



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

NORTH BERGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

4233 J.F. Kennedy Boulevard North Bergen, New Jersey, 07047



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CHIEF'S MESSAGE



As a police leader with over 26 years of public service, I take great pride in providing the North Bergen Police Department (NBPD) with a clear vision of quality service. Motivated by the historic notion that “the police are the public and the public are the police,” the NBPD concentrates on recruiting a diverse workforce that is truly representative of the community we serve. As an Accredited police agency, our organizational climate is centered on reputation, competence, reliability, transparency, and community trust.

As we look back on the year 2019, we have many achievements to highlight; however, our greatest success remains our commitment to a crime control strategy of community policing coupled with the use of cutting-edge technology. We were proud to report last year that a recent national study of over 13,000 cities having populations of 50,000 or more people revealed North Bergen as the safest municipality in Hudson County, the 6th safest community in New Jersey, and the 23rd safest city in the United States of America. This year's crime statistics are even better! Together, with the support of the community, we have realized an additional **8.9 percent decrease in crime**.

The Command Staff of the NBPD has dedicated a great deal of time and energy increasing professionalism in our department. We have magnified our public outreach through an aggressive social media campaign utilizing Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We currently have over 8,000 followers on Facebook and Instagram, as well as over 3,700 followers on Twitter. All three platforms continue to grow daily.

It is my pleasure to share our 2019 Annual Report featuring the outstanding work of the 144 men and women of the NBPD. It is with the full support of Mayor Nicholas J. Sacco, Public Safety Commissioner Allen Pascual and the entire Board of Commissioners, that North Bergen Police personnel are properly equipped, trained, and fully committed to ensuring the Township of North Bergen is a safe place to live, work and visit. I also encourage you to browse our department web site at www.northbergenpolice.com, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram or Twitter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chief Robert Dowd". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Robert J Dowd
Chief of Police

COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE



I am not only honored, but proud to serve as Public Safety Commissioner alongside Chief Robert Dowd, Deputy Chief Peter Fasilis, Deputy Chief William Lyons, and the North Bergen Police Department's senior leaders. I have had the opportunity to witness firsthand the work done by the finest men and women our North Bergen community has to offer and I admire their dedication, selfless attitude and sense of duty. Our NBPD Officers embolden the traits and characteristics needed for a police department to thrive and because of their relentless efforts the Township of North Bergen has reached historic lows on our crime rate.

The Township's administration and NBPD as a whole have one goal in mind, the safety and quality of life of our residents first and foremost. It is for that reason that we strive to be one of the best departments in the entire state and we seek to connect with our residents on a daily basis. We also try to reflect the community we serve and that is evident in the diversity up and down the ranks of the NBPD. Last year we promoted the first Latina Captain in Hudson County and the first Latino Captain in department history.

In an effort to connect on a more personal and direct level with the community we serve, we have expanded our community outreach with grass root events such as Coffee with a Cop, walking patrols and other methods of community policing. This has enabled the North Bergen Police Department to build trust and connections with the people that call North Bergen home. In addition, our courageous officers volunteer their time at Township events such as Winterfest and National Night Out Against Crime, by participating willingly in these events the officers give back to the community they so proudly call home.

I would like to thank Mayor Nicholas Sacco and my colleagues at the Board of Commissioners for their continued support toward the North Bergen Police Department. Thanks to their responsible financial planning and administrative decision making the police department is at its full Table of Organization of officers. Lastly, I would like to thank and wish a happy retirement to Chief Robert Dowd, who has exemplified the true essence of public service. Thanks to his vision and leadership the North Bergen Police Department is one of the most respected law enforcement organizations in the county and state. Additionally, I wish to thank the entire North Bergen Police Department, Deputy Chief Peter Fasilis, the administrative staff, and to all of the brave men and women who everyday serve and protect valiantly our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allen Pascual". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Allen Pascual
Commissioner of Public Safety

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Our North Bergen Police Department has been recognized numerous times as one of the finest law enforcement institutions not only in the State of New Jersey, but the entire country. This year we were able to reassert this by becoming a re-accredited police department. The NBPD is a model for diversity and efficiency as evidenced in the promotion of the first Latina Captain in the history of Hudson County and the first Latino Captain in township history. Thanks to the NBPD's relentless work and community policing tactics, the Township of North Bergen has achieved historic lows in its crime rate. This is without a doubt a great feat and it could not have been accomplished without the leadership of the department under Public Safety Commissioner Allen Pascual, Police Chief Robert Dowd, Deputy Chief Peter

Fasilis, Deputy Chief William Lyons, their senior staff, and of course our brave men and women who have done an outstanding job to help North Bergen receive such high praise.

During my administration, the NBPD has remained committed to public safety and to engage our community with innovative policing initiatives such as the North Bergen Township Alternative Policing Strategy (N.B. TAPS). We are constantly looking to enhance police-community relations by bringing the police department into the community with informal meetings, where North Bergen residents can voice their concerns and issues in person in a comfortable and open setting.

In addition, our officers make it a point to engage with the community by participating in public programs like National Night Out Against Crime, Coffee with a Cop and our annual Winterfest Celebration. These initiatives give officers the opportunity to engage with the community in a fun, informal setting and to build strong relationships with residents that lead to effective policing based on trust and mutual respect.

Thanks to the efforts of our Township Administrator and Revenue and Finance Department we have been able to dedicate the funds to invest in public safety and staff the largest department in our history with 140 officers, all while keeping property taxes stable.

I would like to particularly thank Chief Robert Dowd on his retirement. He has been instrumental in the growth of our Police Department and the high level of efficiency and professionalism associated with our police force. On behalf of all Township residents we thank him for his service and dedication to North Bergen. Additionally, I would like to thank Public Safety Commissioner Allen Pascual, Deputy Chief Peter Fasilis, the command staff, and every single officer in the North Bergen Police Department for their bravery and impeccable service to the Township of North Bergen and its residents. These brave men and women are the reason why our community is a safe place and why it will remain successful, vibrant and dynamic in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas J. Sacco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicholas J. Sacco
Mayor, Township of North Bergen

MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

DUTY

HONOR

COURAGE

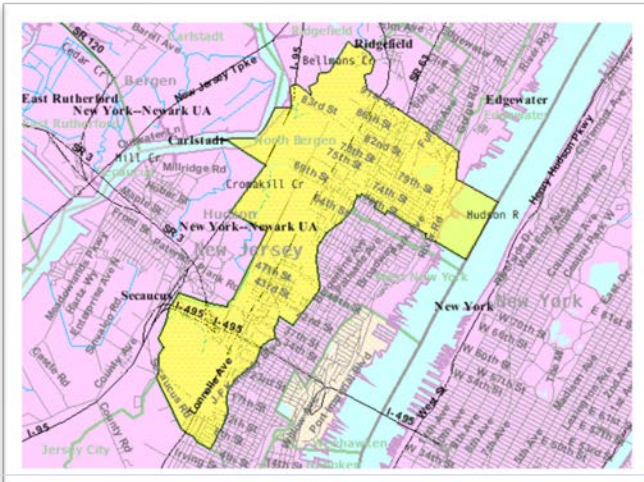


MISSION STATEMENT

The primary mission of the North Bergen Police Department is to provide safe and stable neighborhoods for the residents and visitors of the Township of North Bergen through various department programs and community policing efforts. This goal can only be accomplished through a mutually cooperative relationship between the North Bergen Police Department and the resident and business community which it serves. By working together, we can maintain peace, provide safety and security for our citizens, and reduce crime. We are part of a team dedicated to the safety and protection of our community.



TOWNSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS

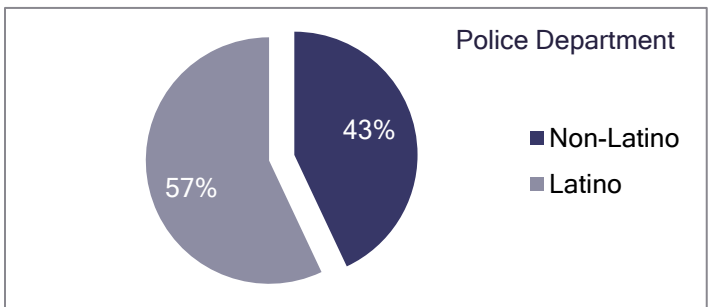
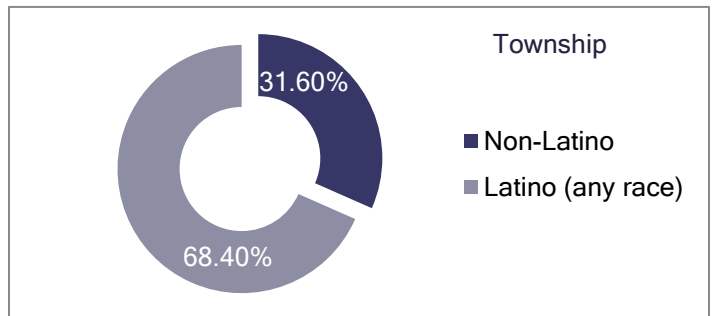
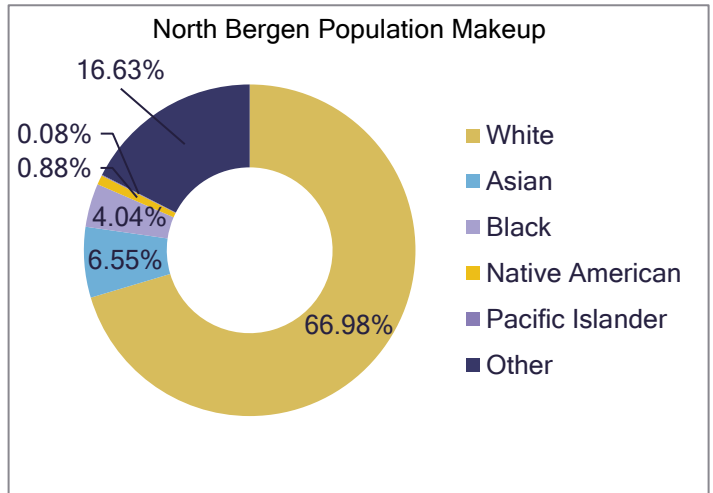


Statistics

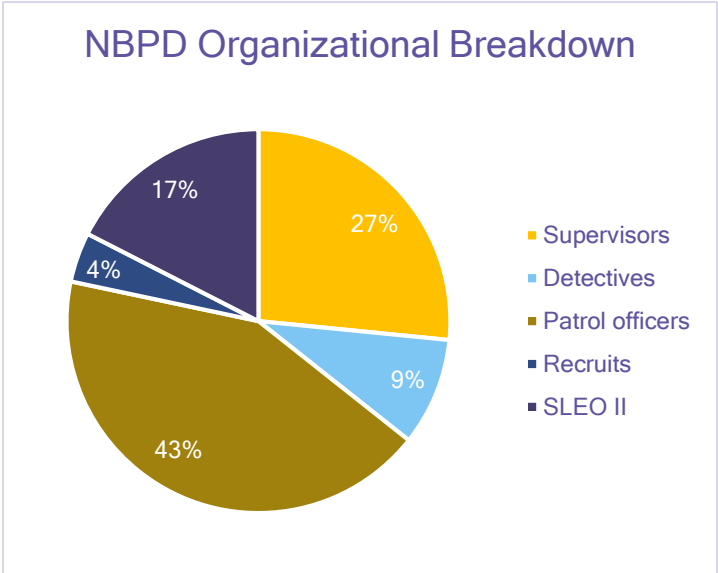
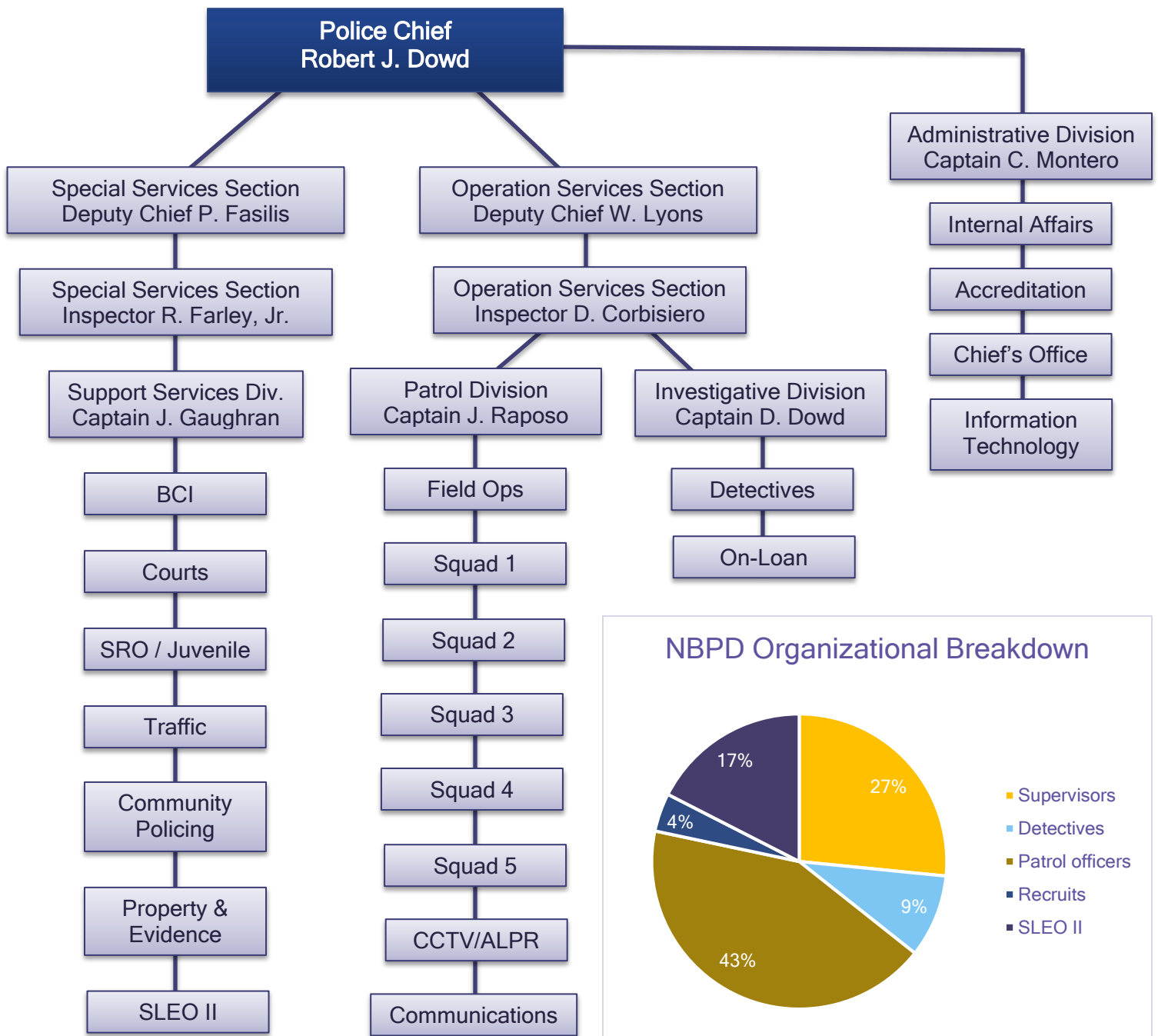
Population 2010 (U.S. Census)	60,773
Population 2018 (est.)	61,627
Area	5.575 sq. mi.
Population Density	11,838 / sq. mi.
Households	22,062
Median Age	37

Sworn Police Officers	
Chief	1
Deputy Chiefs	2
Inspectors	2
Captains	4
Lieutenants	12
Sergeants	17
Detectives	13
Patrol Officers	61
Police Academy Recruits	6
Special Class II (P/T)	25
Total Sworn	143

Civilians	
Clerks	4
Dispatchers	10
CCTV Monitors	21
Interns	24
Other	6
Total Civilian	65
Total Employees	208



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



INTERNAL AFFAIRS SUMMARY REPORT

Type of Complaint	Cases Pending From Prior Years	New Cases Received	Total Cases	Number of Dispositions					Administratively Cleared	Cases Pending End of Year
				Sustained		Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded		
				Criminal Charge	Internal Discipline Action					
Excessive Force	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Improper Arrest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Differential Treatment	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Demeanor	0	20	20	0	1	1	17	0	0	1
Other Rule Violation	0	33	33	0	20	0	10	0	3	0
Domestic Violence	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Other Criminal	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	0	58	58	0	22	2	28	0	4	2

Total Dispositions:58

DATA & CRIME STATISTICS



By the Numbers



TOTAL CALLS FOR
SERVICE

= 149,402

17 calls per hour



QUALITY OF LIFE
PATROLS

= 26,438



POLICE
INVESTIGATIONS

= 2,053



MOTOR VEHICLE
STOPS

= 13,082



CCTV VIRTUAL
PATROLS

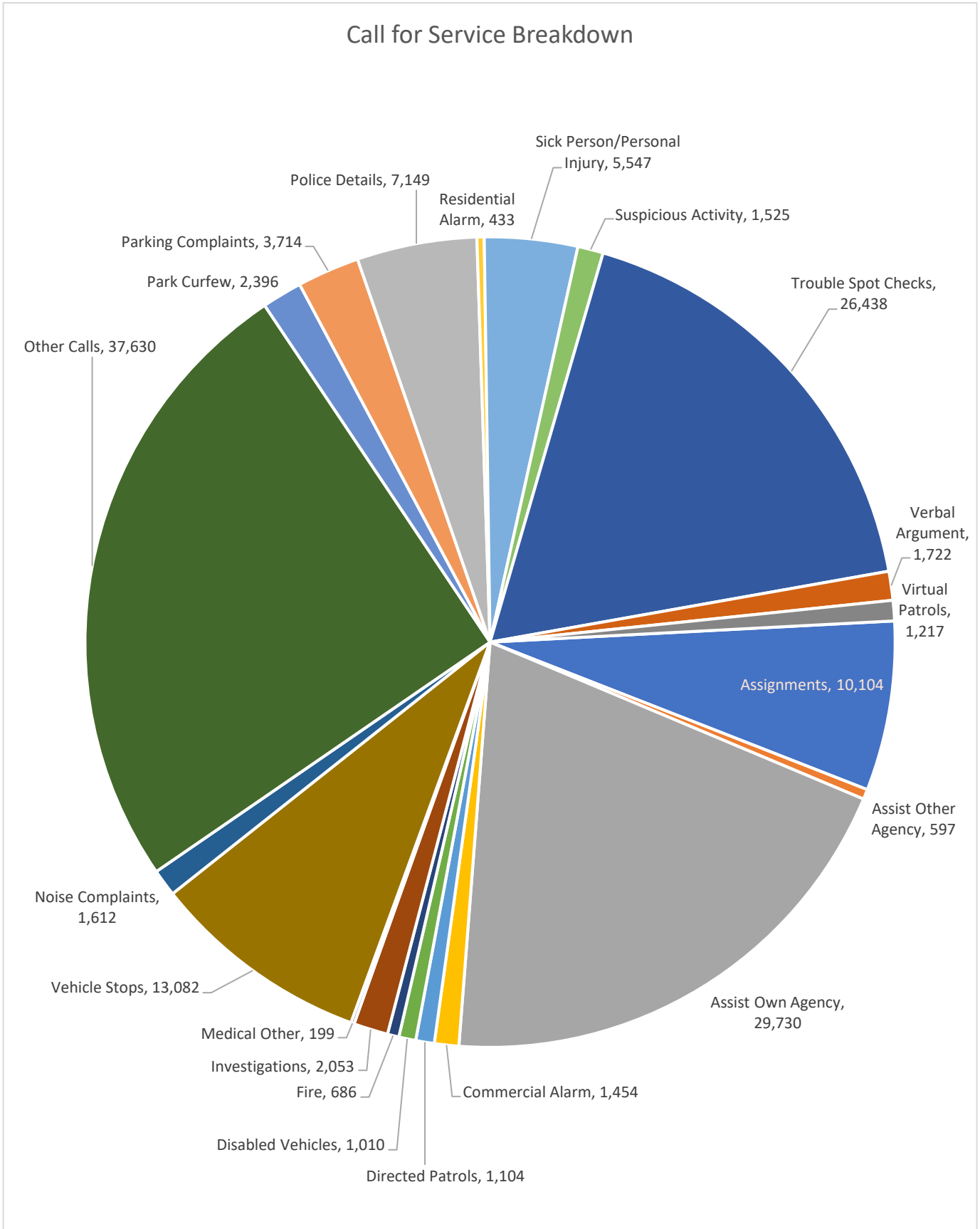
= 1,217



TOTAL ARRESTS

= 1,058

Calls for Service - Breakdown



Uniform Crime Report (UCR)

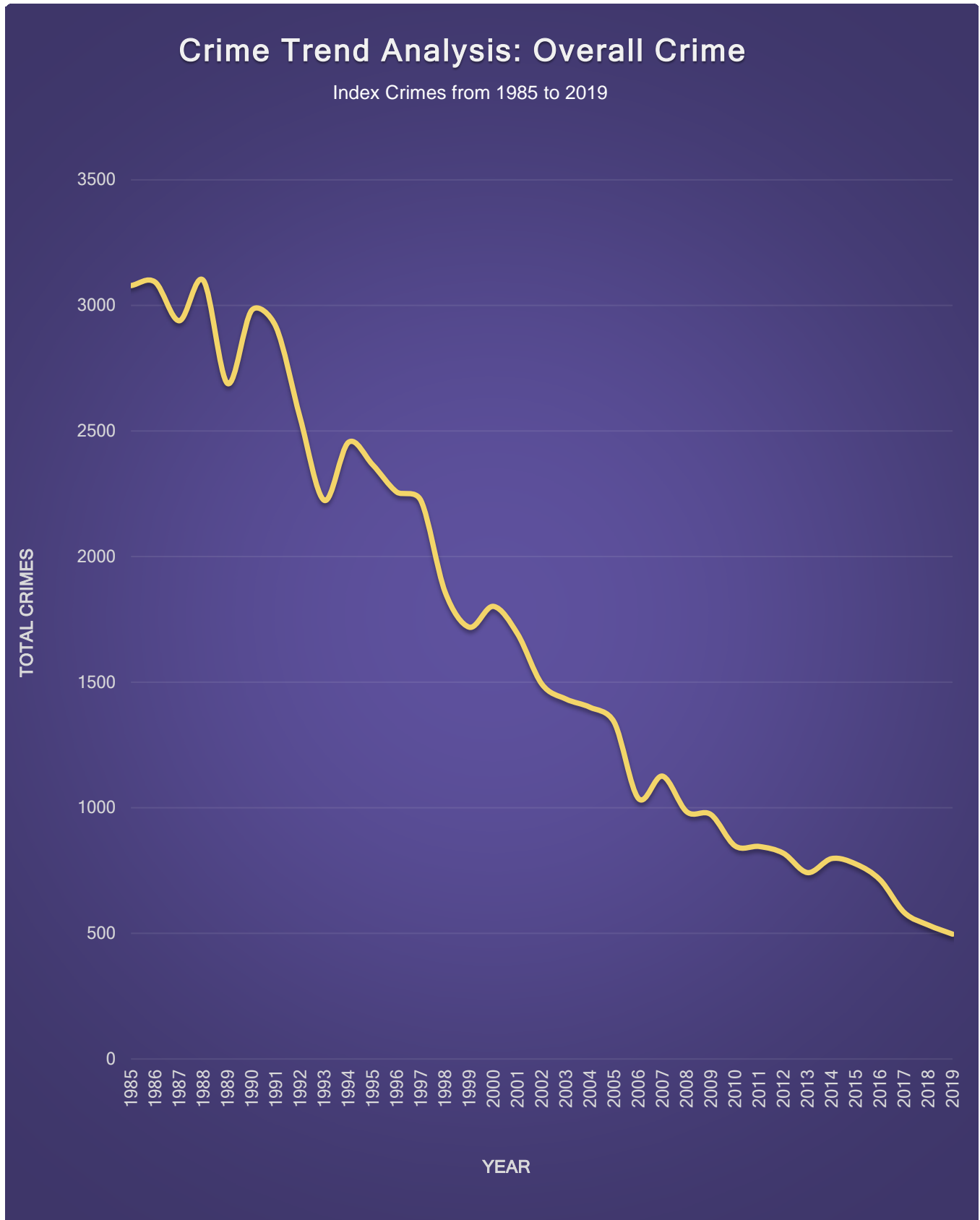


OFFENSE TYPE (Index Crimes)	2019		2018		% Change From 2018	5-Year (2014) Comparison		% Change From 2014
	Offense Count	Crime Rate*	Offense Count	Crime Rate*		Offense Count	Crime Rate*	
Murder	1	0.02	0	0.00	100%	0	0	100%
Rape	16	0.26	19	0.31	-15.8%	9	0.14	77.8%
Robbery	18	0.29	27	0.44	-33.3%	42	0.67	-57.1%
Aggravated Assault	57	0.92	52	0.84	9.6%	62	0.99	-8.1%
Burglary	55	0.89	70	1.14	-21.4%	116	1.86	-52.6%
Larceny (Theft)	306	4.96	302	4.90	1.3%	479	6.68	-36.1%
Automobile Theft	44	0.72	63	1.02	-30.2%	90	1.44	-51.1%
Arson**	1	0.02	0	0.00	100%	3	0.05	-66.7%
CRIME INDEX TOTAL	497	8.06	533	8.65	-1.9%	798	12.8	-37.7%
Crimes Against People	92	1.49	98	1.59	-6.1%	113	1.81	-18.6%
Crimes Against Property	405	6.57	435	7.06	-6.9%	685	10.99	-40.9%
Overall Crime (Part 1 & Part 2)	2060	33.43	2262	36.70	-8.9%	2614	41.93	-21.2%

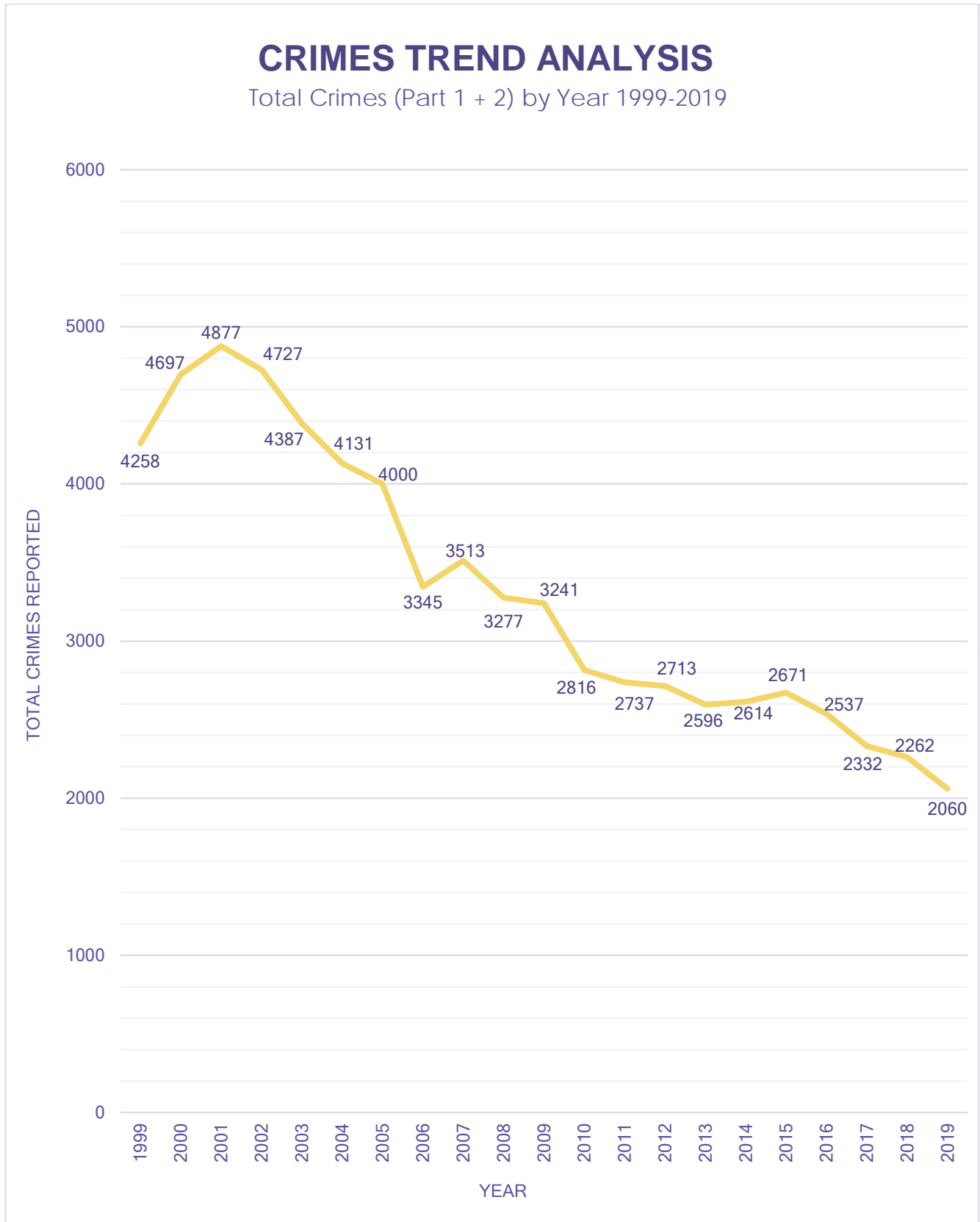
*Crime rate per 1,000 inhabitants based on est. population for each respective calendar year.

**The UCR Program does not include arson statistics when tabulating Index Crime totals.

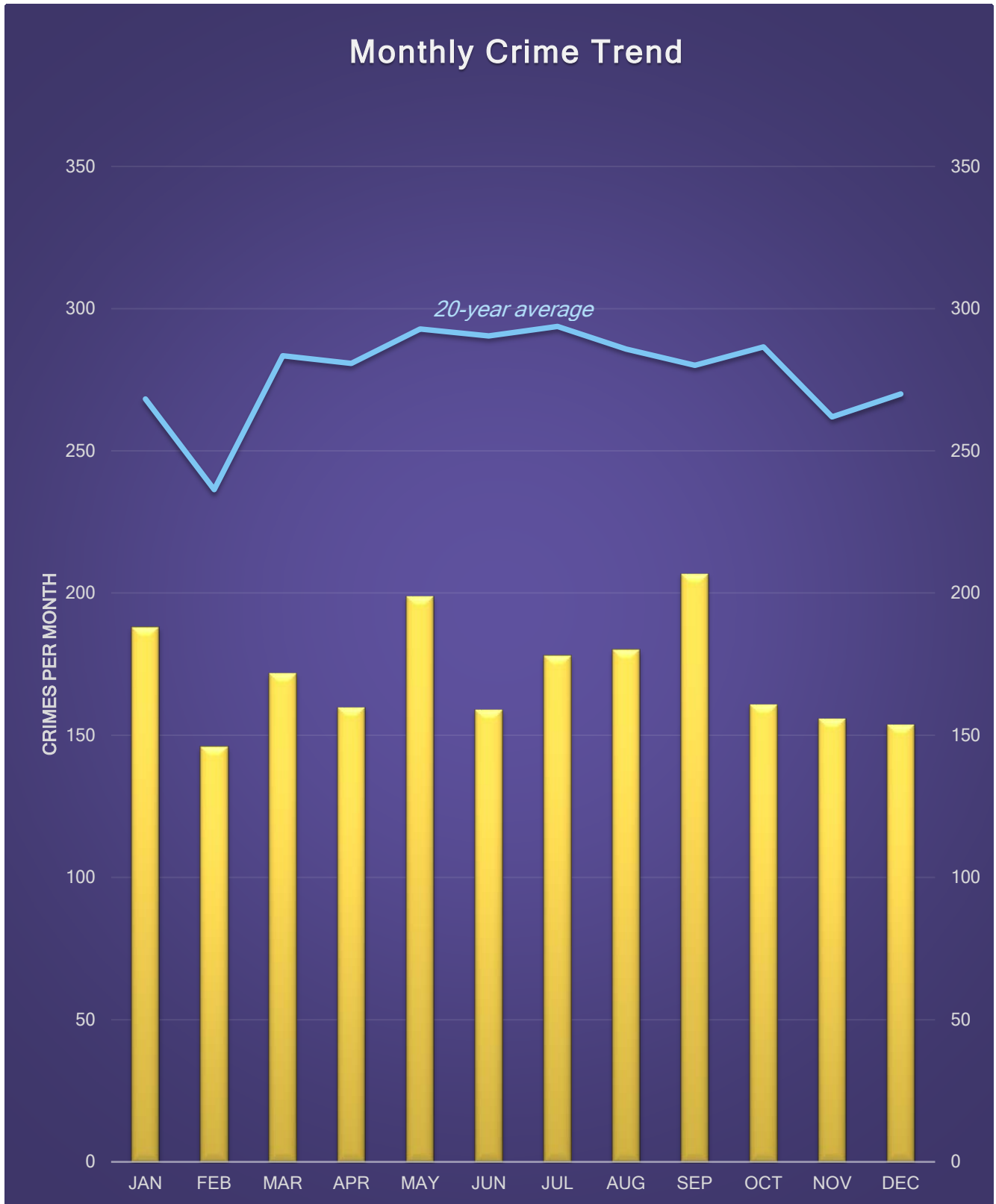
Overall Crime



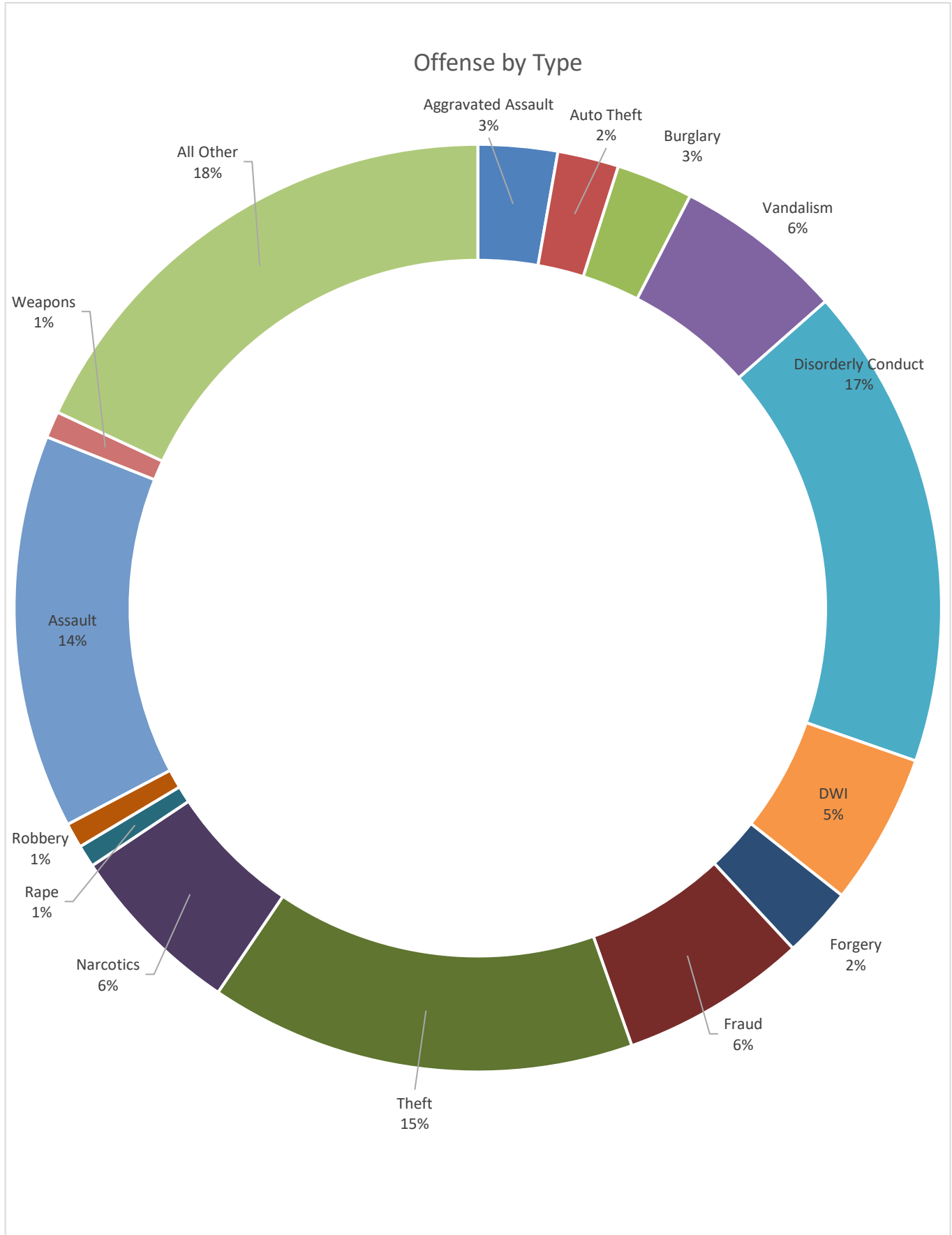
Total Crimes (Part 1 & 2)



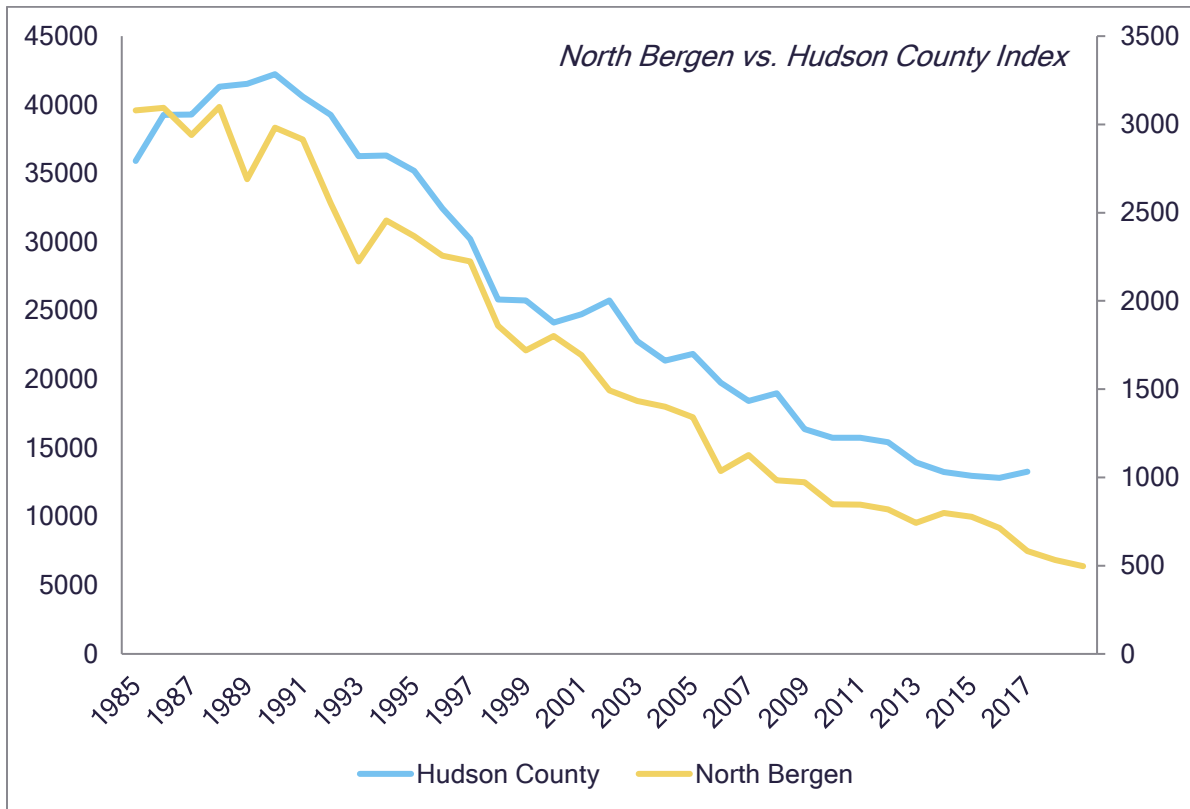
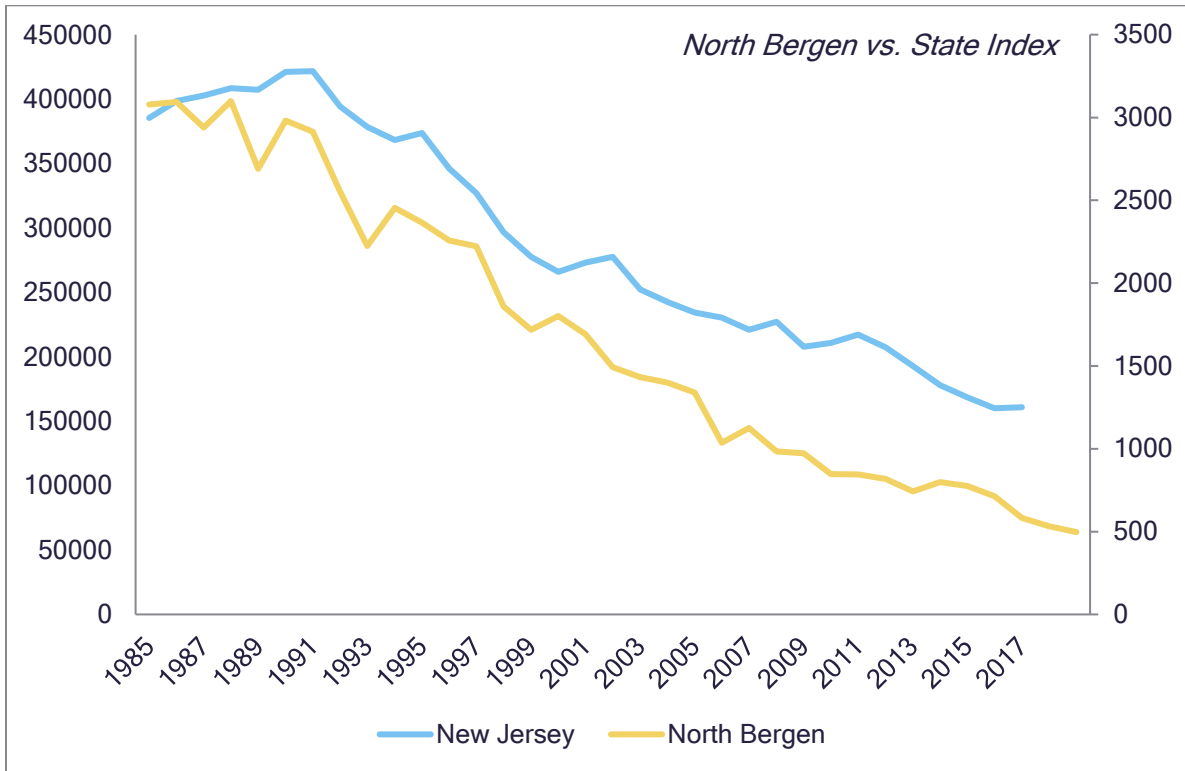
Monthly Crime Trends




Crime Breakdown



Crime Data Comparisons



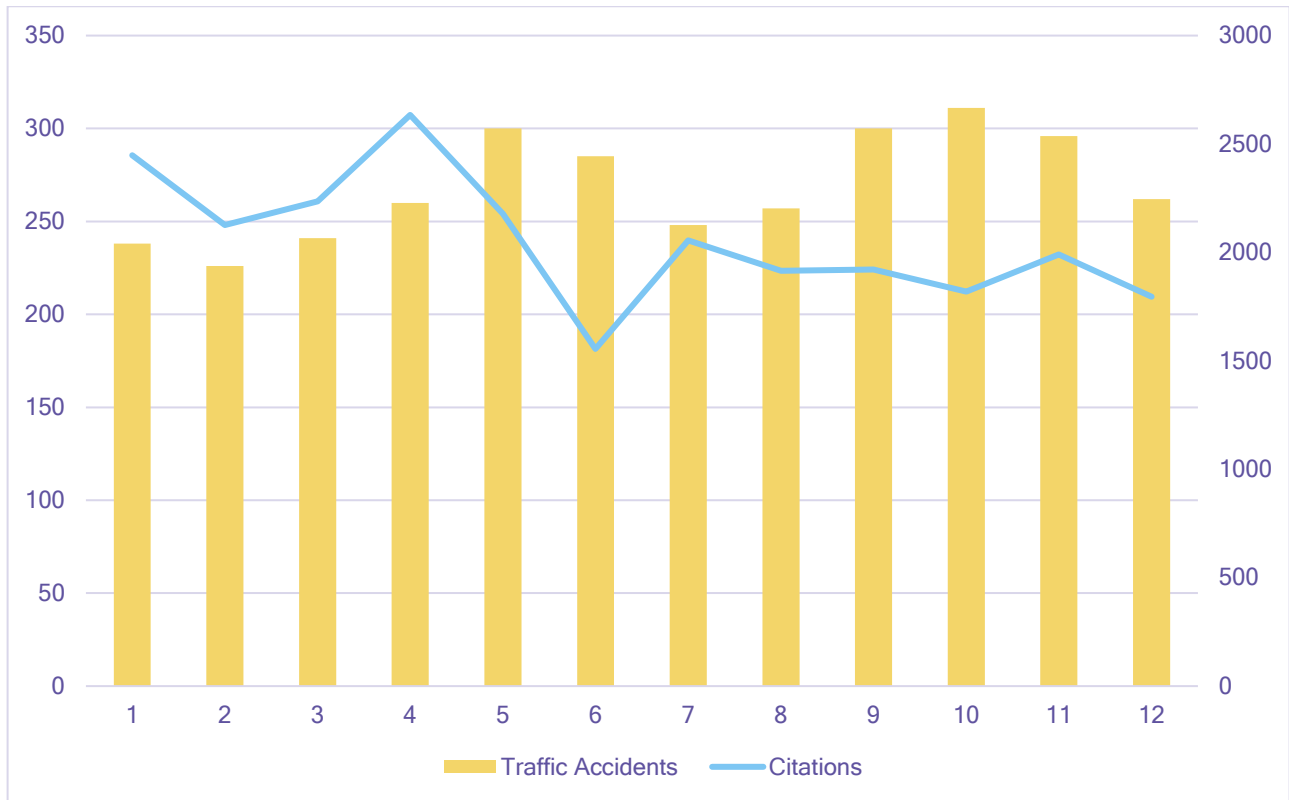
Arrest Statistics



PART I ARRESTS	2019	2018
Juveniles	16	33
Adults	376	314
Part I Totals	392	347
PART II ARRESTS		
Juveniles	122	92
Adults	644	643
Part II Totals	766	735
TOTAL ARRESTS		
Juveniles	138	125
Adults	1,020	957
Arrest Totals	1158	1082

Traffic Statistics

Totals	Traffic Accidents	Tows	Citations	D.U.I.
January	238	111	2448	4
February	226	92	2127	12
March	241	140	2235	13
April	260	123	2634	14
May	300	96	2178	7
June	285	101	1555	7
July	248	79	2056	3
August	257	96	1916	10
September	300	115	1921	9
October	311	127	1820	10
November	296	152	1991	14
December	262	122	1796	6
Total	3224	1354	24677	109



NOTABLE CASES

Bicycle/Package Thefts

North Bergen Detectives were investigating a burglary and theft to a residence in the North Bergen uptown area involving the theft of a bicycle. Upon reviewing surveillance video in the area, detectives recognized the actor from a previous BOLO (Be on the Look Out) sent out by the West New York Police department. This same suspect was involved in stealing bicycles from residences along River Road in their township. The suspect was subsequently arrested wearing the same exact clothing he was observed wearing on surveillance video. Due to the suspects clothing and physical description, this suspect was also identified as an individual who was responsible for multiple package thefts in the area.



Gang Arrest



On September 02, 2019, the North Bergen Police Department received a "Be On The Look Out" (B.O.L.O) flyer from the Spring Valley Police Department out of Rockland County, New York. This B.O.L.O provided information on two suspects involved in a homicide that were considered to be armed and dangerous. One of the suspects was identified as a 17-year-old known Bloods Street Gang member. The other suspect was unknown and had yet to be identified. A search

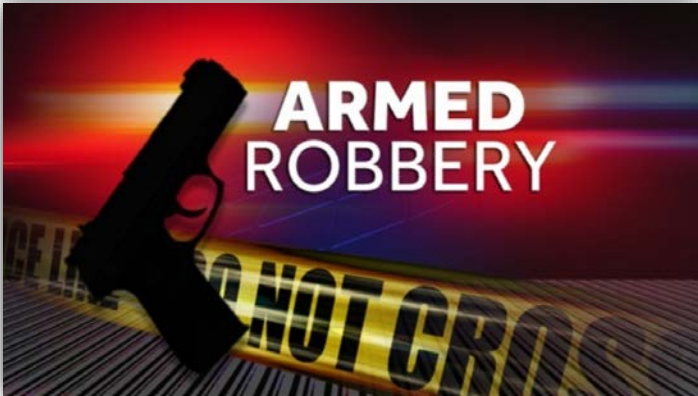
of this agency's in-house database for the known juvenile was conducted which resulted in an address out of North Bergen. A North Bergen Detective responded to the address and established a fixed surveillance on the residence. Four individuals exited the residence and entered a vehicle with New York license plates. Upon conducting a motor vehicle stop, the occupants were identified. The 17-year-old juvenile was placed into custody as a fugitive from justice. The other male involved in the homicide was identified by Detective Botello as the result of the motor vehicle stop and was also apprehended.

Narcotics Raid

During the month of October, a citizen approached North Bergen Detectives about the distribution of narcotics, specifically heroin, out of a residence in the midtown area of the Township. North Bergen Detectives immediately began an investigation that spanned approximately two months in duration. With the assistance of the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office Narcotics Unit, numerous controlled purchases of narcotics were made at this residence and at a hotel located in East Rutherford. A court authorized search warrant was granted and with the assistance of the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office, Hudson County Sheriff's Office, Hudson County Regional SWAT Team, and East Rutherford Police Department, the search warrant was executed which resulted in 6 arrests, the seizure of approximately \$8,000 in U.S. currency and packaged heroin.

NOTABLE CASES (CONTINUED)

Armed Robbery









On 7/09/2019, North Bergen Police Officers responded to the area of Broadway on a report of an armed robbery with a handgun. The victim was walking on Boulevard East toward Broadway when he was approached by two unknown suspects. The male suspect brandished a handgun and pointed it at the victim's stomach demanding his belongings. The victim turned over his cellphone and wallet

containing money and credit cards. North Bergen Detectives aggressively canvassed the area and were able to track the suspects utilizing surveillance video from both residential cameras and this agency's township-wide closed-circuit camera system. The two suspects entered a vehicle and fled the scene headed south on Tonnelles Avenue toward Jersey City. The vehicle passed one of our agency's automated license plate readers (ALPRs) at which point Detectives were able to successfully identify the vehicle and the suspects responsible for this crime. The vehicle was entered into the National Crime Identification Center's database (NCIC) as a felony vehicle. Shortly thereafter, the vehicle was stopped by the Newark Police Department, and the suspects were taken into custody. A search of the suspect's vehicle revealed a handgun and narcotics and proceeds of the robbery belonging to the victim.



Sexual Assault (Stranger Rape)

On 10/26/2019 this agency received a report of an aggravated sexual assault. During the course of the investigation it was learned that the sexual assault was a "stranger rape". The suspect followed the victim on foot and abducted her by dragging her into a cemetery where the assault took place. North Bergen Detectives conducted an exhaustive canvass for video surveillance and were able to track the suspect for several blocks, where they discovered a possible witness. This individual provided a first name and cell phone number of the suspect. Detective Botello conducted a thorough search in this agency's in-house computer database of all persons with the suspect's first name which resulted in over 150 persons. Detective Botello came across a booking photo of a 17-year-old male from an arrest that was made approximately 10 years ago. Due to Detective Botello's keen observations and persistence, he investigated further and conducted a search of the suspect's updated driver's license which resulted in a positive match. Shortly thereafter, the suspect was arrested and charged with multiple crimes, including the following 1st degree crimes: aggravated sexual assault, kidnapping and robbery.

OFFICERS OF THE MONTH (JAN-JUN)

JANUARY	<p>Officer Sean Rahbari</p> <p>During the month of January, Officer Rahbari led the North Bergen Police Department with 15 arrests. On January 2nd, Officer Rahbari conducted a motor vehicle stop that led to an arrest for narcotics distribution. On January 4th, he conducted a motor vehicle stop that led to the arrest of three parties for e-cigarettes with CBD oil. On January 11th, he conducted a motor vehicle stop that led to the arrest for vape cartridge containing THC. On January 19th, Officer Rahbari conducted a motor vehicle stop that led to the arrest of two parties in possession of narcotics.</p>	
FEBRUARY	<p>Officer Robert Garcia</p> <p>On February 3rd, Officer Garcia responded to Walmart on a report of a fight with a knife involved. Officer Garcia met with an employee in front of the store who advised him the actor barricaded herself inside the closet near customer service. He encountered the female and ordered her to drop the knife, but she refused. He used his pepper spray and continued to order her to drop the knife, but she refused. Officer Garcia was able to strike the female in the arm with his baton, causing her to drop the knife. He was able to finally subdue to female with the assistance of another officer. Due to Officer Garcia's training and experience, he was able to take over and control a situation where it could have escalated to a deadly force situation.</p>	
MARCH	<p>George Dabal and Eric Weyand</p> <p>On March 25th, Officers Dabal and Weyand were working a plain clothes burglary detail when communications received a call of a suspicious male looking into windows of a residence. The officers responded and the ensuing investigation led to an individual that was trespassing and peering into windows. Officers Dabal and Weyand prevented this party from committing further crimes in the Township of North Bergen. On March 27th, Officers Dabal and Weyand were able to locate and arrest a suspect wanted for numerous burglaries out of North Bergen and Farview.</p>	
APRIL	<p>Officer Christopher Orellana</p> <p>On April 16th, Detective Orellana conducted an investigation on a reported burglary and theft to an apartment building. Video surveillance showed a suspect forcibly enter a locked storage area in the basement where he stole a bicycle valued at \$700.00. Detective Orellana reviewed the video and observed the suspect resembled a Be-On-The-Lookout that was issued by the West New York Police Department for similar thefts. He was able to locate the suspect and his investigation led to the recovery of the stolen bicycle.</p>	
MAY	<p>Officer Salvatore Giuca</p> <p>On May 10, Fairview Police pursued a stolen vehicle into the North Bergen. The vehicle was involved in several motor vehicle accidents putting motorists and pedestrians at risk. The vehicle was eventually involved in another accident and the driver and passengers fled on foot. One actor was quickly apprehended by members of the North Bergen Police Department. The second actor fled into residential yards and he was apprehended by Officer Giuca who gave chase. Officer Giuca's intuition and familiarity with the area put him in the right spot at the right time where he was able to bring the suspect into custody.</p>	
JUNE	<p>Officer Jeffrey Gennari</p> <p>During the month of June, Officer J. Gennari had four arrests, including an arrest for nine indictable crimes including distribution of narcotics within a School Zone and Public Park. Officer Gennari's proactive policing prevented children who frequent these areas from being exposed to dangerous narcotics.</p>	

OFFICERS OF THE MONTH (JUL-DEC)

JULY	<p>Officer Johnny Sanchez</p> <p>On July 2, Officer Sanchez received an alert for a vehicle suspected of being involved in a homicide in Fairview. Officer Sanchez was able to positively identify the vehicle from a prior incident. As a result of the information provided by Officer Sanchez, the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office was able to identify and charge the four individuals involved in the homicide. On July 29, Officer Sanchez observed two people reaching into a USPS mailbox and removing mail. He identified the individuals and coordinated with postal investigators to expose a wide-scale mail phishing ring.</p>	
AUGUST	<p>Officer Bryan Suarez</p> <p>Officer Suarez led the North Bergen Police Department in arrests during the month of August, which included five arrests for impaired driving. Officer Suarez's proactive policing and aggressive traffic enforcement removed criminals off the streets and impaired drivers off the road keeping residents and visitors of the Township of North Bergen safe.</p>	
SEPTEMBER	<p>Salvatore Giuca</p> <p>On September 20, Officer Giuca observed a hand-to-hand narcotics transaction and detained the parties involved. He determined that the adult solicited and purchased cocaine from a juvenile. The adult was charged for employing a juvenile in drug distribution. On September 26, Officer Giuca stopped a vehicle in violation of a local ordinance and immediately observed a strong odor of raw marijuana. Officer Giuca conducted a thorough investigation which yielded over 5 pounds of marijuana and a large quantity of US currency. The defendant was charged with numerous crimes including narcotics distribution and money laundering.</p>	
OCTOBER	<p>Detective Hector Botello</p> <p>On October 26, this agency received a report of a rape. During the course of the investigation it was determined that the rape was a "stranger rape". Detectives were able to obtain the actor's first name and cell number after tracking him on CCTV to a local business. Detective Botello utilized the department's database to attempt to identify the suspect. He searched hundreds of police records looking for people with the same first name as the suspect. Detective Botello was able to identify the actor from a ten-year-old booking photograph. With the information retrieved by Detective Botello the actor was arrested just after five days of committing the rape.</p>	
NOVEMBER	<p>Detective Jason Castillo</p> <p>On November 27, there was a report of a residential burglary and theft. The proceeds involved jewelry amounting to over \$15,000. Detective J. Castillo was able to track the suspect's movements utilizing footage from several locations over a 5-hour period. Detective Castillo tracked the actor to a Starbucks where he was able to obtain a clear image of the actor. An alert was sent to surrounding police departments which led to the identification and apprehension of the actor.</p>	
DECEMBER	<p>Officer Jorge Palaguachi and Christian Fernandez</p> <p>On December 4th Officer Palaguachi conducted a motor vehicle stop of an unregistered vehicle where he detected an odor of burnt marijuana emanating from the vehicle. Officer Fernandez arrived on scene to assist officer Palaguachi in his investigation. Further investigation lead to the recovery of a knife, a stolen handgun and several ski masks. Officers Fernandez and Palaguachi demonstrated vigilance and applied sound investigative tactics to remove a dangerous offender from the street.</p>	

OFFICER OF THE YEAR



Detective Hector Botello has been a member of the North Bergen Police Department for eight years. He has spent seven of those years assigned to various units of the Detective Bureau, including the Burglary Unit, Major Crimes and Street Crimes. In 2015, Detective Botello was assigned as a gold shield Detective for the North Bergen Police Department.

Detective Botello has shown a passion for investigative work. His enthusiasm and keen investigative skills have led to the removal of dangerous and violent offenders from the street.

Detective Botello continues to make the Township of North Bergen a safer place for all its' residents and visitors. During 2019 Detective Hector Botello made numerous arrests. The following are highlights of some of his arrests:

September 2, 2019 - The North Bergen Police Department received a Be-On-The-Lookout (BOLO) out of the Spring Valley Police Department in Rockland County, New York. The BOLO provided information on two wanted homicide suspects. Having had prior knowledge of the suspects, Detective Botello conducted a fixed surveillance at a location he believed the suspects would visit. After locating them, he was able to conduct a felony stop of the suspects where he apprehended them.

October 26, 2019 - The North Bergen Police Department received a report of a sexual assault, which was later determined to be a "stranger rape". During the course of the investigation, Detective Botello was able to obtain the actor's first name and cell phone number after observing his actions on CCTV video. Detective Botello searched the police department's database for all persons with the same first name as the suspect. After scouring through hundreds of photos from police reports he came across a 10-year old booking photo of 17-year-old male who seemed to match surveillance video of the suspect. Detective Botello proceeded to obtain an updated driver's license of this party, which resulted in a positive match of the suspect. The suspect was successfully apprehended hours later.



Congratulations to Detective Hector Botello on an incredible 2019!

APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTIONS



Promotions to Sergeant:

Steven Schubert – January 18, 2019
 Joseph Gorrin – March 6, 2019
 Thomas Yfantis – March 6, 2019
 Peter Insetta – June 12, 2019
 Shannon Tattoli – June 12, 2019
 Roberto Maldonado - June 12, 2019
 Santiago Hernandez - June 12, 2019
 Alfredo Echeverria - June 12, 2019

Promotions to Lieutenant:

John Stahl – January 3, 2019
 Nicholas Galliano - June 12, 2019
 Michele Bartoli - June 12, 2019
 Alex Barrios - June 12, 2019
 Victor Queiro - June 12, 2019
 Roberto Ruiz – November 11, 2019

Promotions to Captain:

James Gaughran - June 12, 2019
 David Dowd - June 12, 2019
 Cynthia Montero - June 12, 2019
 Jorge Raposo - June 12, 2019

Promotions to Inspector:

David Corbisiero - June 12, 2019
 Robert Farley - June 12, 2019

Promotions to Deputy Chief:

William Lyons - June 12, 2019



New Appointments:

Mayco Diaz – January 4, 2019
 Julio Noriega – January 4, 2019
 Jorge Palaguachi – January 4, 2019
 Erick Rodriguez – January 4, 2019
 Sammy Awadallah – April 18, 2019
 Gissell Francisco – April 18, 2019
 Brian Vitali – December 13, 2019



RE-ACCREDITATION



On October 13, 2016, the North Bergen Police Department achieved its first accredited status from the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP). Accredited status represents a significant professional achievement for the police department, its officers, and the community we serve. The attitudes, training, and actions of the North Bergen Police Department reflect our dedication to the pursuance and compliance of the standards contained in this program. Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies and procedures that are conceptually sound and operationally effective reflecting a commitment to advancement of the law enforcement profession.



The accreditation process however does not conclude upon receiving accredited certification. It is an ongoing practice which is reinforced and achieved only by a commitment to oversight. Accreditation requires that over one hundred professional standards, many of which have multiple objectives, are achieved, maintained and verified by NJSACOP every three years. In 2019, the North Bergen Police Department was reassessed by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Accreditation Program.



On August 26th, assessors from NJSACOP conducted an on-site visit to assess various aspects of the department to ensure standards were being met. On October 10th, Chief Dowd attended the NJSACOP Accreditation Board hearing along with Accreditation

Manager Sergeant Anthony Caramucci and the NBPD command staff where members of the State board conducted interviews and fact-finding regarding the North Bergen Police Department's Accreditation Program. At the conclusion of the review board hearing, the North Bergen Police Department was granted re-accredited status.

On November 6th, Dr. Harry J. Delgado, the NJSACOP Accreditation Program Director and senior board member, South Brunswick Chief Raymond Hayducka presented the Township of North Bergen Police Department with the State's official accreditation certification.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



The North Bergen Police Department strongly embraces the philosophy of community policing in all its daily operations and functions. Community Policing is based upon a partnership between the police department and the community where both share the responsibility for identifying, reducing, eliminating and preventing problems that impact public safety and the quality of life.

There are several crucial elements to the Department's community policing strategy:

- That the police department, residents and other Township agencies work together to prevent crime and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods;
- That a positive working relationship is maintained between our officers and the community they serve; and
- That intelligence-led strategies are developed and implemented in order to prevent and reduce crime and disorder.



The North Bergen Police Department's policy is to work together with the community as partners to identify and prioritize problems of crime and disorder and to share the responsibility for the development and implementation of proactive problem-solving strategies that address these issues. The strategies used are successful because they mobilize the combined efforts and resources of the police department, the community and township government.

To foster these Police-Community partnerships, the North Bergen Police department relies heavily on community outreach programs such as our monthly North Bergen Township Alternative Policing Strategy (NBTAPS) meetings as well as other events that provide direct channels for the community to become involved in the problem-solving process.

YOUTH OUTREACH

The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, received guidance from juvenile justice practitioners, subject matter experts, and other stakeholders through numerous sessions and written testimonies. Using the report as a foundation, the North Bergen Police Department has



adopted some of its findings to demonstrate how positive police and youth engagement can increase public safety, reduce crime and recidivism, and to foster trust between our youth and law enforcement.

Youth interactions with law enforcement may at times present unique challenges, but also affords many opportunities to foster positive relationships and outcomes. For many young people, their first encounter with the criminal justice system is through law enforcement. The nature and circumstances of these encounters can have a significant and lasting impression on a young person. It is critical that law enforcement uses these situations as opportunities to interact with youth to instill trust, improve social outcomes, and strengthen community relationships

Our officers are encouraged and guided to engage youth in non-formal settings such as after school events, as well as in more structured events such as our Junior Police Academy. The North Bergen Police Department, in conjunction with the North Bergen Board of Education, has invested heavily in providing law enforcement resource officers in every school. Our school officers are highly trained in fostering beneficial relationships in an scholastic environment without disrupting the educational process.



The North Bergen Police Department has devoted significant resources throughout the community to lead change that will safeguard and protect our youth and support safe, healthy, and productive futures for all community members.

TRAINING



During 2019, each and every Officer of the North Bergen Police Department participated in an in-service training offered throughout the State of New Jersey. Officers participated in over one hundred different types of courses which touched upon their assignments throughout the department. The 2019 budget for the Training Unit totaled \$75,000.

A few examples of the mandatory training for 2019 include Domestic Violence, Bloodborne Pathogens, Hazardous Materials, Narcan, Autism Awareness and various medical/trauma control techniques. Members also trained in tactical courses including annual firearms training, defensive tactics, baton, Oleoresin Capsicum (pepper spray) and Conducted Energy Device (Taser) training. The department also conducted the annual Community Law Enforcement Affirmative Relations (CLEAR) training as mandated by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office. The topic for training in 2019 was Sexual Assault Investigations.

The North Bergen Police Department Training Unit conducted numerous critical incident (active shooter) training exercises at various locations throughout the township. A few examples include incidents in Town Hall, the North Bergen Municipal Court, the North Bergen Parking Authority and various office buildings throughout the township. School Resource Officers and Special Law Enforcement Officers received additional training on responding to incidents in the township schools. These training sessions included active shooter response, barricaded suspects, de-escalation techniques and establishing the incident command system (ICS) during a critical incident.



Some notable training courses that were attended by Officers in 2019 include law enforcement media relations, social media training, advanced roadside impaired driving enforcement, animal cruelty investigations, basic crime analysis, arson investigations, behavioral threat assessment management in schools, CPR instructor, child abuse investigations, civil rights and bias crimes investigations, community policing principles, crime scene management, criminal interdiction, crisis negotiations, critical decision making for complex coordinated attacks, crisis intervention team training (CIT), document fraud, emergency medical dispatch, high impact supervision, internal affairs policy and procedure course, police mountain bike instructor, 911 instructor training, resiliency training, and site protection through observational techniques. Female Officers of the department participated in a "Women in Command" course.

Chief Dowd and Deputy Chief Fasilis participated in the 2019 NJSACOP Senior Leaders Seminar at the College of Policing in Tulliallan Castle, Scotland.

GOALS FOR 2020

Body Worn Cameras



Pillar 3 of the 2015 Final Report of *The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing* recommends the implementation of technology based on best-practices to improve upon policing practices and help build trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Body-Worn Cameras (BWCs). The North Bergen Police Department has requested capital funding from the Township for the implementation of a BWC program.

Body-worn cameras promote accountability of both police and civilians, enhance the collection of evidence, and have been proven to reduce the number and cost of citizen complaints and internal investigations. Body-worn cameras also increase public and officer safety, reduce liability, increase transparency, and assist in criminal prosecutions. Implementing BWCs is also another way to maintain the integrity and safety of police officers.

Implementing new technologies can give police departments an opportunity to fully engage and educate communities in a dialogue about their expectations for transparency, accountability, and privacy.

The Department can also take advantage of BWC video for training purposes. By reviewing video and audio footage, police officers can learn from mistakes, as well as view positive behavior and successful police tactics.

As an accredited law enforcement agency, the North Bergen Police Department recognizes the importance of balancing the benefit of capturing evidence that may help solve crimes and prosecute offenders with that of individual privacy. By adopting sound policies and procedures, BWCs can be deployed to increase transparency and trust between our department and the community while at the same time protecting privacy.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)



The Department is planning to acquire several Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (drones). As opposed to manned aerial vehicles, UAVs can be readily deployed and offer many of the same advantages at a fraction of the cost. Requesting aerial assets from larger agencies is a time-consuming process. UAVs are better suited for in-progress crime monitoring such as pursuits and robberies, long-term surveillance, search and rescue operations, as well as routine patrol. A UAV acts as a force multiplier that can be utilized as a tool for searches in areas that are either inaccessible or too dangerous for

officers. UAVs can collect reconnaissance data, photograph crime scenes, and provide limited-scope short-term surveillance as well. UAVs can also be equipped with night vision and infrared enhancements to further assist the Department in law enforcement operations.

CONTACT



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www.northbergenpolice.com



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"Thank you for taking the time to read our annual report. As the chief law enforcement officer of this municipality, it is my top priority to foster a culture in policing that values transparency, accountability, and public engagement with the ultimate goal of earning community trust. The end result is the stability of our neighborhoods and the safety of our residents. As I have completed my 26th year in policing, it has been an honor to lead the dedicated men and women of this department since 2012 as they work tirelessly to ensure your safety."

Robert J. Dowd—Chief of Police