Town of Menasha
POLICE
Department

2013 Annual Report

OUR MISSION

The Town of Menasha Police Department exists for the purpose of providing an enhanced level of public safety in the community, protecting the constitutional rights of all people, and improving the quality of life of each citizen.
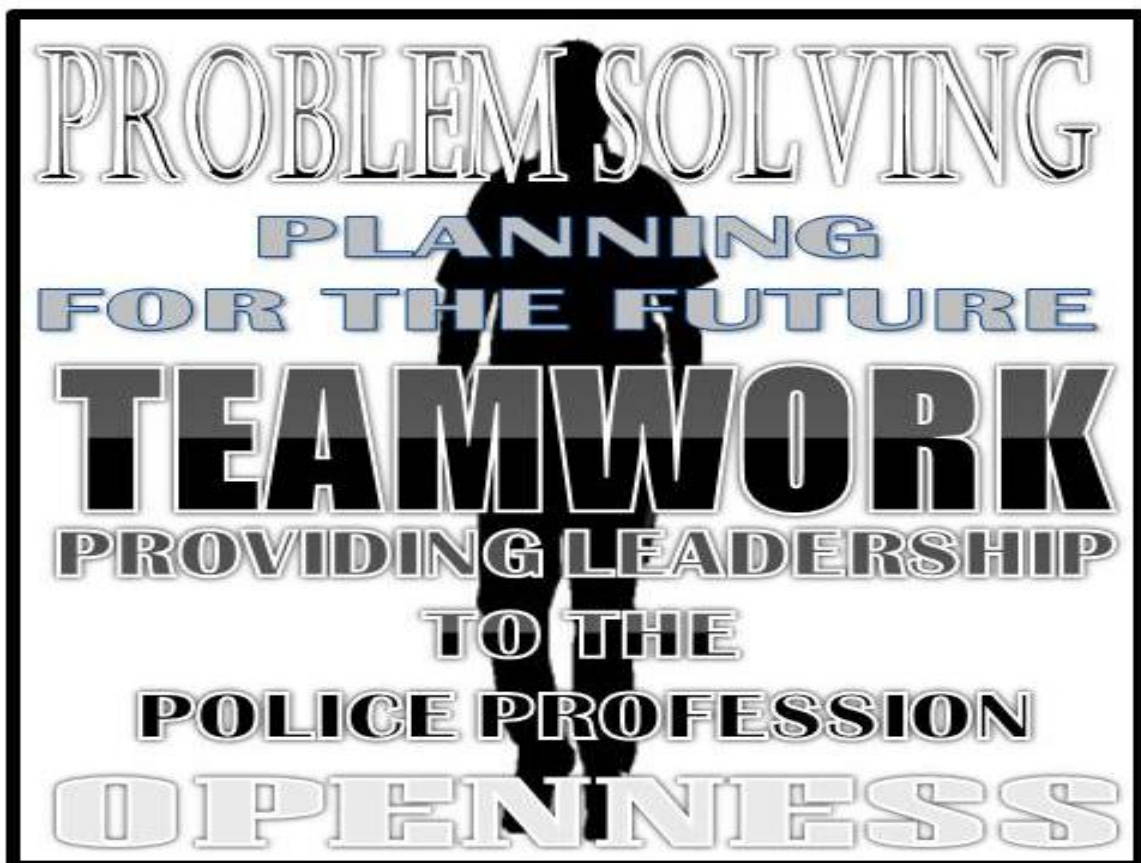
OUR COMMITMENTS

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

I am pleased to present our 2013 Annual Report. I hope this report gives you insight into the operations and accomplishments of the Town of Menasha Police Department. We are committed to providing quality services to the citizens, businesses, and visitors of the Town of Menasha and to maintain the high quality of life our community deserves.

Law enforcement is unique in that services need to be provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. Many people think of police work as simply enforcing the law, however there is much more than that. Our officers are problem solvers and work very hard to resolve many issues that occur throughout the year without having to take any enforcement action. Another unique aspect of law enforcement is that success is sometimes measured by what doesn't happen! We are committed to reducing crime by being proactive. This is accomplished by developing partnerships with the community and having effective crime prevention programs in place.

I am proud of the wonderful work that the men and women of the Town of Menasha Police Department accomplish on an annual basis.

Quite clearly the public also recognizes and appreciates what we do as an organization. We know this from an ongoing citizen's survey that is given to persons that have contact with the Town of Menasha Police Department.

The Town of Menasha Police Department continues to face the challenge of providing quality services with limited resources. There is no doubt that the state of economy affects everyone. We are continually looking for innovative ways to improve efficiency so the same quality of services town residents expect and deserve can be maintained.

Finally, I would like to thank the citizens of the Town of Menasha for their continued support. It is through corroboration and cooperation that the community and the police department work together to keep our community a safe one. Although crime does occur in the Town of Menasha, one only needs to look at the Crime Clock to appreciate the safe community in which we live.

Chief Rodney McCants

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

5 citizens appointed by town board

CHIEF OF POLICE

PATROL

INVESTIGATIONS

ADMINISTRATION

DAY SHIFT

Lieutenant (1)

Officers (4)

EVENING SHIFT

Lieutenant (1)

Officers (6)

NIGHT SHIFT

Lieutenant (1)

Officers (5)

SWING SHIFT

Lieutenant (1)

Lieutenant (1)

Detectives (2)

MEG unit (1)

Community Liaison Officer (1)

Administrative Assistant

Lieutenant (1)

Records Technician (1)

Communication Technicians (5)

Crossing Guards (3)

STAFF

SWORN

CHIEF OF POLICE
Rodney McCants

ADMINISTRATIVE LIEUTENANT
Tim Seaver

INVESTIGATIONS LIEUTENANT
Scott Blashka

PATROL LIEUTENANTS
Rick Leneau

Pete DeBoer

Gary Cutler

Jason Severson

DETECTIVES
Christopher Anderson

Jason Feucht

Tim Callan

COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER
Jason Weber

PATROL OFFICERS
Thomas Tralongo

Megan Hickey

Scott Boehlen

Michael Weinberger

Gerard Stephanie

Jeremiah Gustafson

Daniel Wiechman

Scott Farrell

John Swenson

Corey Colburn

Christopher LaSage

Evan Merkes

Seely Moe

Erwin Clay Davis

Christopher Brandt

CIVILIAN

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Sheri del Plaine

RECORDS TECHNICIAN
Erin LeMahieu

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIANS
Angela Oppor

Theresa Coenen

Christy Scott

JoAnn Richards

Andrew Gabrielse

CROSSING GUARDS
Jacquelyn Lovejoy

Lori Davis

Robert Birkholz

Stacy Plath

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This past year was an eventful one for the Town of Menasha Police Department. Our department encountered some challenging situations which we were able to overcome and we also lived up to our commitment of working with the community.

The following pages contain a snapshot of the past year.

Everyday Heroes

Officers are trained to respond to a variety of situations, from criminal investigations to emergency situations. This training starts in recruit school and continues annually. Every year this training is put to the test with the many calls that our officers are sent to. Here are two examples of heroic actions from the past year.

April 13, 2013

On April 13th, officers from the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, City of Menasha Police Department and Town of Menasha Police Department were sent to multiple accidents occurring along STH 441. As officers were attending to several accidents, a vehicle had lost control in the area and rolled over in the area of 441/Appleton Road. Officer Tom Tralongo, a 20 year veteran of the department, ran over to the vehicle and found the driver pinned under the car face down in the mud. Officer Tralongo was able to dig mud away from the man's head and turn his head so that he could breathe and stood by until medical personnel arrived.

The man was taken to a local hospital, where he was able to recover from his injuries, thanks in large part to Officer Tralongo's quick actions.

July 9, 2013

On July 9, 2013, at 2:29 a.m., the Winnebago County 911 center received a Linked to Life alert of a fire at a residence in the 2500 block of Southwood Drive. Officer Michael Weinberger, a 7 year veteran of the department, happened to be on patrol a few blocks away from the residence and arrived within a minute of the call. Smoke was coming from the home and he could see flames inside of the residence.

At the time it was believed that the homeowner was still inside. Officer Weinberger was able to enter the home and located the resident inside. Shortly after getting her outside, oxygen tanks inside of the home began to explode. Had it not been for the quick response and actions of Officer Weinberger, the resident certainly would have suffered serious injuries and this could have potentially been a fatal fire.

As a result of these officers' actions, they were both recognized by the town board and received Life Saving Awards from the department.

New Patrol Lieutenant Joins the Ranks

In January, the Town of Menasha Police Department hired Officer Jason Severson as a patrol lieutenant. Lieutenant Severson previously worked for the Kaukauna Police Department for 13 years as a patrol officer. He brings experience to our department as a current instructor of Firearms, Defensive and Arrest Tactics, Vehicle Contacts, Taser, Glock Armorer, and Field Trainer. Lieutenant Severson holds a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice/Leadership that he acquired from Marian University.

Lieutenant Severson is presently assigned to the night/evening shifts.

Traffic Safety Grants Make an Impact

In 2013, the Town of Menasha Police Department received three grants from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation - Bureau of Transportation Safety totaling $45,000 to target intoxicated drivers and speed enforcement. These grants ran from October 2012 through September 2013.

The Police Department was able to supplement our staffing with an additional 381 hours of dedicated traffic enforcement in 2013. As a result of these additional hours, the officers assigned to the grant deployments issued 323 citations and 338 warnings for a variety of traffic offenses. We were also able to purchase some vehicle equipment that included three Preliminary Breath Test units, two transport seats, a radar unit, one mobile data computer and docking station/stand.

Hollywood in the Town of Menasha

For two weeks in March, a little bit of Hollywood touched down in the Fox Cities! Sheboygan film director Ron Haese worked with area students, businesses and organizations on a film capturing the dangers of prescription drug abuse. The idea for the film came to Haese a year ago when he partnered with the Town of Menasha Police Department to film three public service announcements to complement the department's *Good Drugs Gone Bad* program on prescription drug abuse.

Haese, who also wrote the script for the film, spent several months researching local prescription drug use by speaking with teens, law enforcement and emergency medical personnel. "The best teacher with any student nowadays is their peers. What they see, what other kids do, they emulate," added Haese.

The film-titled *Ten Forty Eight,* which is the emergency radio code for overdose, centers on a group of teens that obtain prescription medication through a variety of means – some from home or stolen from relatives and others from pharmacies. The film continues with a party scene where the teens are taking the medications along with alcohol. As a result, two teens overdose.

One dies and the other is saved due to the valiant efforts of emergency responders and hospital emergency room staff. The film culminates with the aftermath of these overdoses as they attend the funeral of one of the teens and watch as three teens are arrested and jailed for their role in bringing the prescription medications to the party.

The film was shot at various locations throughout the Fox Cities including Kimberly High School, Theda Clark Medical Center, Westgor Funeral Home, Menasha Police Department and a local home. Cast for the film included students from Kimberly, Neenah and Kiel High Schools along with staff and employees from all of the film locations, as well as Gold Cross Ambulance and the Town of Menasha Police Department.

Ten Forty Eight was premiered to Fox Valley residents in December. Thanks to donations from several local companies and organizations, the film will be distributed throughout northeast Wisconsin.
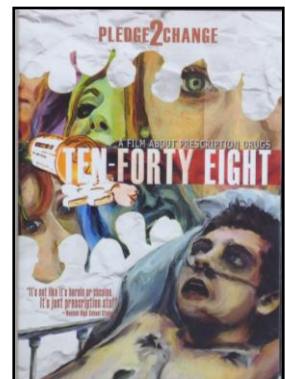
Attention Drug Dealers – *Keep Out!*

Stay out of Winnebago County! -- that is the message that is being delivered to those drug dealers that are thinking about setting up shop here. In the past few years, we have seen an alarming increase in heroin abuse which is leading to a large number of deaths. Not only is this a problem here in Winnebago County, we have seen a spike throughout northeast Wisconsin.

According to the Winnebago County Coroner, in 2012 there were 27 deaths attributed to drug use! In addition to that, paramedics administered over 100 doses of Narcan, a powerful medication that reverses the effects of an overdose.

Heroin is a very powerful drug and was once thought of as a "big city" drug and, quite frankly, we did not encounter it here in the Fox Valley. Heroin is not a beginner drug and is one that users work their way up to. With that said, there is really no prevention program

> *"I am tired of reading about young people dying because of heroin overdoses. You are responsible for that. The drug community is a close-knit community from my standpoint, because they watch what is happening to others and change their behavior. You are, in my aspect, going to be the poster child for heroin dealers in this county. So I'm going to hit you hard and make you an example."*
>
> *Winnebago County Judge Thomas Gritton*

aimed at heroin abuse. That is what makes prevention programs aimed at marijuana and prescription drugs much more crucial!

In November of 2012, the crime prevention officers worked with the chiefs and sheriff and held a commercial and photo shoot featuring the SWAT team and all of the police chiefs and sheriff. This poster has been surfacing at locations throughout the county the past year and the commercial has also been on television.

A Winnebago County heroin task force was created in October, which features groups working on ways to reduce the impact in our communities.

Drug abuse is a problem that is leading to deaths and crimes throughout the county and we, as a community, need to take a stand and tell these dealers to "stay out of the town!"

Summer Safety Night Marks Ten Years

This past year we reached a milestone with our Summer Safety Night event. This event had its start in 2004 as a community wide event to celebrate National Night Out. Initially the event was solely a police department function, but as it grew, all departments in the Town of Menasha now play some role in planning and participation. In 2012, the event was moved, due to the heat and unpleasant weather, from National Night Out in August to the middle of June and renamed Summer Safety Night.

It is always difficult to judge the attendance each year, but judging on the number of bike helmets and Home Depot building kits that are given away, we have consistently entertained about 1,000 people! This year's event featured a few new areas, such as the US Army, Valley Athletics sports safety and the WI State Patrol Choose Your Ride car.

OWI Task Force

Following the success of the Brown County and Outagamie County OWI Task Forces, law enforcement in Winnebago County have worked together to create a multi-jurisdictional force to send a message to those determined to drink and drive! This effort began in November of 2012 and continued throughout 2013. The Winnebago County OWI Task Force consists of officers from the Wisconsin State Patrol, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, and the police departments in Oshkosh, Neenah, Menasha and Town of Menasha. There were several deployments last year consisting of officers from these agencies patrolling the highways and roadways of the Town of Menasha. Funds for these operations come from the WI Department of Transportation.

Missing Children Investigation Team

Each year in the United States 1.3 million kids go missing. Most of these are runaways who return home after a short period of time. However, that number also includes over 200,000 cases of parental abductions, 58,000 non-family abductions, and 100 – 200 stranger abductions each year.

This past September, 14 people from different Winnebago County agencies, including Detective Chris Anderson, Officer Jason Weber and Town of Menasha Fire Department Division Chief of Training Todd Sweeney, traveled to Baltimore to receive training on forming a CART unit. CART (Child Abduction Response Team) is a team of trained and experienced individuals from different disciplines (police, fire, school, corrections, human services, etc.) who search for and investigate cases of missing children. These specialized resources can be rapidly deployed in the event of a child abduction.

The training, travel and lodging was grant funded through the AMBER ALERT organization. Since that training, the group has been hard at work creating the protocols and obtaining equipment for the team. Some of the members are headed to an advanced training on investigative strategies. The plan is to have the team fully functional by summer of 2014.

Solving Crimes

A police officer's primary responsibility is to maintain law and order in the community. Even though we strive to maintain the quality of life which we are accustomed to, crime does occur. In the past year our officers and detectives were presented with some challenging and oftentimes interesting cases. Here is a sample of some of those cases from the past year.

June 30, 2013

Town of Menasha police officers, along with emergency medical personnel, were sent to an east side home for a 22 year old man who was found to have passed away overnight. The investigation determined that the man had passed away due to a heroin overdose.

Investigators from the Lake Winnebago Area MEG Unit assisted our detectives and they were able to track the source of the heroin to a 21 year old Neenah man. He was arrested on charges of 1st degree reckless homicide.

September 21, 2013

As a result of information gathered during a traffic stop, officers were able to obtain a search warrant for a west side residence for drug activity. During the search warrant, officers uncovered illegal drugs, used

syringes and a gun in the home. These items were all in the presence of two small children.

Child Protective Services was contacted to remove the children and several people were arrested on outstanding warrants and also for a wide range of charges including child neglect, possession of crystal meth, possession of heroin, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

December 27, 2013

Around 9:00 am, the Winnebago County Communications Center sent out an Attempt to Locate some possible suspects in a bank robbery in Black Creek. A patrol officer took note of the descriptions of the suspects and their car.

Shortly before 11:00 am, the officer noticed a car matching that description parked at a west side motel. A short time later the suspects left the motel and began to drive away. With the assistance of a lieutenant, the vehicle was stopped and it was determined that these were the bank robbers.

A search warrant was served on their motel room and detectives were able to gather evidence of the robbery as well as some other crimes.

Technology Update

The use of technology has become a daily occurrence in our lives over the past two decades. Law enforcement has been no stranger to the advances in technology and we have embraced many of these new and innovative ways to police. Here are a few ways that we are using technology.

Digital Radios

In March, all law enforcement in Winnebago County made the switch to an 800 MHz radio system to comply with the Federal Communications Commission's new frequency plan for public safety in the United States. The new radios feature an emergency button that will send an alert if an officer or firefighter is in trouble. The system was tested over the summer with the law enforcement agencies and this past fall all of the fire departments switched over.

Video Cameras

All Town of Menasha patrol cars are equipped with a mobile video camera which is capable of recording what is occurring in front of the patrol car as well as the back seat. In late 2013, we obtained two cameras that an officer can wear on their uniform that will record activity away from the patrol car.

Surveillance Cameras

In addition to the cameras that are used by our patrol officers, the department was able to partner with Scheels to obtain two trail cameras for surveillance. Periodically, these cameras have been used in areas where there have been reported crimes.

Mobile Data Computer (MDC)

The MDC has become one of the biggest assets to a patrol officer. Officers are able to have their calls sent to them via the MDC, check DOT and wanted files, and now complete a variety of paperwork without using a pen any longer. Officers also have access to a variety of intelligence data such as crime mapping and analysis, building plans, and town surveillance cameras through a secure connection.

Arrest Processing

In the spring of 2013, a Live Scan computer was installed in the booking area which allows the officer to record and submit a person's fingerprints electronically. In addition to this, we were connected to the Winnebago County Offendertrak system for mug shots.

CRIME TREND REPORT

The following section represents a comprehensive analysis of the crime trends in Town of Menasha over the past decade.

The information is presented to provide the reader with a better understanding of how crime has evolved and provide community leaders and the citizens of the Town of Menasha a historical perspective to assist in developing future public safety strategies.

This report includes documented crimes as well as a per capita comparison between the Town of Menasha, other Fox Valley communities and the State of Wisconsin.

It is intended to demonstrate where Town of Menasha's crime has been, where it presently stands, and serve as a point of reference as we plan for our future.

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

The Town of Menasha lies in the "Fox Cities" area of Wisconsin, near the northwest corner of Lake Winnebago, about thirty minutes southwest of Green Bay. The Town of Menasha has enjoyed steady growth for many years, and is presently the second largest township in Wisconsin with a population of 18,545.

The Town of Menasha has a service area of 12.3 square miles that includes two major federal highways that intersect within those boundaries. Approximately 66,000 vehicles cross USH 10 each day, and another 91,000 vehicles travel on USH 41 each day. In addition, the Town of Menasha maintains approximately 100 miles of local roadways.

The Town of Menasha has a variety of zoning types within its jurisdiction, ranging from industrial/commercial to agricultural/residential. The economy of the area is based upon the paper industry and the Town is home to many large corporations including Pierce Manufacturing, Kimberly Clark, SCA Tissue, CelluTissue, Miron Construction, Outlook Corp., Great Northern and many other great businesses.

POPULATION

The Town of Menasha is presently the second largest township in Wisconsin. The Town of Menasha continues to be a fast growing community as evidenced by the growth, both residential and commercial, on the west side of Little Lake Butte des Morts. In the past ten years, growth in the Town of Menasha has outpaced Wisconsin at a rate of almost 3 to 1.

10 Year Population Comparison

Town of Menasha   +13.3%
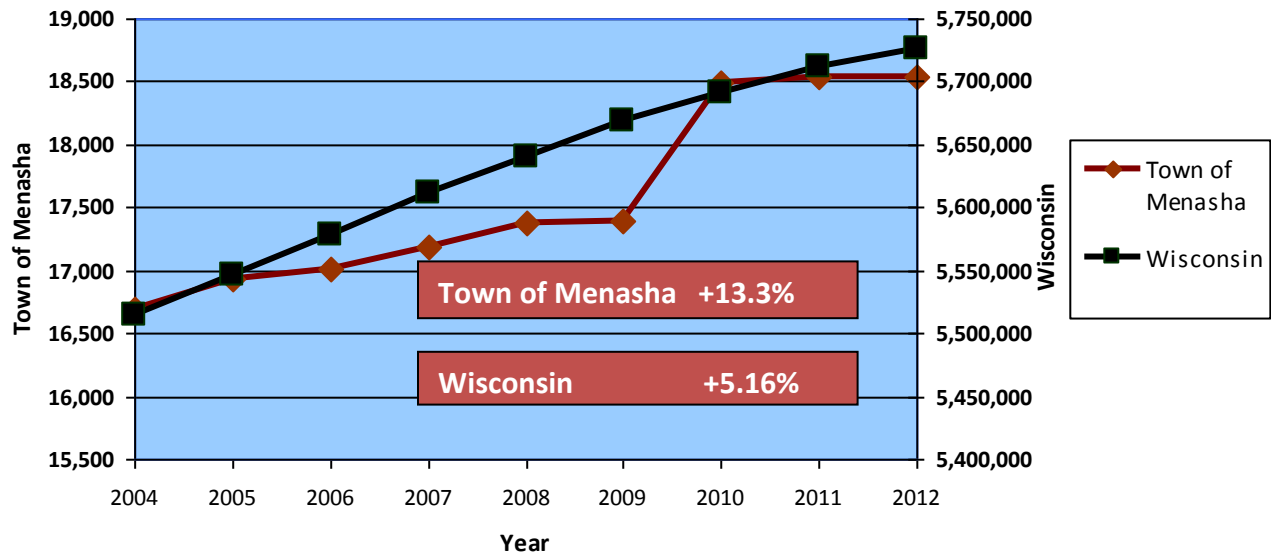
Wisconsin   +5.16%

RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS

The chart on the right illustrates that Town of Menasha is not as diverse in racial makeup as other parts of Wisconsin. The data is from the 2010 US Census; however, there has been a slight change in numbers since 2000.

1%   6%   3%   1%

89%

☐ White   ■ African American
☐ Hispanic   ☐ Asian
■ Native American
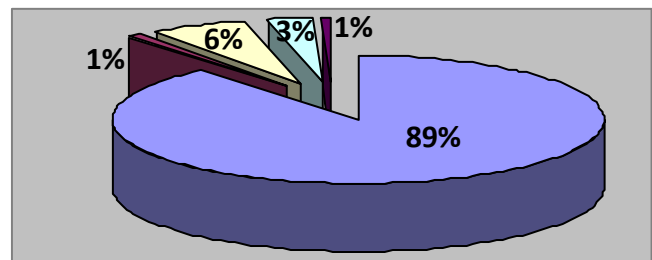
AGE DISTRIBUTION

The US Census Bureau conducts a nationwide household survey every 10th year. The 10 year survey or Census is the primary source of national population data and is used to allocate the seats in the US House of Representatives. The US Census survey was last conducted in 2010 and is compared here to the 2000 Census. It is interesting to note the increase in senior, or "baby boomer," population.

	2000 census	Population %	2010 census	Population %
Youth & Young Adults (24 & under)	5,286	33.3%	5,730	31%
Adults (25 – 59)	8,091	51%	7,968	43%
Seniors (60 +)	2,481	15.7%	4,800	26%
Total	15,858		18,498	

HOUSING

According to the 2010 US Census, there were 8,690 housing units in the Town of Menasha. As with other communities across the United States, the Town of Menasha has seen an increase in vacant properties, with 659 (7.6%) reported in 2010 as compared with 223 (3.5%) in 2000. The chart below breaks down these housing units further by type and occupancy.

	2000 census	% of total	2010 census	% of total
Owner Occupied	4,485	71.2%	5,281	65.7%
Renter Occupied	1,813	28.8%	2,750	34.3%

	2000 census	% of total	2010 census	% of total
Single Family Homes	4,344	67%	5,405	62.2%
Mobile Homes	343	5.2	397	4.6%
Multifamily Units	1,807	27.8	2,888	33.2%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The recession in 2007 has affected the job status of many people across the country. The Town of Menasha and Wisconsin have fared better than the United States average for unemployment.

	2000	2010
Town of Menasha	3.1%	4.1%
Wisconsin	3.5%	4.9%
United States	4.0%	5.6%

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL

The following charts compare the staffing levels for sworn officers over the past six years, both here in the Town of Menasha and our neighboring jurisdictions. Sworn officers are those employees with full arrest powers and serve in a variety of capacities from the chief of police, police supervisors, detectives and patrol officers.

The average number of officers per 1,000 people in Wisconsin has been a consistent 2.3. Here in the Town of Menasha we have consistently "done more with less" and have operated at a high of 1.6 officers per 1,000 people in 2009 and over the past three years have decreased to our current level of 1.3 officers per 1,000 people. This decrease can be attributed to both a rise in population along with budget constraints limiting the hiring of personnel.

FOX VALLEY POLICE AGENCY COMPARISON

The Town of Menasha Police Department ranks tied (with Grand Chute) for last when compared to other Fox Valley police agencies. As this report will reflect, we have witnessed an increase in population along the number of *Index Crimes* reported yet the ratio of officers to residents has declined.

Fox Valley Police Agency Officer Ratio per 1,000 residents

2012 Rates
WI	2.3
US	2.6

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Town of Menasha	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3
City of Menasha	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8
Neenah	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Appleton	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5
Grand Chute	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3
Fox Valley Metro	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5
Kaukauna	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5
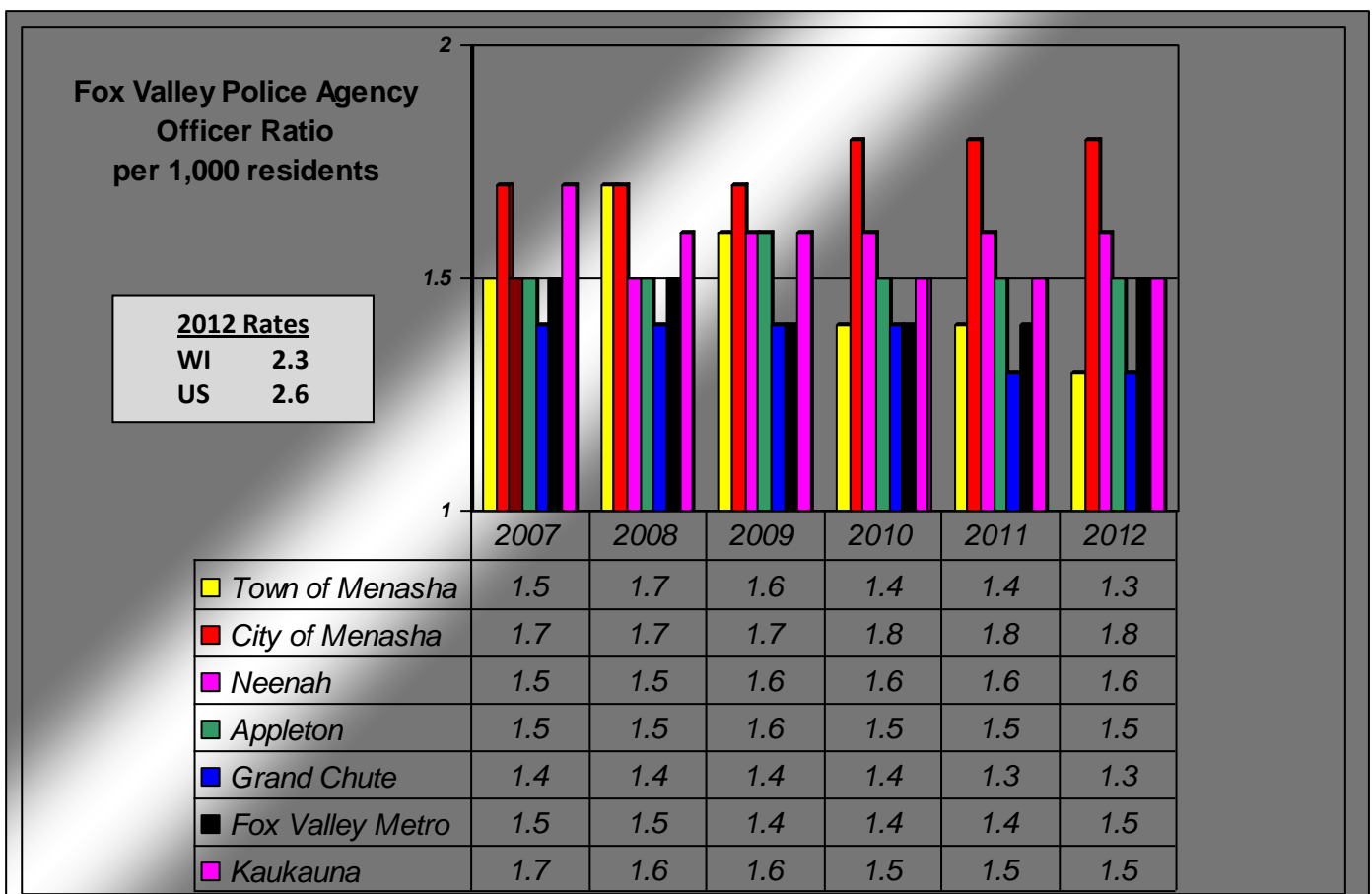
POLICE ACTIVITY

CALLS FOR SERVICE

In the Town of Menasha, calls for service are received in a variety of ways. Emergency calls are typically placed through 911 calls which are answered and dispatched through the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. In addition to these emergency calls, citizens can either report crimes in person at the police department or by calling the non-emergency number. These calls are fielded 24 hours a day by a police communication technician at the police department. Lastly, officers on patrol can self-initiate calls for service should they encounter something on their patrols.

The chart below looks at those calls for service over the past ten years. These are only police related calls and do not take into consideration any traffic enforcement.

Calls for Service	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Calls for Service	6,974	6,028	6,976	7,415	7,679	7,369	7,440	7,164	7,256	7,272
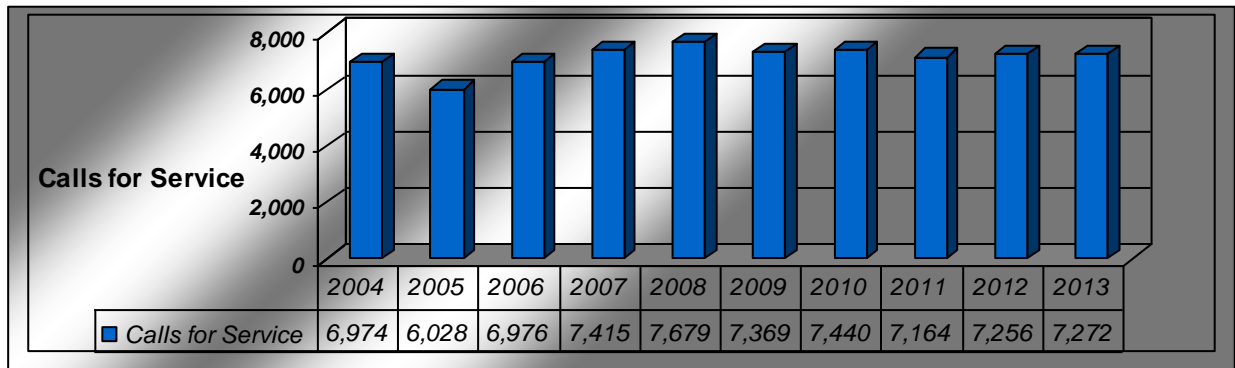
COMPARISON OF POPULATION GROWTH AND CALLS FOR SERVICE

Oftentimes calls for service tend to increase comparatively with the increase in population. In the past five years, the calls for service have remained a constant despite a large population growth between 2009 and 2010.

Population Growth and Calls for Service
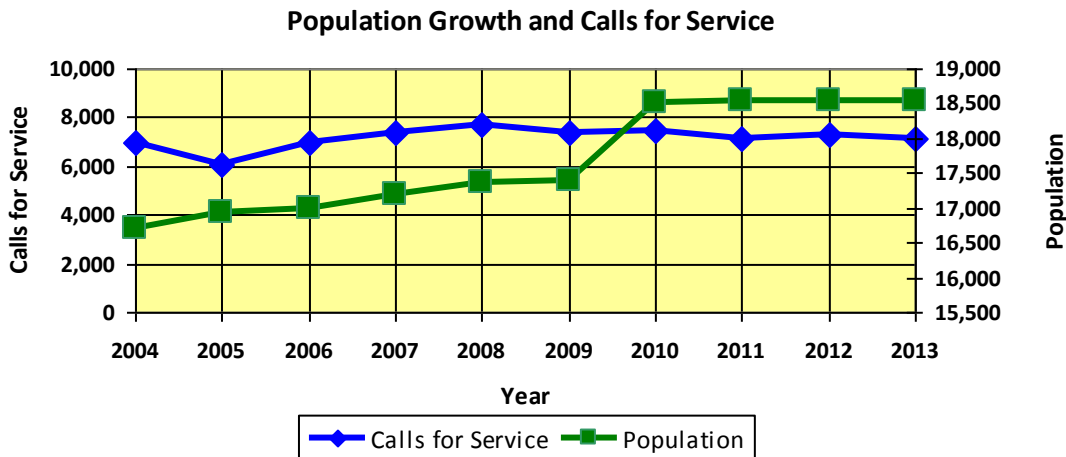
REPORTED INDEX CRIMES

The following chart shows the number of offenses the Town of Menasha Police Department reported from 2003 to 2012 to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program by crime type. The UCR Program, which began in 1929, collects information on the following crimes reported to law enforcement: homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. This chart is limited to the seven *Index Crime* types used to track national crime trends. Attempts to commit a crime are included in this report. Arson and simple assaults are not used for this purpose.

|	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Violent Crime										
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Forcible Rape	2	2	2	3	0	3	3	4	7	3
Robbery	1	2	1	0	0	4	1	3	0	0
Aggravated Assault	15	24	18	18	13	17	8	11	7	5
Total Violent	**18**	**28**	**21**	**21**	**13**	**24**	**12**	**18**	**14**	**9**
Property Crime										
Burglary	32	52	70	57	78	50	49	48	54	44
Theft	151	201	177	187	194	182	187	145	138	177
Motor Vehicle Theft	7	10	6	11	11	17	8	24	15	19
Total Property	**190**	**264**	**254**	**255**	**283**	**249**	**244**	**217**	**205**	**240**
Total Index	**208**	**292**	**275**	**276**	**296**	**273**	**256**	**235**	**219**	**249**

COMPARISON OF POPULATION GROWTH AND CRIME RATE

According to the US Census Bureau, the population of Town of Menasha was 16,485 in 2003. By 2012, the population grew over 13% to 18,545 residents. During the same period, the per capita crime rate increased 10.22% from 15.65 crimes per 1,000 residents in 2002 to 17.25 crimes per 1,000 residents in 2012. In 2013, we saw a ten year low with 12.29 crimes per 1,000 residents.

Population Growth and Crime Rate
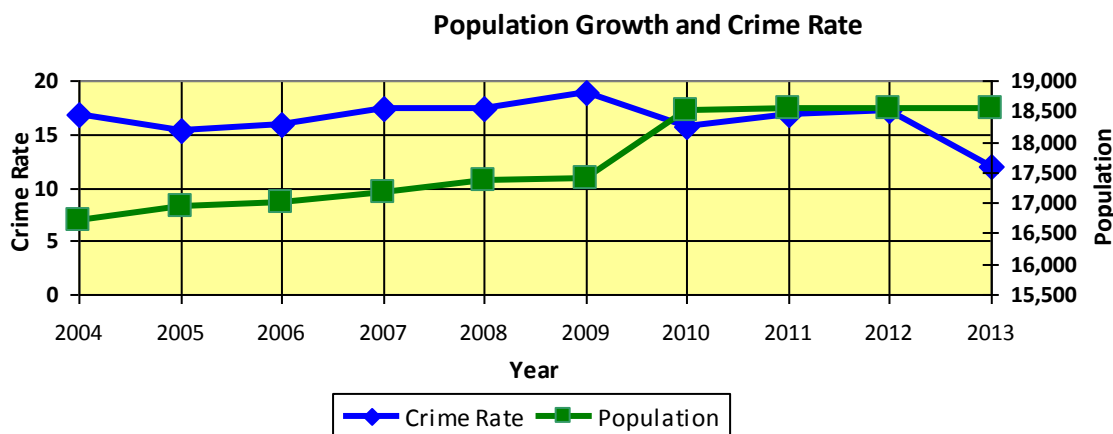
CRIME TYPE BY PERCENTAGE

The following charts show the distribution of crime in the Town of Menasha in 2004 and 2013 by the seven *Index Crime* types from the FBI UCR reports. Over the ten year span, the breakdown between the crimes remains relatively the same.

Town of Menasha 2004 Crime Index
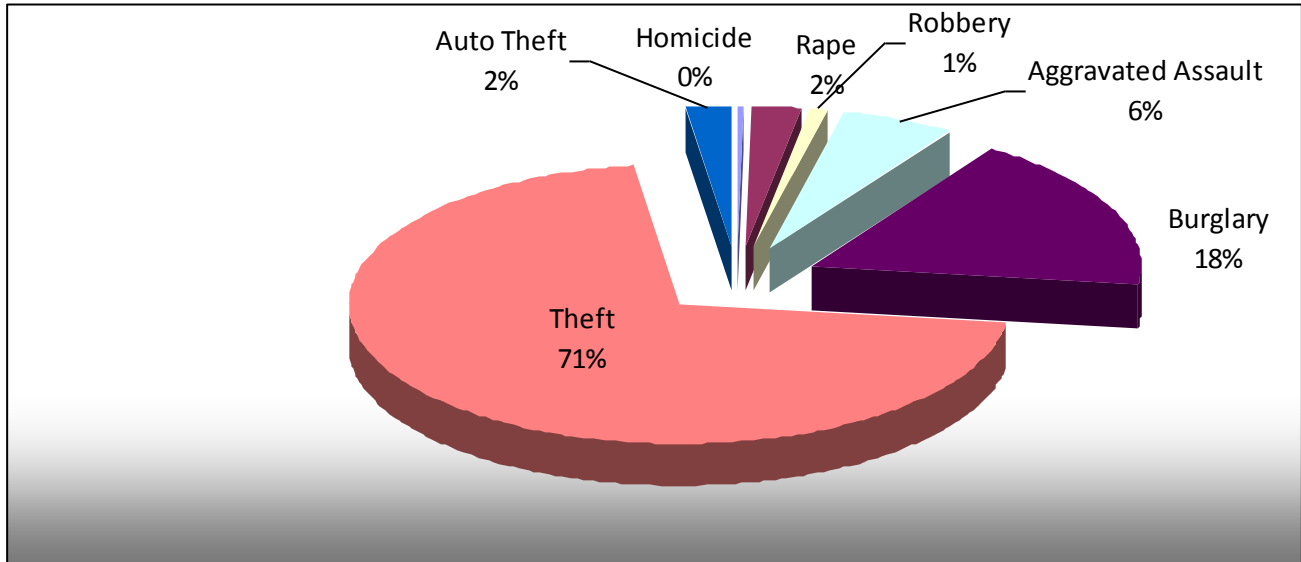
Town of Menasha 2013 Crime Index
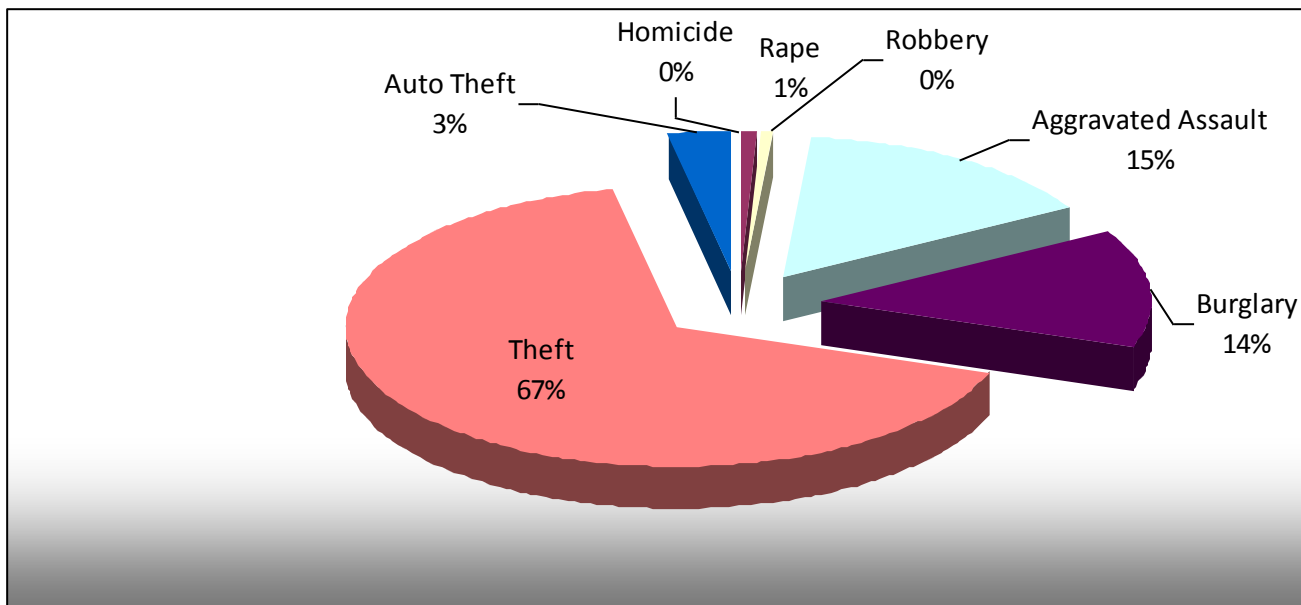
PROPERTY CRIMES

As shown in the previous page, property crimes have accounted for over 80% of the *Index Crimes* reported by the Town of Menasha Police Department. Property crimes include residential and commercial burglaries, theft and auto theft.

During the past ten years, our property crime rate has been almost half of the statewide property crime rate. Over the past ten years our property crime rate, per 1,000 people, has ranged between 12% and 16%. In 2009, the Town of Menasha had a spike in property crimes and recorded 78 burglaries that year, which is the highest number over the past ten years.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Town of Menasha	14.37	12.11	12.76	14.2	14.33	16.27	13.78	13.7	14.23	12.3
Wisconsin	26.83	28.45	28.49	28.49	27.83	26.18	25.02	24.31	24.29	

Property Crimes per 1,000 residents

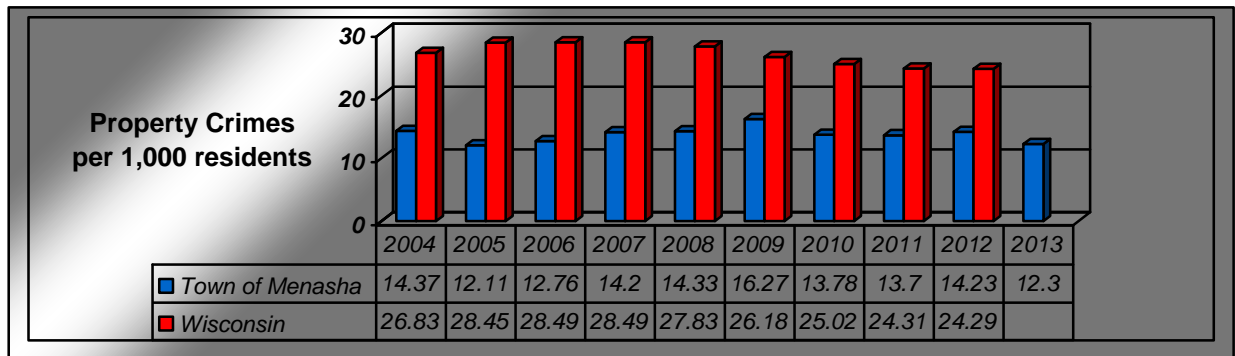It is hard to pinpoint an exact reason for changes in crime. Oftentimes, analysts will correlate the state of the economy to crime, but as the chart below illustrates, property crime rates in Wisconsin have actually decreased since the recession of 2007. In 2013, we saw a decrease in property crimes in the Town of Menasha. That same year, officers' presence was increased in the evening and nighttimes hours through traffic grants along with an increase in building security checks, including a 150% increase in the number of open/unlocked doors found at businesses in the overnight hours.

Property crimes can be characterized as non-confrontational theft. With property crime, opportunity is the most challenging element of the Crime Triangle. Property crimes generally have a large window of opportunity and very few witnesses. As a result, those cases have limited investigative leads and low solvability rates. This is reflected by their low clearance rate.

However, due to advances in technology and information sharing, a greater percentage of stolen property is being recovered and returned to the rightful owners. Pawn shops and second hand retailers are now entering property taken in by their stores into a database that is accessible and regularly searched by detectives.   In 2011, the police department recovered 32% of the property stolen as compared with only 21% in 2003.

State of Wisconsin figures were unavailable for 2013 at the time this report was published.

VIOLENT CRIMES

Violent crimes can be characterized as crime against a person or individuals. Violent crimes include homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The violent crime rate, both in Wisconsin and the Town of Menasha, has stayed fairly consistent over the past decade. There was a slight increase in 2005 and between 2007 and 2008 in the Town of Menasha.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Town of Menasha	0.55	0.4	0.6	0.7	1.44	0.88	1.21	1.24	1.51	0.8
Wisconsin	2.11	2.9	2.91	2.9	2.74	2.57	2.6	2.51	2.79	

Violent Crimes per 1,000 residents
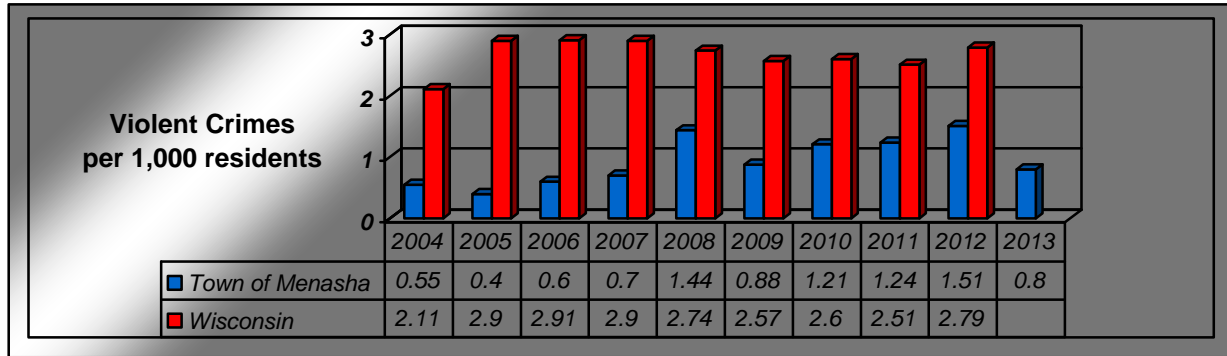
Consider the primary characteristic of violent crime. It is a crime against a person or persons. This characteristic doesn't require a personal relationship between the offender and the victim. The violence can, in fact, be random. Violent crime does, however, mean there was personal interaction between the offender and the victim. As a result of the interaction, the solvability factors for violent crimes exceed that of property crimes. Solvability factors include victims or witnesses who can identify suspects, development of the modus operandi (M.O.) and establishment of a detailed time line.

The personal interaction also allows researchers to build violent offender and victim profiles. These profiles not only help identify offenders when a crime is committed, but are also used to identify at-risk individuals within a community. Each additional piece of information places another tool in law enforcement's toolbox and expands the crime reduction strategies at their disposal. For example, according to the Crime Triangle theory, one of the three requisite elements of a crime is "an offender with the ability to commit the crime." In property crime cases, suspect information is rarely available so crime reduction strategies focus on the other two elements: 1) a desired victim or target; and 2) the opportunity (location and time) to commit the crime. Knowledge of the suspect adds the third element to the toolbox.

Each additional piece of information also increases the solvability aspect of a case. This is reflected in the higher clearance rate of violent crimes. In each of the above high profile cases, the offender(s) were identified, arrested and successfully prosecuted, bringing a degree of closure and justice to the victims' families and to the rest of the community.

State of Wisconsin figures were unavailable for 2013 at the time this report was published.

OTHER CRIME INDICATORS

Even though many communities and the FBI rely on the seven *Index Crimes* reported in the UCR reports to give an indication of safety within a community, there are other crimes and offenses that need to be looked at.

Domestic Violence

Domestic abuse is defined by Wisconsin Statutes as the intentional infliction of physical pain, injury or illness; intentional impairment of physical condition; a sexual assault; or a physical act that causes the other person to reasonably fear that any of these actions will occur. Domestic abuse applies to acts engaged in by an adult person against his or her spouse, former spouse, an adult with whom the person resides or formerly resided, or an adult with whom the person has a child in common.

Over the past ten years, we have seen an increase of almost 100% from 2.5 reported incidents per 1,000 people to almost 4 per 1,000 in 2012.

Domestic Violence Incidents per 1,000 residents	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Rate per 1,000	2.51	3.13	4.05	4.19	3.56	5.11	3.35	4.26	3.88	4.09
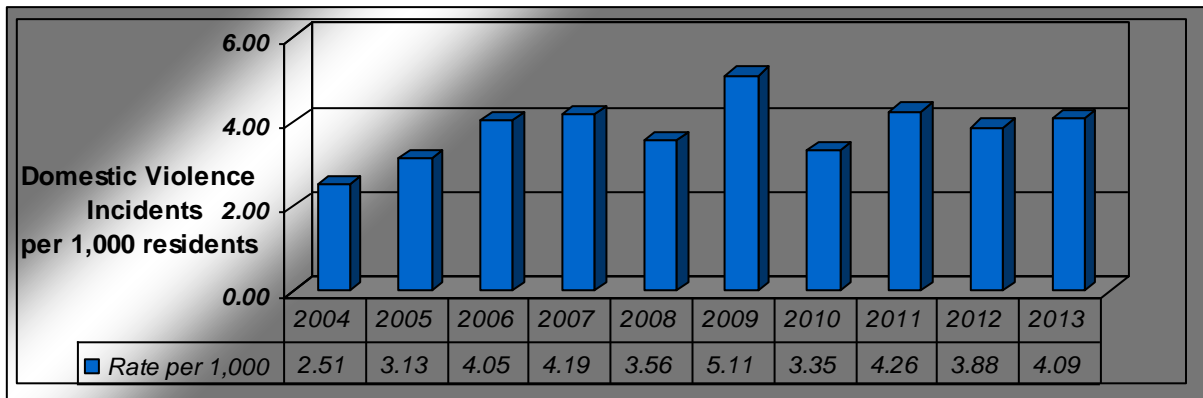
Damage to Property

Damage to property complaints generally involve complaints of vandalism and graffiti. Oftentimes these crimes are committed by juveniles and we see an increase in these during the summer months.

Damage to Property Incidents per 1,000 residents	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Rate per 1,000	8.62	9.98	11.05	10.82	7.71	7.99	6.54	7.39	11.00	4.85
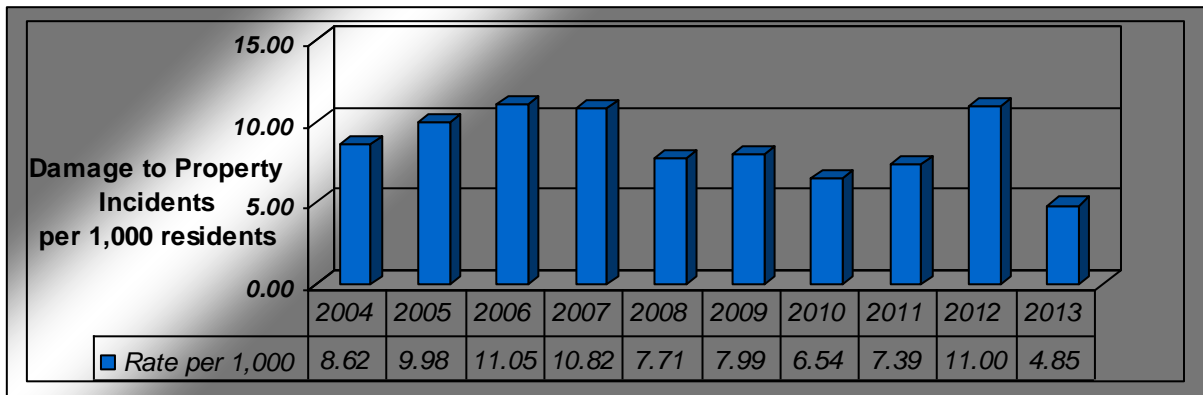
Drug Offenses

Drug offenses are a unique category for statistical comparison. Possession offenses typically result from the initiative and investigation of an officer at another incident, oftentimes a traffic stop. Arrests for drug sales generally stem from investigations conducted by the Lake Winnebago Area MEG Unit as a result of a tip or investigative lead.

The FBI UCR gathers data on drug offenses, but separates only marijuana and cocaine for statistical purposes. Since 2010, the Town of Menasha has witnessed an increase in the use of heroin. In 2013, there were four reported heroin overdoses in the Town, two of which resulted in death.

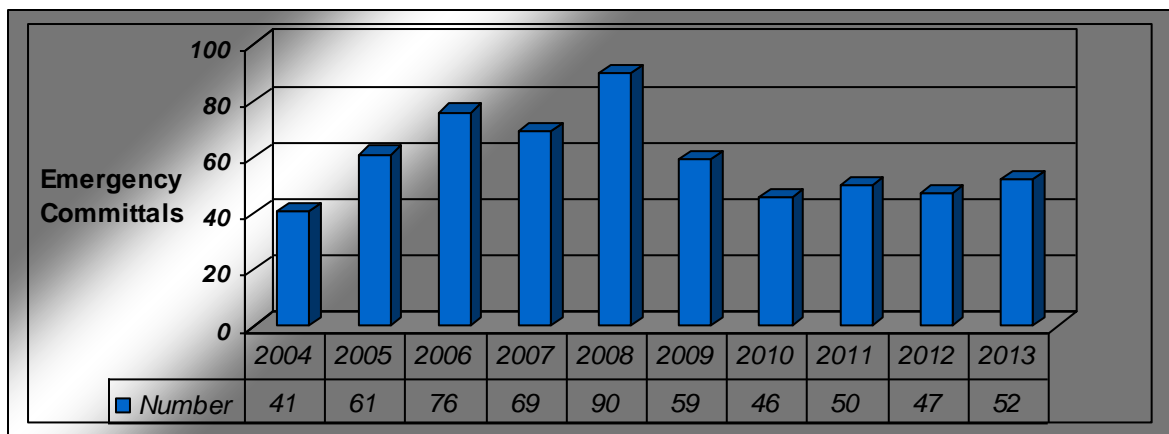| Year	Total	Drug Sales			Drug Possession		
		Cocaine	Marijuana	Other	Cocaine	Marijuana	Other
2004	55	7	9	1	1	36	1
2005	43	7	2	2	2	30	0
2006	52	8	5	1	2	32	4
2007	47	6	2	3	4	30	2
2008	71	14	11	1	4	39	2
2009	50	2	3	3	4	37	1
2010	40	1	1	1	1	34	2
2011	56	0	3	0	3	44	6
2012	43	1	1	1	4	34	2
2013	56	4	5	4	5	31	7

Mental Health Evaluation & Treatment

A mental health evaluation and treatment is an involuntary committal for up to 72-hours for an individual who is determined to be a danger to others, a danger to his or her self or unable to care for themselves due to a mental disorder. There was a peak in committals with 90 in 2008 – possibly due to the recession, but the numbers have since returned to the levels that occurred in 2004.

Emergency Committals	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number	41	61	76	69	90	59	46	50	47	52

Other Calls for Service

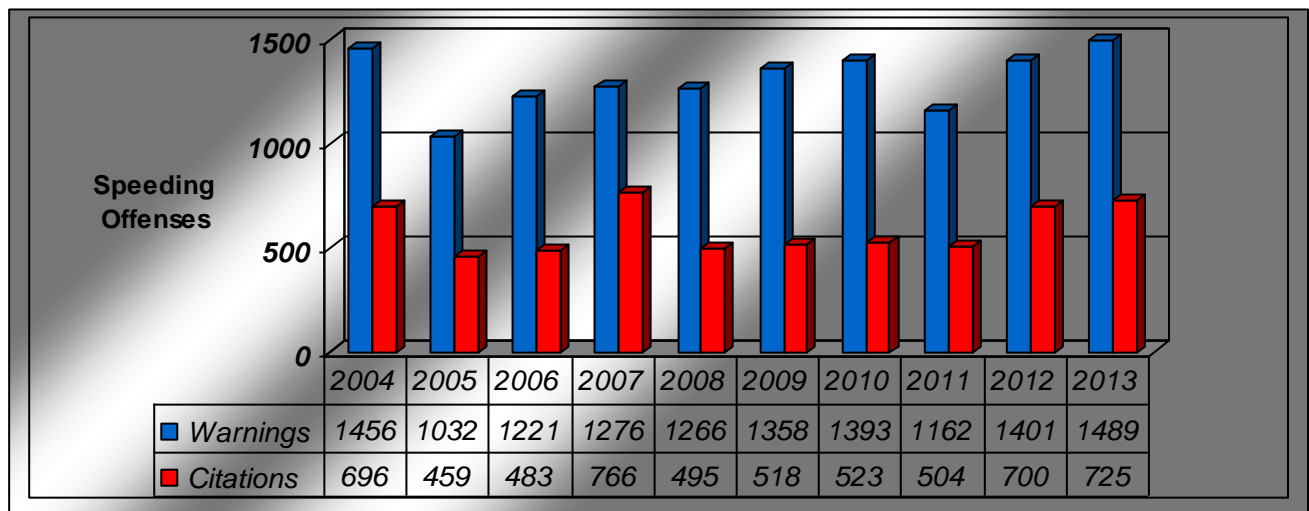There are many different types of calls for service that a police officer responds to throughout their shift.

Incident Type	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Abandoned Vehicles	26	17	40	43	46	23	46	58
Alarm	116	112	128	144	162	174	135	159
Animal	217	248	192	181	197	205	215	228
Civil	30	24	25	25	16	25	36	23
Damage to Property	90	204	137	121	139	134	186	187
Death	20	10	29	28	22	27	24	23
Disturbance	214	242	246	251	223	240	225	188
Domestic	76	79	79	62	89	62	72	69
Fraud	36	28	37	22	28	45	41	48
Harassment	79	124	115	110	129	127	110	87
Junked Vehicles	52	46	86	100	63	29	66	46
Juvenile	156	152	154	149	146	144	134	170
Lost/Found Property	78	100	105	105	79	83	110	80
Missing Person	1	3	4	5	4	9	9	7
Noise	103	135	113	147	144	136	156	131
Open Door	57	37	26	30	15	13	14	43
Public Nuisance	24	33	26	28	16	24	22	28
Runaway	12	18	20	20	31	36	36	24
Sex Offenses	6	14	14	20	16	14	9	21
Suspicious Inc/Veh/Person	176	192	140	187	175	204	246	241
Trespass	21	23	15	11	15	7	15	17
Warrant Arrests	138	125	105	123	139	170	160	178
Weapon	5	7	6	1	1	3	6	7
Welfare Check	167	163	142	171	163	108	103	73

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Traffic safety and enforcement is one of the main complaints and concerns that we receive from community members. Officers routinely conduct proactive traffic enforcement during their shift as calls for service allow. The following charts compare the number of warnings and citations for both speeding and non-speeding offenses.

It is interesting to note the over 100% increase in non-speeding citations in the past ten years. Some of this increase can be attributed to new seatbelt and mandatory insurance requirement laws.

SPEEDING

Speeding Offenses	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Warnings	1456	1032	1221	1276	1266	1358	1393	1162	1401	1489
Citations	696	459	483	766	495	518	523	504	700	725

NON SPEEDING

Non-speeding Offenses	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Warnings	814	848	961	988	1282	1282	1649	1162	1025	1332
Citations	957	1055	1181	1392	1382	1448	1694	1809	2130	2252
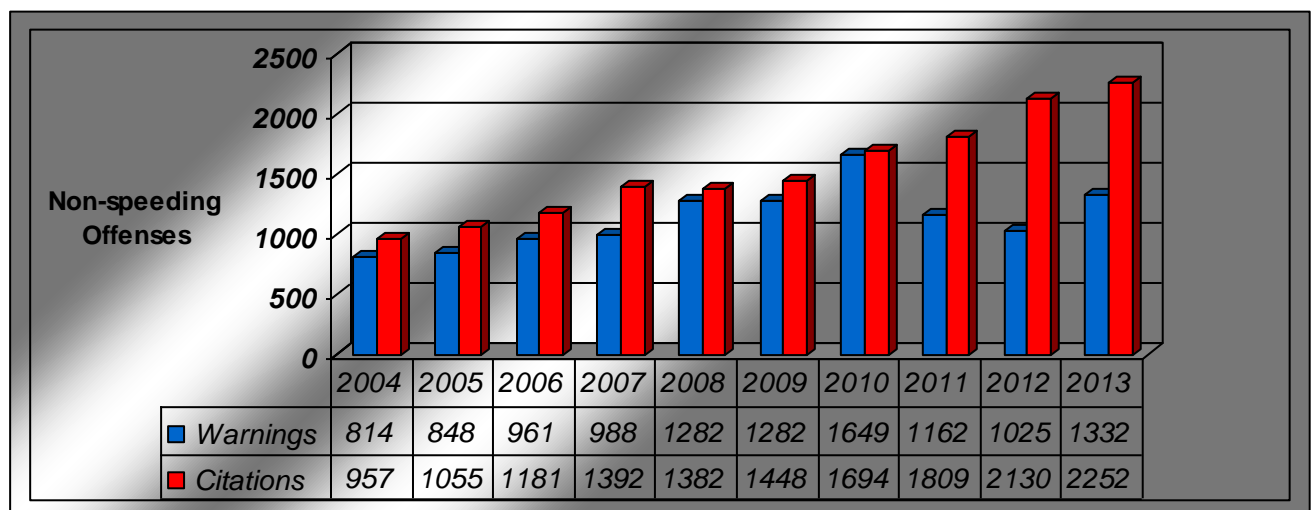
OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED
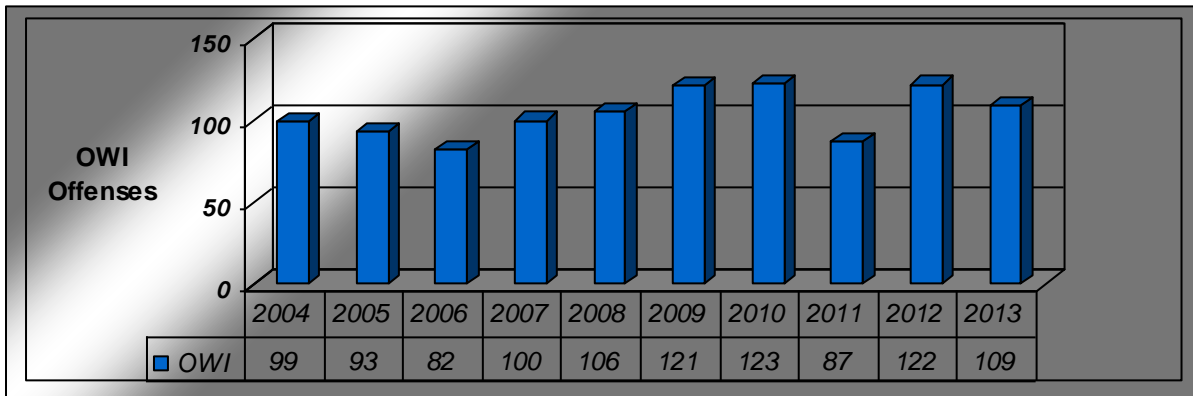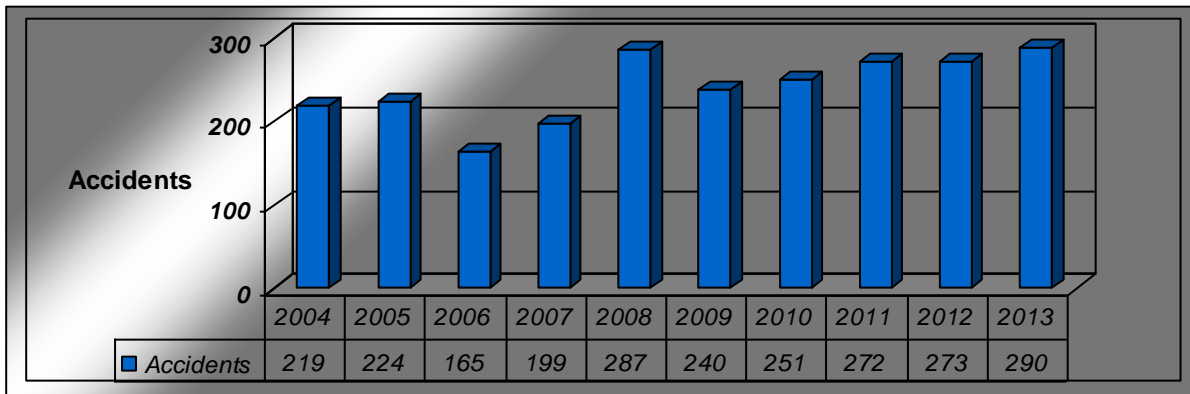
Operating while intoxicated has been a concern for many years. In the past five years there has been a gradual increase to over 100 arrests per year. A 2013 study of OWI arrests in the Town of Menasha indicated that for a majority of drivers arrested it was their first offense. Also a majority of the arrests were males between the ages of 18 – 29. Of those arrested, the average blood alcohol concentration was between .16% and .23%.

OWI Offenses	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
OWI	99	93	82	100	106	121	123	87	122	109

ACCIDENTS

With the exception of 2006 and 2007, we have seen a slow growth in the amount of traffic accidents that our officers are responding to. This increase can be attributed to the population growth of the Town of Menasha which invariably leads to more vehicles on the roadways. *Note: These numbers do not reflect accidents that occur on USH 10, USH 41 or STH 441 as those freeways are the responsibility of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office.*

Accidents	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Accidents	219	224	165	199	287	240	251	272	273	290

The table to the right highlights the top five intersections for accidents in 2013. Of these accidents listed, the leading causes were due to failure to yield right of way and inattentive driving.
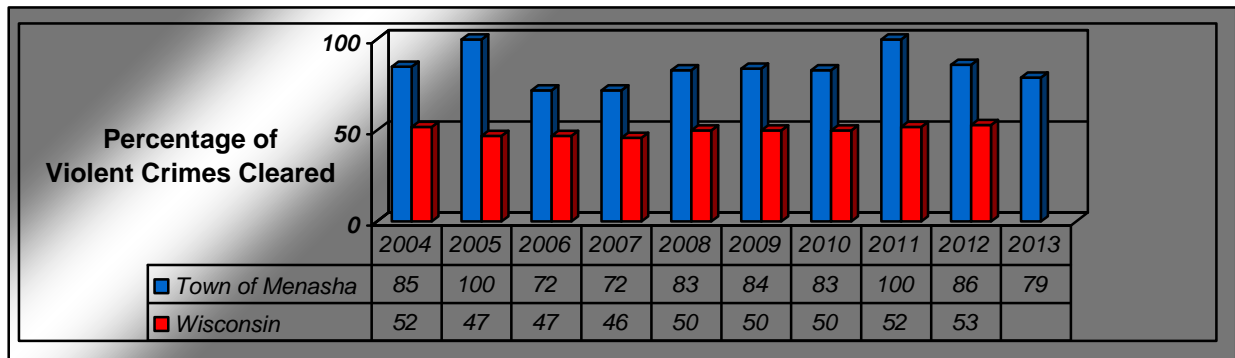
Intersection	Number
Racine Rd./STH 441	10
CTH CB/USH 10	9
CTH CB/W. American Dr.	9
CTH CB/CTH II	8
CTH CB/Jacobsen Rd.	8

CRIME SOLVING

Law enforcement across the country is tasked with preventing and investigating crimes. Ideally we like to see crimes being prevented from occurring; but, should that not happen, everyone wants to see the offender held accountable. This is done through investigative work by a patrol officer or detective that leads to a case being solved or cleared. As a part of the data collected by the FBI for the Uniform Crime Reporting, information is collected on how many of these seven *Index Crimes* are solved.
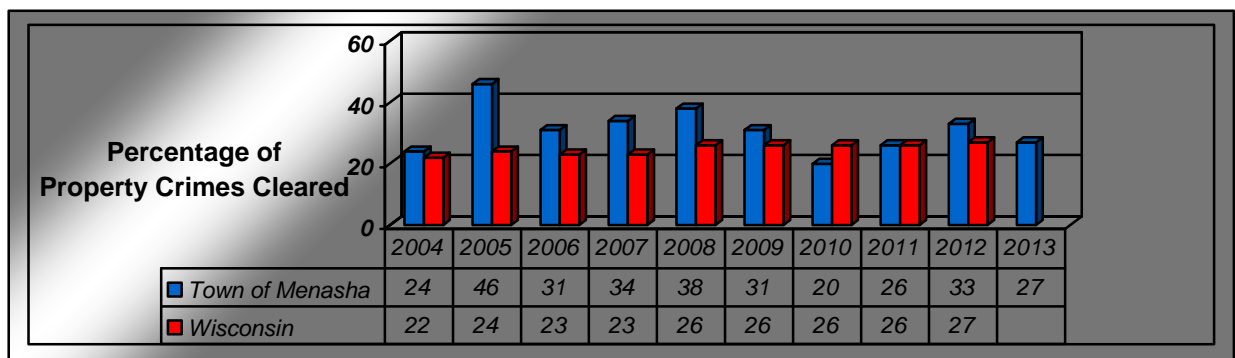
VIOLENT CRIME CLEARANCE RATES

Violent crimes have more solvability factors than property crimes; this is reflected in their higher clearance rate. The Town of Menasha has consistently cleared violent crimes at a rate higher than that of the Wisconsin average. In 2005 and 2011, officers cleared 100% of the violent crimes reported.

Percentage of Violent Crimes Cleared

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
■ *Town of Menasha*	85	100	72	72	83	84	83	100	86	79
■ *Wisconsin*	52	47	47	46	50	50	50	52	53	

PROPERTY CRIME CLEARANCE RATES

The investigative limitations of property crime are reflected in their low clearance rates. With the exception of 2010, the Town of Menasha has been at or above the state average for solving property crimes.

Percentage of Property Crimes Cleared

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
■ *Town of Menasha*	24	46	31	34	38	31	20	26	33	27
■ *Wisconsin*	22	24	23	23	26	26	26	26	27	

State of Wisconsin figures were unavailable for 2013 at the time this report was published.

ARREST TRENDS

Arrest data is taken from the Uniform Crime Reports and, for their purposes, a juvenile is identified as a person younger than eighteen. However, presently in Wisconsin, a seventeen year old is treated as an adult for criminal purposes.

There are also different types of arrests that a law enforcement officer can make.
- **Prosecution requests** are requests to the district attorney's office for state charges, which can result in a punishment of incarceration in jail or prison, probation and/or monetary fines.
- **Juvenile referrals** are requests to the juvenile authorities for charges which can result in a punishment of incarceration in a secure detention facility and/or juvenile supervision through a case worker.
- **Town summonses** are local ordinance violations which can result in a punishment of community service or monetary fines.

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Prosecution Requests	193	259	214	157	217	259	236	254	327	250
Juvenile Referrals	41	48	46	49	59	68	99	71	75	51
Town Summons	357	403	388	345	404	385	555	457	455	380
TOTAL	**591**	**710**	**648**	**551**	**680**	**712**	**890**	**782**	**857**	**681**

Juvenile vs. Adult Arrests

The chart to the right shows the demographics of individuals arrested in 2013 for offenses by age group. One in ten arrests made by the Town of Menasha Police Department involved a juvenile. Overall, in Wisconsin that number increases to one in five.
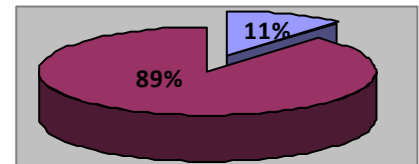
The following charts show the breakdown on the types of arrests for both adults and juveniles. Property crimes and disorderly conduct offenses account for over half of the arrests for both groups.

Adult Arrests by Offense
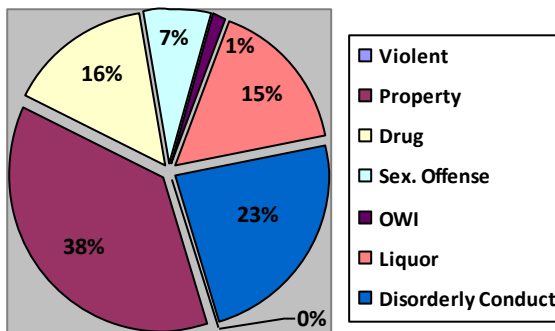
Juvenile Arrests by Offense

HOW SAFE ARE WE?
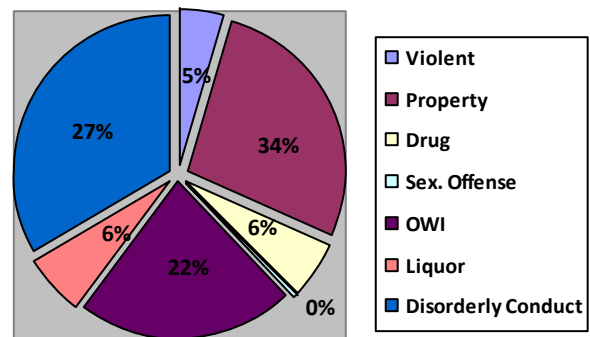
CRIME TRIANGLE

Crime trend research indicates absence creates opportunity and can lead to a higher rate of victimization. In 1979 in the American Sociological Review, Lawrence E. Cohen and Marcus Felton wrote, "Most criminal acts require a convergence in space and time of likely offenders, suitable targets and the absence of capable guardians against crime." Their research laid the foundation for the development of the Crime Triangle.

The Crime Triangle theorizes that in order for a crime to occur, three elements must be present: *1) an offender with the ability to commit the crime; 2) a desired victim or target; and 3) the opportunity (location and time) to commit the crime.* Based on this theory, crime can be reduced by removing any one of the three elements. Most crime reduction strategies utilize a combination of approaches to achieve this goal.
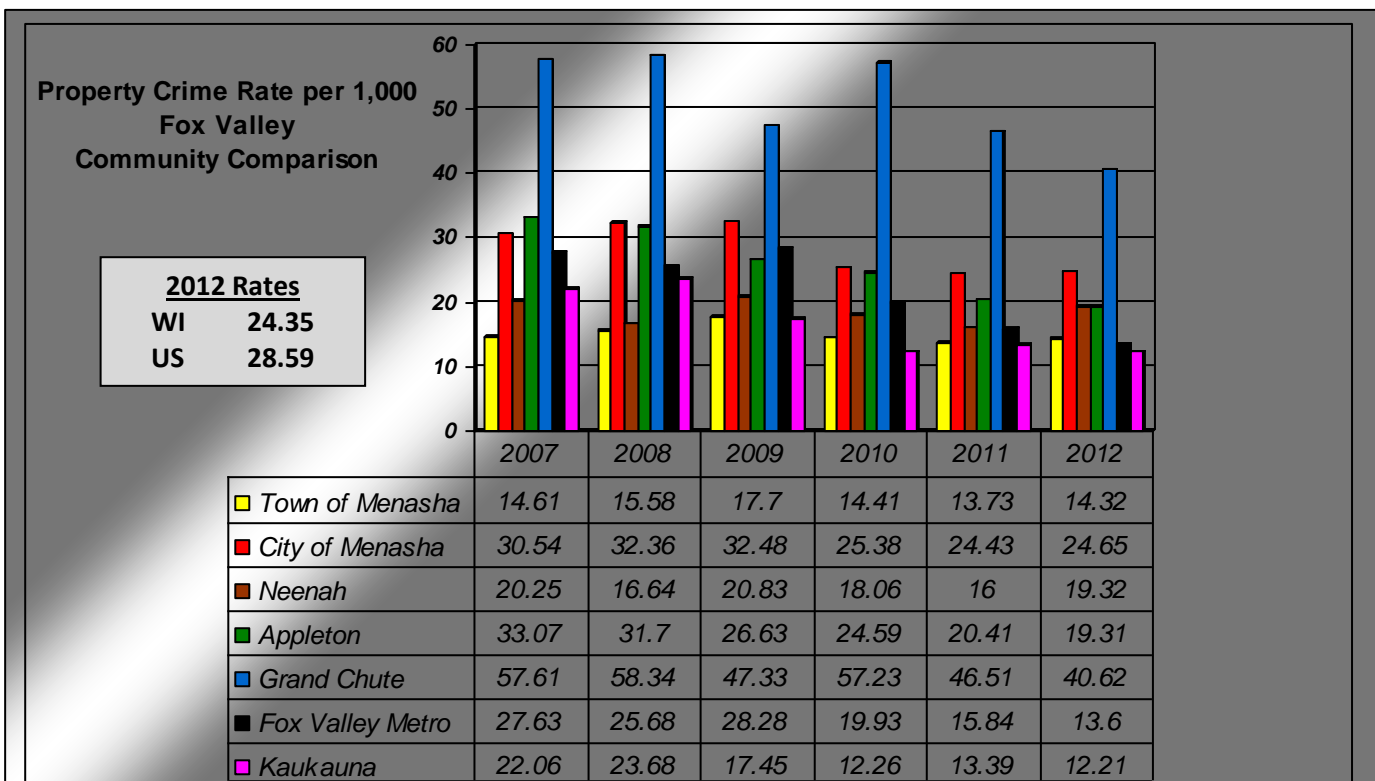
VICTIMIZATION RATE

The following chart compares the victimization rate in the Town of Menasha to Wisconsin between 2004 and 2013. The victimization rate measures the statistical likelihood of an individual being victimized by one of the Part 1 *Index Crimes* used to track national crime trends.

	2004		2013	
	TOWN OF MENASHA	**WISCONSIN**	**TOWN OF MENASHA**	**WISCONSIN**
PROPERTY CRIMES	1 in 69	1 in 37	1 in 98	1 in 41
BURGLARY	1 in 379	1 in 228	1 in 579	1 in 208
THEFT	1 in 94	1 in 49	1 in 123	1 in 55
VEHICLE THEFT	1 in 878	1 in 477	1 in 2,649	1 in 702
VIOLENT CRIMES	1 in 1,855	1 in 473	1 in 1,030	1 in 358
HOMICIDE	N/A	1 in 35,805	N/A	1 in 34,493
RAPE	1 in 5,565	1 in 4,862	1 in 9,272	1 in 4,678
ROBBERY	N/A	1 in 1,324	1 in 18,545	1 in 1,242
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	1 in 3,339	1 in 890	1 in 1,236	1 in 574

FOX VALLEY COMMUNITIES CRIME COMPARISON

The Fox Valley area consistently rates as one of the safest communities in the United States and that is reflected in the statistics that were presented in this report. The charts below compare the Town of Menasha with the other communities that make up the Fox Valley area.

Violent Crime Rate per 1,000 Fox Valley Community Comparison

2012 Rates
WI   2.80
US   3.86

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
☐ Town of Menasha	0.7	1.44	0.88	1.21	1.24	1.51
☐ City of Menasha	3.63	2.59	3.07	2.65	2.54	1.95
☐ Neenah	2.2	1.36	1.24	1.53	1.41	1.37
☐ Appleton	2.02	2.2	2.4	2.85	3.03	2.94
☐ Grand Chute	0.93	1.11	1.01	2.01	1.15	1.38
☐ Fox Valley Metro	0.4	0.52	0.75	0.51	0.77	0.83
☐ Kaukauna	0.54	0.58	1.1	1.09	1.1	1.09

Property Crime Rate per 1,000 Fox Valley Community Comparison

2012 Rates
WI   24.35
US   28.59

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
☐ Town of Menasha	14.61	15.58	17.7	14.41	13.73	14.32
☐ City of Menasha	30.54	32.36	32.48	25.38	24.43	24.65
☐ Neenah	20.25	16.64	20.83	18.06	16	19.32
☐ Appleton	33.07	31.7	26.63	24.59	20.41	19.31
☐ Grand Chute	57.61	58.34	47.33	57.23	46.51	40.62
☐ Fox Valley Metro	27.63	25.68	28.28	19.93	15.84	13.6
☐ Kaukauna	22.06	23.68	17.45	12.26	13.39	12.21

SOURCES

The crime statistics in this report are based on the number of crimes reported by Town of Menasha Police Department to the FBI through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. There are seven *Index Crimes* the federal government uses to track crime trends across the United States. This report will focus on those seven *Index Crimes*. The *Index Crimes* are divided into two categories: 1) **violent crimes**, which include homicide or non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault; and 2) **property crimes**, which consist of burglary, larceny and vehicle theft. Arson and simple assault data are also collected; however, they are not currently included in crime trend analysis.

Data for police calls, traffic incidents and non-index crimes are taken from records kept by the Town of Menasha Police Department. Statistics for crime rates and law enforcement personnel were obtained from the Wisconsin Office of Justice Statistics. In order to maintain conformity, the US Census Bureau data was used for the population and demographics information.

FORMULAS

ARREST RATE PER CAPITA
Number of Arrests/Population *1,000 = Arrest Rate

CLEARANCE RATE
Number of Clearances/Number of Crimes *100 = Clearance Rate

CRIME RATE PER CAPITA
Number of Crimes/Population *1,000 = Crime Rate

DISTRIBUTION RATIO
One number in a ratio (X) represents one set and the second number (Y) equals the second set. For example, if you had 3 apples and 4 oranges the ratio would be 3:4.

PERCENTAGE CHANGE
(New Number-Old Number)/Old Number *100 = Percentage Change

VICTIMIZATION RATE
Population/Number of Crimes = Victimization Rate

REFERENCES

Cohen, Lawrence E., and Marcus Felson. Social Change and Crime Rate Trends: A Routine Activity Approach. American Sociological Review 44.4 (1979): 588-608.

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Office of Justice Assistance. *Law Enforcement Employees in Wisconsin.* Reports from 2007 through 2012. http://oja.wi.gov/programs/justice-statistics

Town of Menasha Police Department.

Town of Menasha Community Development.

U.S. Census Bureau. http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

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Town of Menasha Police Department

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