statistics

Diamond Bar's location in a region with over 20 million people presents inherent traffic management and enforcement challenges. Immediately adjacent to one of the most congested freeway interchanges in the nation, Diamond Bar's arterial streets face a high volume of cut-through traffic and school zones are impacted by a high volume of out-of-district commuters during pick-up and drop-off periods. Large-scale residential development projects currently under construction in the Inland Empire will likely result in additional commuter traffic on local freeways.

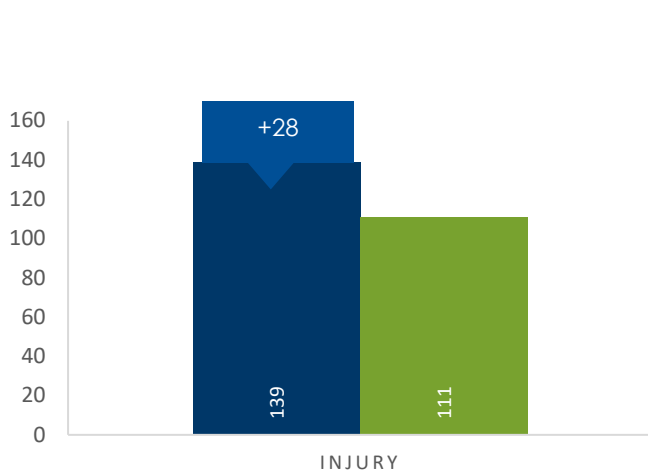


The City's traffic management infrastructure (signal synchronization, traffic management system, Neighborhood Traffic Management System, etc.) is the first line of defense against traffic congestion. Ongoing enforcement efforts by the City's law enforcement team work to ensure that drivers travel safely, reducing collisions and travel delays.

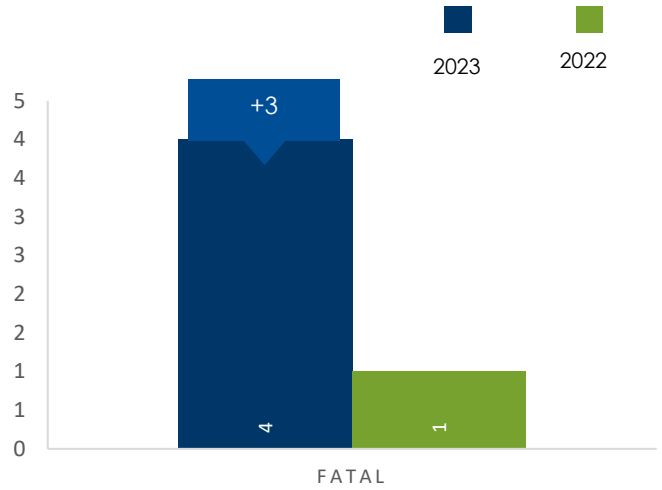
In addition to daily enforcement by the dedicated traffic enforcement car, patrol deputies on all shifts provide enforcement. Supplemental enforcement is provided by the Special Assignment Team on an as-needed basis, particularly in busy school zones.

Traffic Statistics

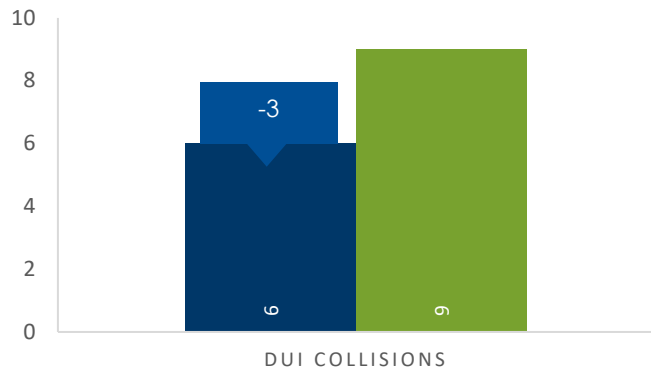
Total Collisions	2023	2022	Difference	% Change
	479	460	19	4.1%



Percent Change: **25.2%**



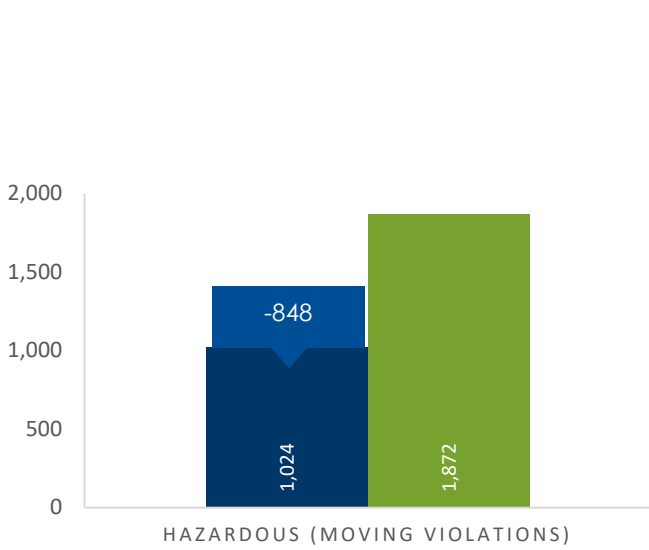
Percent Change: **300%**



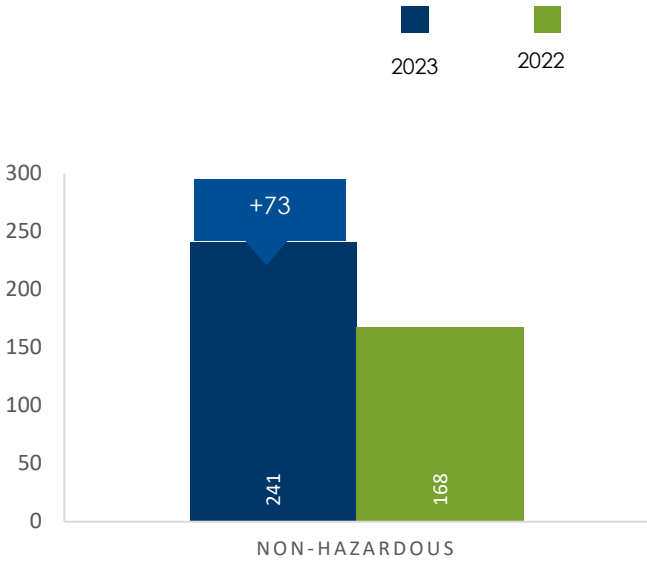
Percent Change: **-33.3%**

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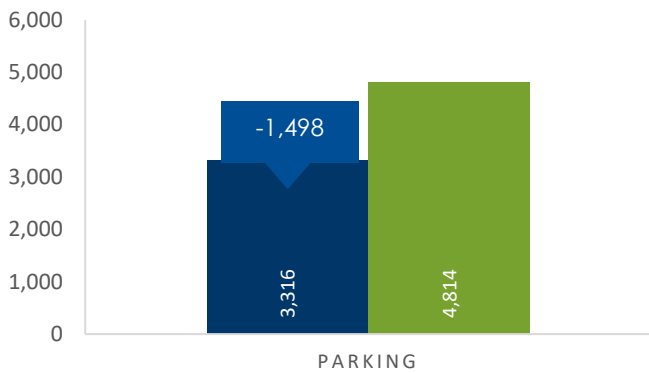
Total Citations	2023	2022	Difference	% Change
	1,265	2,040	-775	-38%



Percent Change: **-45.3%**



Percent Change: **43.5%**



Percent Change: **-31.1%**

Communication: Public Safety Report (Presentation of Draft 2023 Public Safety Annual Report)

Crime Prevention, Outreach and Advocacy

In addition to daily patrols, the City uses a diverse array of supplemental techniques to prevent and reduce crime and develop partnerships in the community.



Special Operations

In addition to the funding of regular law enforcement personnel, the annual municipal budget includes appropriations for as-needed special operations outside the scope of daily patrols. Multiple special operations were conducted in 2023, again focusing on burglary suppression and DUI enforcement.

Suppression operations included expanded patrol units, undercover personnel and vehicles, and targeted surveillance, with allocated resources fully dedicated for the specific task.

Supplemental undercover operations are funded with additional City Council budget appropriations outside annual personnel contract costs.

Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Reader Cameras

At the City Council's direction, 50 Flock Safety automated license plate reader (ALPR) cameras were deployed throughout the city, primarily on arterial and collector streets at ingress and egress points. These cameras capture license plate data and vehicle make, model, color, and special features like roof racks and/or stickers. This data is searchable and is cross-checked with state vehicle databases so that deputies in the field can receive real-time push notifications when a stolen vehicle or driver with an outstanding warrant passes by a camera. The data collected by the cameras also serves as an investigative tool when supplemented by witness accounts.



Let's Talk Public Safety Program

Created by the City in partnership with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Los Angeles County Fire Department, the Let's Talk Public Safety (LTPS) program is aimed at engaging with the community and raising awareness about everything public-safety related, from emergency preparedness to crime prevention.

Neighborhood Watch

The Diamond Bar Neighborhood Watch program is a partnership between the City's Public Safety Team and the community. Led by Community Relations Deputy Aaron Scheller, Neighborhood Watch groups actively participate in preventing criminal activity before it starts and assist law enforcement in developing solutions to local issues. Participants are called upon to reach out to their neighbors to organize groups united to prevent crime. Established groups become the additional "eyes and ears" necessary to keep their neighborhoods safe.

Neighborhood leaders, or "Block Captains" serve as the primary liaison between the neighborhood and law enforcement, distributing information and coordinating meetings. For security reasons, the identities and locations of Block Captains are not revealed to the public. Neighborhoods with active groups feature City-provided Neighborhood Watch signage.

Neighborhood Watch groups generally meet in the evenings or on weekends in a small group setting, usually hosted by the neighborhood Block Captain. The meetings feature an interactive presentation with the audio/visual capabilities of the City's portable Neighborhood Watch trailer. Topics of discussion include, but are not limited to crime prevention and burglary suppression, home safety and security, emergency preparedness, reporting suspicious activity. There are approximately 100 known Neighborhood Watch groups.



Coffee with a Cop

"Coffee with a Cop" meetings are held twice a month on Saturday mornings. Each meeting offers informal, conversational dialogue with residents and deputies with crime prevention tips and Q&A opportunities.

Safety Speak Blog

The Safety Speaks blog is a monthly message posted to the City website authored by Deputy Aaron Scheller. Using a friendly, conversational tone, Safety Speak provides readers with crime prevention information on a variety of topics.

In 2023, the featured topics were:

- Preparing for an Emergency
- Driving in Bad Weather
- Protecting Your Car Against Catalytic Converter Theft
- What To Do If Pulled Over by the Police
- Guarding Against Money-Making Scams
- What To Do If You Are Involved in a Car Accident
- Myths and Misconceptions about Law Enforcement
- Pedestrian Rights and Responsibilities
- Identifying Police Cars and Emergency Vehicle Laws
- Distracted Driving Awareness and Prevention
- Protecting Against Shoulder Surfing Blog Entry Header
- Improving Your Situational Awareness

The blog also features an "Ask a Deputy" feature, which provides a forum for residents to receive answers to specific questions not otherwise covered in a blog post.



Public Safety Tip Sheets

The City website also features a library of branded LTPS public safety tip sheets and videos, providing easy-to-understand information on a variety of topics.

Report for Reward

The Report for Reward program encourages residents to come forward with information that leads to the arrest of burglary and larceny suspects. Under the program, residents are eligible for a reward of up to \$500 for information that leads to the arrest of burglary suspects. Since implementation in 2014, fifteen individuals have received a reward for their assistance in identifying and reporting burglary suspects in Diamond Bar.

