

# **MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**



## **2021 ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME & SAFETY**

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2021 MCPD Annual Report on Crime & Safety compiled by the MCPD Analytics and Operational Support Section

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# Mission, Vision, Values

## Our Mission

The Mission of the Montgomery County Department of Police (MCPD) is to safeguard life and property, preserve the peace, prevent and detect crime, enforce the law, and protect the rights of all citizens. We are committed to working in partnership with the community to identify and resolve issues that impact public safety.

## Community Policing Philosophy

The Montgomery County Department of Police embraces the concept of community policing as a philosophy and an organizational strategy. This approach allows the police and the community to work closely together in creative ways to solve the problems of crime or fear of crime; address physical and social disorder; and advance the overall quality of life in the community. This philosophy rests on the belief that the community deserves input into the process and that solutions to today's community problems require both the public and the police to address neighborhood concerns beyond a narrow focus on individual crime incidents. It includes community partnerships, organizational transformation, and problem solving, and is built upon the Ten Guiding Principles of Community Policing, identified by the U.S. Department of Justice.

## Vision Statement

We, the Montgomery County Department of Police, in cooperation with the community we serve, will work to enhance community relations and build trust through transparency, accountability, and strong leadership. We will strive to be a premiere law enforcement agency by employing a highly educated, diverse, and technical workforce that utilizes purpose-driven technology, and effectively balancing our resources to meet our mission.

## Organizational Values

### Pride

We are committed to conducting ourselves in a manner that brings honor to ourselves, the department, and the county.

### Respect

We are committed to respecting individual rights, human dignity, and the value of all members of the community and the department.

### Integrity

We are committed to nurturing the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest standards of professional conduct and ethics.

### Dedication

We are committed to providing the highest quality of law enforcement service to the community with the goal of enhancing the quality of life within Montgomery County.

### Excellence

We are committed to achieving a level of performance that exceeds all expectations.

We begin with Pride, and end with Excellence.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

This report covers 2021, another unusual year for Montgomery County and the nation. It was the second year of the pandemic, and so the statistics presented here reflect that condition. Our schools were still offering virtual learning, masks were required indoors, and large gatherings were banned through much of the year. COVID-19 affected everyone, including the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD), whether someone was sickened or not. The trends that afflicted the nation, in increased homicides and drug use, were visited on us as well. In that context, I am pleased to report that Montgomery incidents of crime for 2021 were relatively unchanged from the first plague year of 2020. The number of crimes was 45,374, one percent lower than for 2020 and nine percent lower than 2019.

In 2021, the Montgomery County Emergency Communications Center (ECC) received 786,298 calls for service, approximately 8% more calls than 2020. Sixty-six percent (66%) of the calls received by the ECC were emergency calls, an average of 1,419 emergency calls per day which represents an increase of 9% from 2020. There were 243,167 non-emergency calls which is up more than 6% from 2020.

The number of dispatched calls for service for the six MCPD districts decreased for the fourth consecutive year, dropping approximately 3% in 2021. The most calls in 2021 came from the Third District (East County and Silver Spring), 34,634; Sixth District (Gaithersburg), 33,207; and Fourth District (Wheaton), 32,213.

In 2021, there were 34 homicides (33 incidents), an increase from 20 homicides in 2020. This represents the highest number of annual homicides in the past ten years. However, the clearance rate for homicides in 2021 is nearly 70%. Five of the homicides were domestic-related and 13 stemmed from disputes between involved persons. Firearms were used in 65% of the 2021.

We can tell with some certainty that the pandemic worsened the scourge of opioids. The number of opioid overdoses in Montgomery County increased by 32% in 2021. Non-fatal overdoses increased by 40% and fatal overdoses increased by 21% from 2020. Throughout 2021, we continued to have pressed fentanyl related overdoses caused by counterfeit pills that contained fentanyl or fentanyl-related compounds. We typically saw counterfeit Oxy, Percocet and Xanax.

This follows 2020, in which the number of overdoses increased 37% over 2019. Both fatal and non-fatal overdoses increased by 37%.

Thank you for looking through our report. I believe we have an excellent department that provides top-flight service to Montgomery County. We are always trying to improve our methods and procedures, and I look forward to continuing the discussions about how we can make our work even more effective. 2021 was a challenging year for everyone, and we all hope for a more normal life in 2022.



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Marcus G. Jones  
Chief of Police

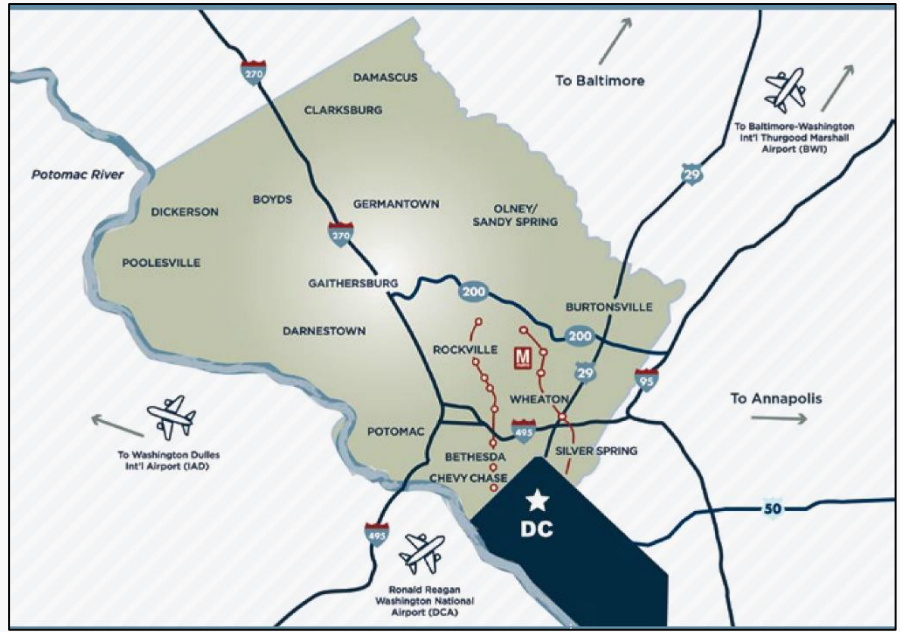


## QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE COUNTY

Montgomery County is the most populous county in the State of Maryland, located adjacent to Washington, D.C. As of the 2020 census, the county's population was 1,062,061 and covers approximately 507 square miles. The county consists of 3 cities, 12 towns, 4 villages, 33 census-designated places, and 5 unincorporated communities. The communities of Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Rockville, Silver Spring, Takoma Park, and Wheaton are all located within the boundaries of Montgomery County.

The county is home to the I-270 technology corridor which houses numerous bioscience employers and continues to attract technology and biotechnology industries. There are also several federal entities, military installations, colleges and universities that call Montgomery County home. In addition, Montgomery County has:

- 208 public schools
- 421 parks consisting of 37,100 acres
- 1,777 park facilities
- 13 Metro Stations along the Red Metrorail line
- Museums and performance centers
- The largest Agricultural fair in the state
- Upscale shopping and entertainment centers



<https://visitmontgomery.com/resources/regional-map/>

## QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

6

Bureaus

6

Districts

1283

Sworn

731

Professional Staff

90

Volunteers & Interns

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FROM 2021

### **Organizational Changes**

The Montgomery County Police Department experienced a significant organizational change in 2021. The Community Resources Bureau (CRB) was created, giving the police department its sixth bureau and has its first appointed professional staff Assistant Chief. This bureau oversees the Community Engagement Division and the Policy and Planning Division. The Community Resources Bureau embraces the concept of community policing and works in partnership with the community to identify and resolve issues that impact our quality of life.

The Community Engagement Division (CED) is a new division and has oversight responsibility for Community Outreach, the Community Engagement Officer program (formerly School Resource Officers), the Crisis Response Support Section, and Peer Support. The CED collaborates with community partners to resolve quality-of-life issues while promoting safety and education. This division strives to deliver high-quality customer service and provide practical and accurate communication while being accountable, responsive, and transparent.



The Policy and Planning Division is responsible for policy development and promulgation and coordination of short- and long-term planning for the agency. It was previously housed within the Management Services Bureau.

### **Reimagining Public Safety Task Force Auditing**

In July of 2020, County Executive Marc Elrich announced his plan to establish a Reimagining Public Safety Task Force to “build a more equitable and inclusive Montgomery County by promoting safe neighborhoods and communities that are better for all County residents.”<sup>1</sup> Effective Law Enforcement for All, Inc (ELE4A) was hired by the County and evaluated the police Department’s practices, leadership, accountability and training procedures. The police Department has been fully cooperating with their mission and has a shared goal of reform and innovation for effective policing. ELE4A released their preliminary report regarding its findings in June of 2021 which can be viewed through the below link.

[ELEFA MCPD Preliminary Report | June 30 2021 \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/ELEFA-MCPD-Preliminary-Report-June-30-2021)

Since the report’s release, the Department has continued to cooperate fully, review the recommendations provided in the report and conduct analysis of current policies, practices and procedures for effective reform of the agency. The release of ELE4A’s final report is anticipated in 2022.



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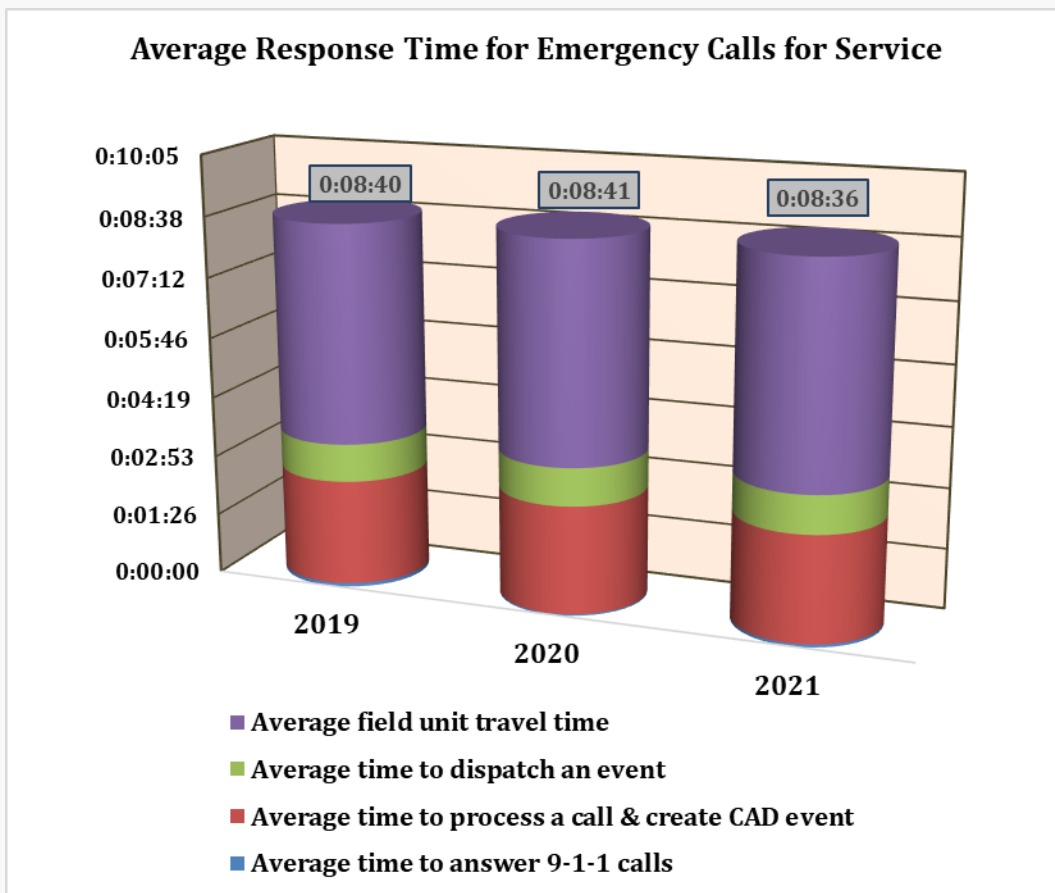
<sup>1</sup> *Vision - Reimagining Public Safety - Montgomery County, Maryland (montgomerycountymd.gov)*

# PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

In 2021, the Montgomery County Emergency Communications Center (ECC) received 786,298 calls for service, approximately 8% more calls than 2020. Sixty-six percent (66%) of the calls received by the ECC were emergency calls, an average of 1,419 emergency calls per day which represents an increase of 9% from 2020. There were 243,167 non-emergency calls which is up more than 6% from 2020.

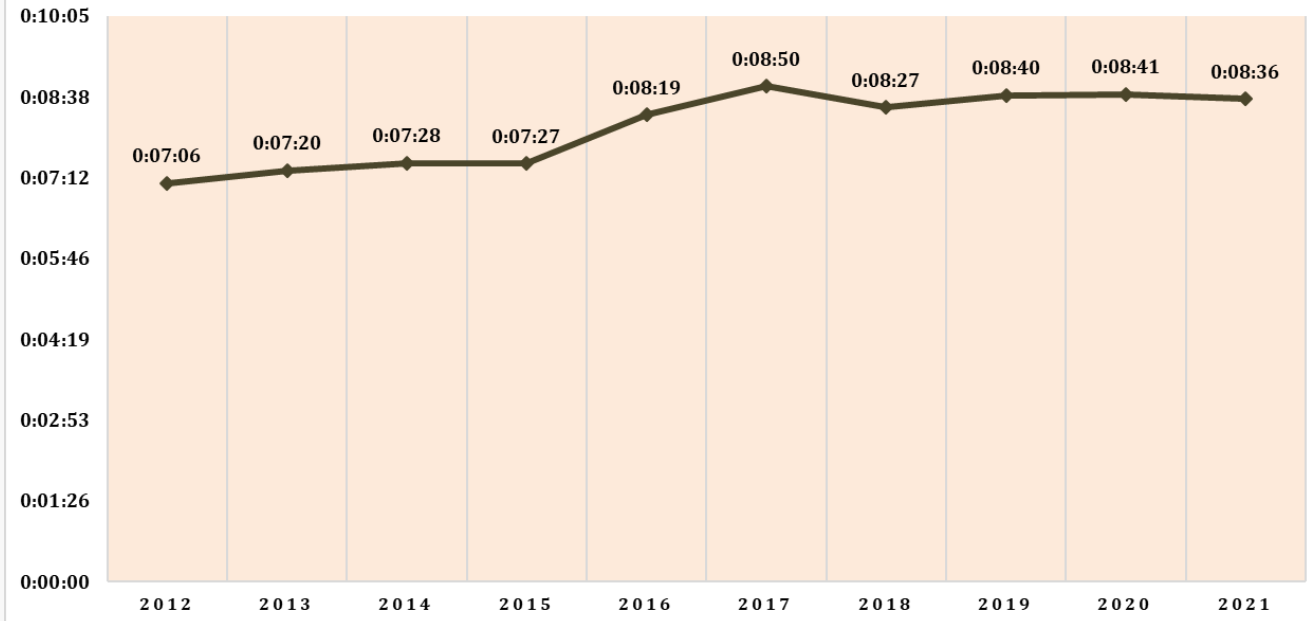
The number of dispatched calls for service increased 1% in 2021. Police officers were dispatched to 187,621 calls for service, of which 9% were priority calls, those which require two or more officers and an expedited response, generally using lights and sirens.

The average emergency response time to priority calls includes the time to answer each call for service, time to process each call for service, time to dispatch each call for service, and travel time to each call for service. The average response time in 2021, as compared to 2020, showed an increase in average times to answer (+2 seconds), but a decrease in time to process (-3 seconds). Dispatch and travel time remained the same.





## AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES 2012 - 2021



In 2021, the Montgomery County Emergency Communications Center attained Tri-Accreditation Center of Excellence status with the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch; the 20th in the world. Even though the ECC continued to navigate through the pandemic, the technology advances did not halt. In February, the radio system was upgraded. In May, a new phone system was implemented, along with new statistical packages. In September, NG9-1-1 ESInet technology was implemented. The ECC is continuing to work on the consolidation project of fire rescue dispatch. Staffing challenges spiked the latter half of 2021 for various reasons. The pandemic had an impact on staff attendance. As a result, staff worked involuntary overtime hours so the 9-1-1 calls could be answered and dispatched.



In early 2022, the ECC introduced another mapping solution to provide more robust caller location data. The ECC is embracing the emerging NG9-1-1 technologies and are scheduling additional implementations and upgrades in 2022. The ECC will continue to train more staff in fire rescue dispatch. Staffing continues to be a challenge at the ECC. The center is reviewing its recruiting initiatives and retention of staff.

The ECC strives to meet all industry and professional standards so the highest level of service is provided to the public. As evidence of this, ECC Director Cassandra Onley was selected as the 2021 Director of the Year by the Mid-Eastern Chapter of The Association of Public Safety Officials.



Director Cassandra Onley

## YEAR-END CRIME STATISTICS, 2019 - 2021

The Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) has historically reported its crime data following the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Summary (SRS) guidelines, in which only total counts of specific incident classifications are reported. In 2017, the MCPD began reporting details about its individual crime incidents through the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Under NIBRS, MCPD records all offenses associated with an incident, rather than only the most severe offense, which provides greater specificity in reporting (greater capability to break data into more categories).

Under SRS, agencies only report the most serious index offense per incident of crime (the hierarchy rule). For example, if there was an incident where an individual broke into a house and assaulted the resident prior to stealing their car, this incident would have only counted as an assault. Using NIBRS, this example would lead to three separate offenses being reported, one in each category of assault, burglary, and auto theft.

With the change in reporting, the department restructured its internal business analytics processes. Under NIBRS, the department collects and reports incident and arrest data on 52 Group A offenses and 10 Group B offenses (note: under NIBRS, only the Group B arrests are reported to the FBI, but the MCPD does track the incidence of those incident types as well).

Within the Group A category, incidents are further categorized as crimes against person, property, and society. These categories contain many of the same crime types that were provided by the UCR SRS data, while some of the crime types were not recorded as such in previous years. The chart below provides a more realistic depiction of the criminal activity in Montgomery County, rather than looking at the quantity or percent change in the more detailed chart on the following page.

The following tables and charts were compiled using the following criteria and includes offenses that were reported to or investigated by the Montgomery County Police Department as well as Rockville City Police Department, Gaithersburg Police Department, and Takoma Park Police Department except where indicated. Annual reports from those agencies can be found on their respective websites.

### NIBRS Standards:

- Compiled offenses based on the start date of the offense
- Crimes against person are totaled based on the number of victims, not offenses
- Crimes against property, crimes against society and Group B offenses are totaled based on the number of offenses, not victims
- Offenses that were unfounded or referred to another jurisdiction were excluded

Additional offenses may have occurred within the county borders but are not depicted in the below charts and tables due to the location of the offense such as a park or interstate. Those incidents will be reported by the agencies that investigate them and include Montgomery County Sherriff's Office, Maryland National Capital Park Police, Maryland State Police, Chevy Chase Police Department, Metro Transit Police Department and Maryland Transportation Authority Police.

Historically, the MCPD annual report compared the reporting year to the previous year (2021 vs 2020). However, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this report will compare 2021 totals to 2020 as well as 2019. The pandemic affected various crime categories in varied and significant ways. Therefore, the decision was made to provide 2019 total as a baseline for crime totals before the pandemic began.

<b>Offense Categories</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>% Diff*</b>
<b>Crime Against Person</b>	5,986	5,367	6,101	14%
<b>Crime Against Property</b>	22,329	23,005	22,879	-1%
<b>Crime Against Society</b>	5,556	2,628	1,654	-37%
<b>Group B Offenses</b>	19,608	15,003	14,740	-2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,479</b>	<b>46,003</b>	<b>45,374</b>	<b>-1%</b>

*\*The % Diff column depicts the increases or decreases in offense categories between 2020 and 2021.*

Despite the increase in crimes against persons, Group A offenses were down 1% in 2021 compared to 2020 and 10% compared to 2019. In 2021, crimes against property were slightly lower than 2020 but are still higher by 2% over 2019. There were nearly 975 fewer crimes against society between 2020 and 2021, but annual totals remain significantly lower than the total from 2019.

In 2021, the crime rate per capita declined from 2918 to 2884 as compared to 2020 per 100,000 people in Montgomery County and declined from 3189 as compared to 2019 (crime rate per capita calculated with Group A Offenses only).<sup>2</sup>

The chart on the following page shows all Group A offenses in these three offense categories in greater detail.

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<sup>2</sup> *U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Montgomery County, Maryland*

## Montgomery County Police Group A Offenses

OFFENSE CATEGORIES	NIBRS DESCRIPTION	2019	2020	2021	% Diff*
Assault Offenses	Aggravated Assault	804	824	992	20.4%
	Simple Assault	4,403	3,868	4,276	10.5%
	Intimidation	37	34	42	23.5%
Homicide Offenses	Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	15	19	34	78.9%
Human Trafficking	Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	8	7	3	-57.1%
Kidnapping/Abduction	Kidnapping/Abduction	9	7	23	228.6%
Sex Offenses	Forcible Rape	252	217	222	2.3%
	Forcible Sodomy	109	107	115	7.5%
	Sexual Assault With An Object	66	78	70	-10.3%
	Fondling	117	86	139	61.6%
	Forcible Fondling	152	107	177	65.4%
Sex Offenses - Non-Forcible	Incest	1	2	0	-100.0%
	Statutory Rape	13	10	8	-20.0%
<b>TOTAL CRIME AGAINST PERSON</b>		<b>5,986</b>	<b>5,366</b>	<b>6,101</b>	<b>13.7%</b>
Arson	Arson	50	48	58	20.8%
Bribery	Bribery	0	0	1	Not Calc
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	Burglary/Breaking and Entering	1,415	1,312	1,129	-13.9%
Counterfeiting/Forgery	Counterfeiting/Forgery	484	513	505	-1.6%
Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism of Property	Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism of Property	2,862	3,151	2,971	-5.7%
Embezzlement	Embezzlement	87	70	65	-7.1%
Extortion/Blackmail	Extortion/Blackmail	41	91	83	-8.8%
Fraud Offenses	False Pretenses/Swindle/ Confidence Game	1043	1254	1153	-8.1%
	Credit Card/Automated Teller Machine Fraud	595	908	711	-21.7%
	Impersonation	50	35	42	20.0%
	Welfare Fraud	1	0	5	Not Calc
	Wire Fraud	45	40	59	47.5%
	Identity Theft	1426	1458	2524	73.1%
Larceny/Theft Offenses	Pocket/picking	123	82	88	7.3%
	Purse-snatching	79	66	49	-25.8%
	Shoplifting	3,136	2,336	2,417	3.5%
	Theft from Building	1,821	1,491	1,500	0.6%
	From Coin-Operated Machine or Device	5	14	6	-57.1%
	Theft From Motor Vehicle	4,426	4,992	3,954	-20.8%
	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	850	1146	1603	39.9%
	All Other Larceny	2,275	2,337	2,011	-13.9%
Motor Vehicle Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	914	1178	1444	22.6%
Robbery	Robbery	580	468	489	4.5%
Stolen Property Offenses	Stolen Property Offenses	21	15	12	-20.0%
<b>TOTAL CRIME AGAINST PROPERTY</b>		<b>22,329</b>	<b>23,005</b>	<b>22,879</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Drug/Narcotic Violations	Drug/Narcotic Violations	4,896	2,130	1,165	-45.3%
	Drug Equipment Violations	219	99	81	-18.2%
Gambling Offenses	Operating/Promoting/ Assisting Gambling	0	0	0	0.0%
Pornography/Obscene Material	Pornography/Obscene Material	41	69	50	-27.5%
Prostitution Offenses	Prostitution	27	18	12	-33.3%
	Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	2	1	6	500.0%
Weapon Law Violations	Weapon Law Violations	371	311	340	9.3%
<b>TOTAL CRIME AGAINST SOCIETY</b>		<b>5,556</b>	<b>2,628</b>	<b>1,654</b>	<b>-37.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL GROUP A OFFENSES</b>		<b>33,871</b>	<b>30,999</b>	<b>30,634</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>

Source: NIBRS data pulled from the MCPD WebFOCUS dashboard on 3/30/2022.

"Not Calc" = not calculable

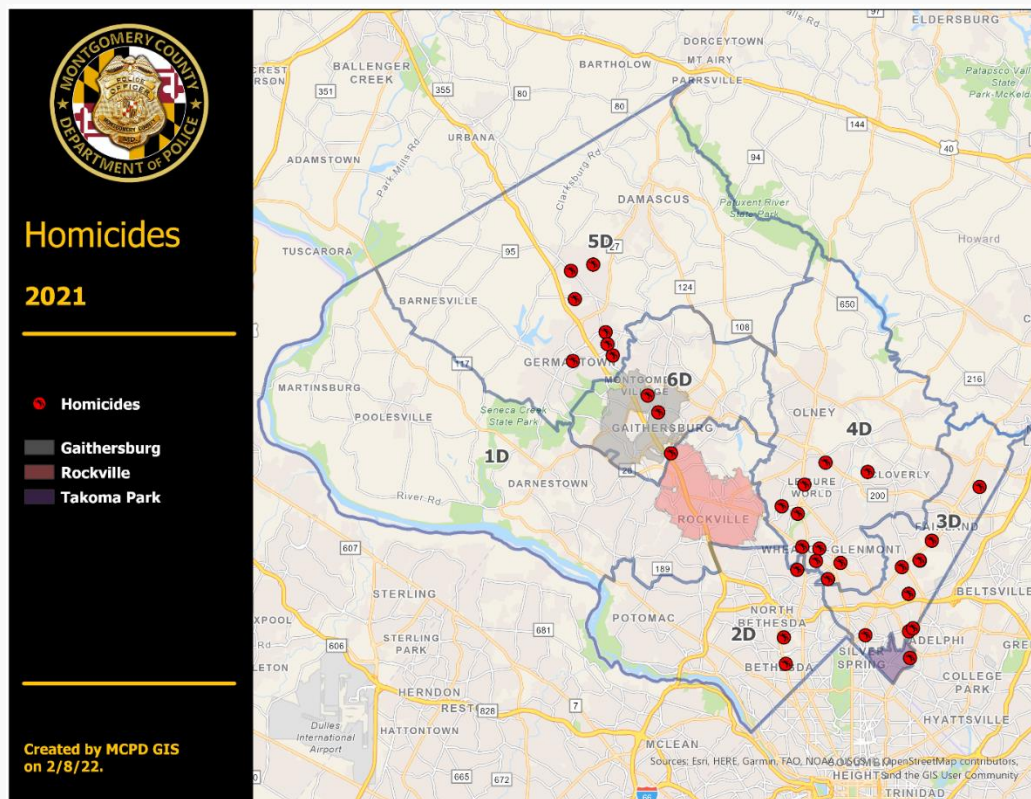
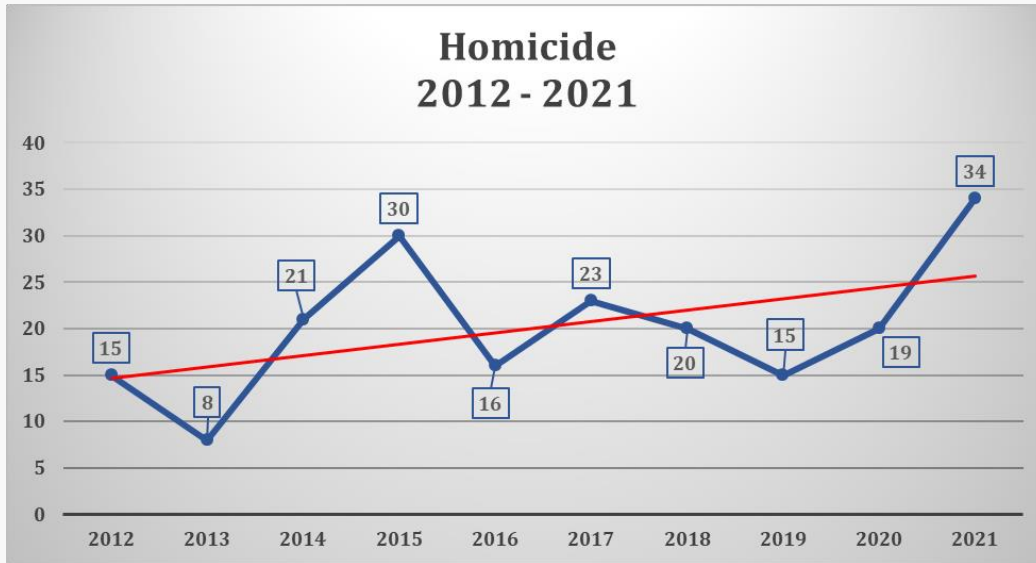
\*The % Diff column depicts the increases or decreases in offense categories between 2020 and 2021.



# VIOLENT CRIMES, GUNS AND GANGS

In 2021, there were 34 homicides (33 incidents), an increase from 20 homicides in 2020. This represents the highest number of annual homicides in the past ten years. However, the clearance rate for homicides in 2021 is nearly 70%. Five of the homicides were domestic-related and 13 stemmed from disputes between involved persons. Firearms were used in 65% of the 2021 homicides and three were determined to be privately made firearms (PMFs), colloquially known as “ghost guns”.

The above and below homicide totals do not include homicides that were deemed justified, either by police or non-police. In addition, these totals are based on NIBRS standards as outlined above and may differ slightly from other totals that are reported to other entities with different reporting requirements.



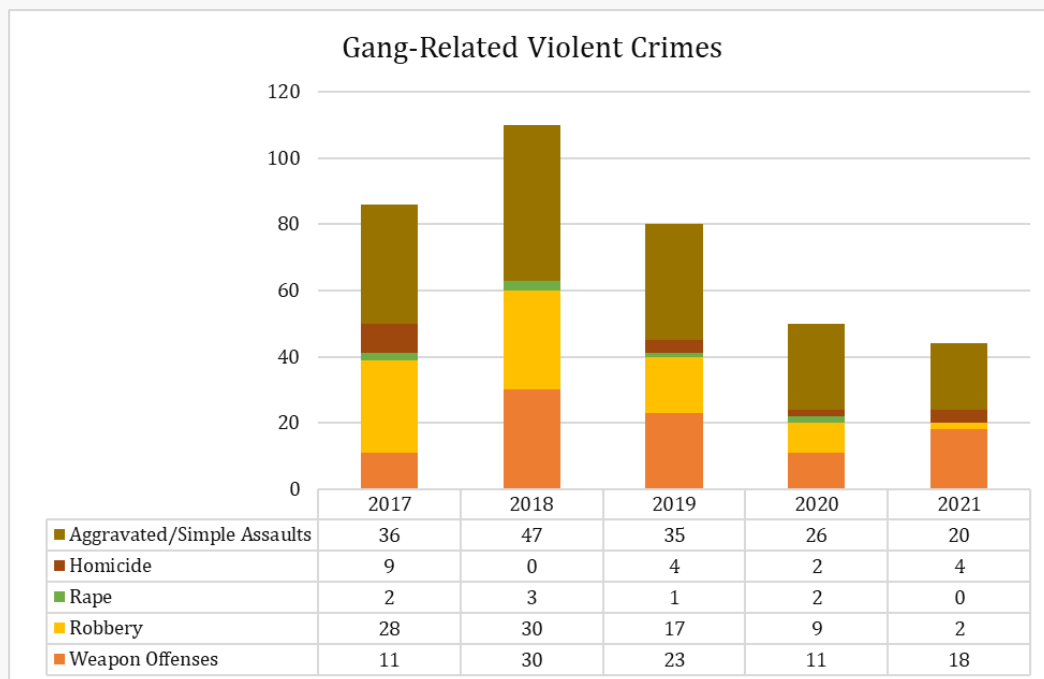
## A note about gang reporting:

To further clarify statistics related to gangs, the MCPD now classifies homicides according to whether they were gang-*motivated* or gang-*affiliated*.

**Gang Affiliated** refers to the persons involved in a homicide. It can refer to the victim or the suspect. To say that a homicide was gang affiliated means that the victim or the murderer is a validated gang member or associate, as determined by the Special Investigations Division (SID) using the Maryland Gang Validation Criteria. The term *Gang Affiliated* does not speak to the motivation of a murder.

**Gang Motivated** refers to the motivation of a murder as determined by homicide detectives during the investigation. To say that a murder is *Gang Motivated* means that the murder investigation has revealed that the murder was committed for the benefit or in the furtherance of the gang.

Overall, gang related violent crimes in 2021 decreased by 12% from 2020. The decrease is due to fewer rapes, robberies, and aggravated/simple assaults offenses. Gang-related assaults decreased by 23%, robberies decreased by 77%, and rapes decreased 100% from 2020 to 2021. Even though there was a decrease in gang-related incidents in 2021, gang-related weapon offenses increased by 63% and homicides increased by 100%. Similarly, in 2020, many of these incidents involved members of MS-13 and hybrid or neighborhood gangs. The top districts affected were the 6<sup>th</sup> District (Gaithersburg), 5<sup>th</sup> District (Germantown), and the 3<sup>rd</sup> District (Silver Spring). Youth were responsible for 13% of all gang-related offenses, 15% of all gang-related assaults, and 16% of gang-related weapon offenses.



*This chart represents incidents where the Special Investigations Division was notified or investigated.*

The map below reflects some of the violent gang-related offenses investigated by the Special Investigations Division in 2021.



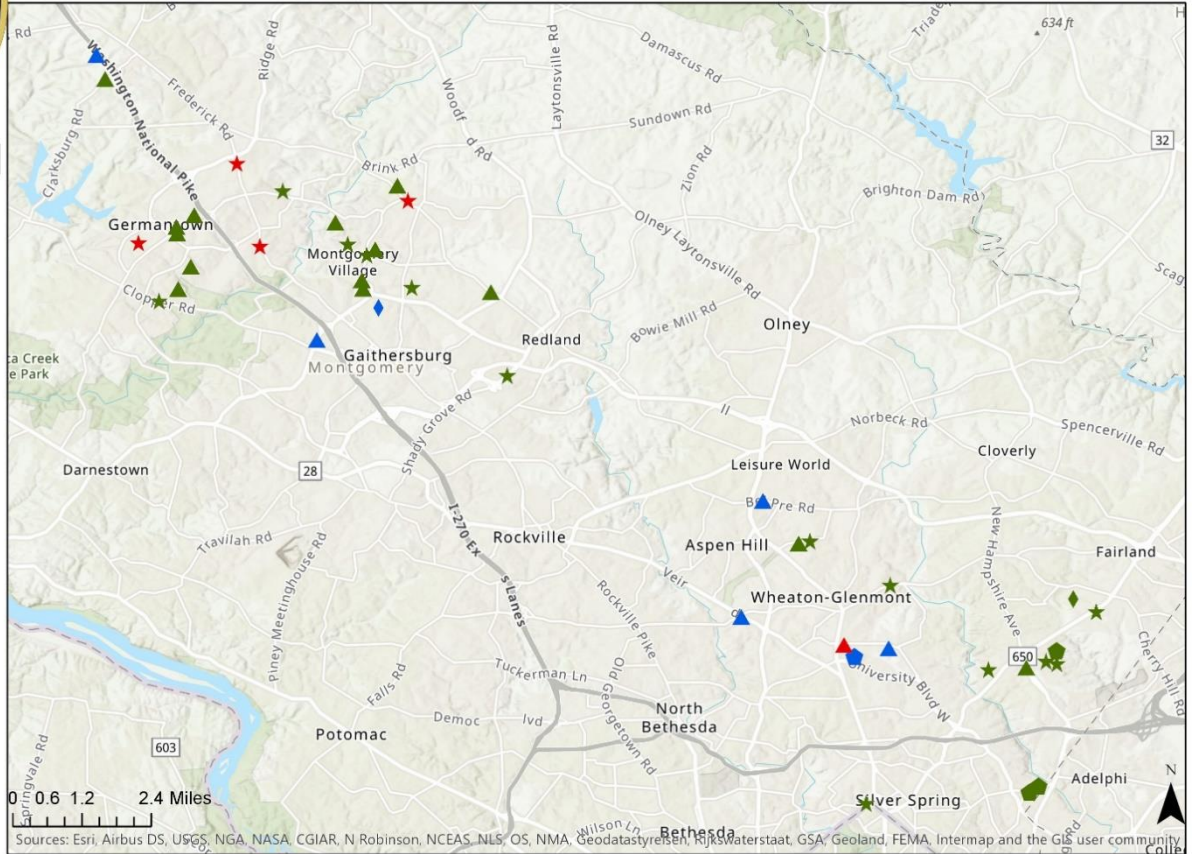
## Gang-Related Offenses 2021

### Crime Type

- ▲ Assault
- ◆ Homicide
- ◆ Robbery
- ★ Weapons

### Gang Type

- Bloods
- MS-13
- Other



The County's Street Outreach Network for Gang Prevention program is part of the Department of Health and Human Services. Their mission is to prevent, neutralize, and control hostile behavior in high risk youth and youth gangs through the development of positive relationships between youth/community stakeholders and the outreach workers. The outreach worker will utilize positive youth development programs and leisure time activities as the intervening vehicle for redirecting antisocial and aggressive behaviors. For more information on the County's Street Outreach Network for Gang Prevention, a link to their website can be found below.

[Montgomery County Maryland \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](http://montgomerycountymd.gov)



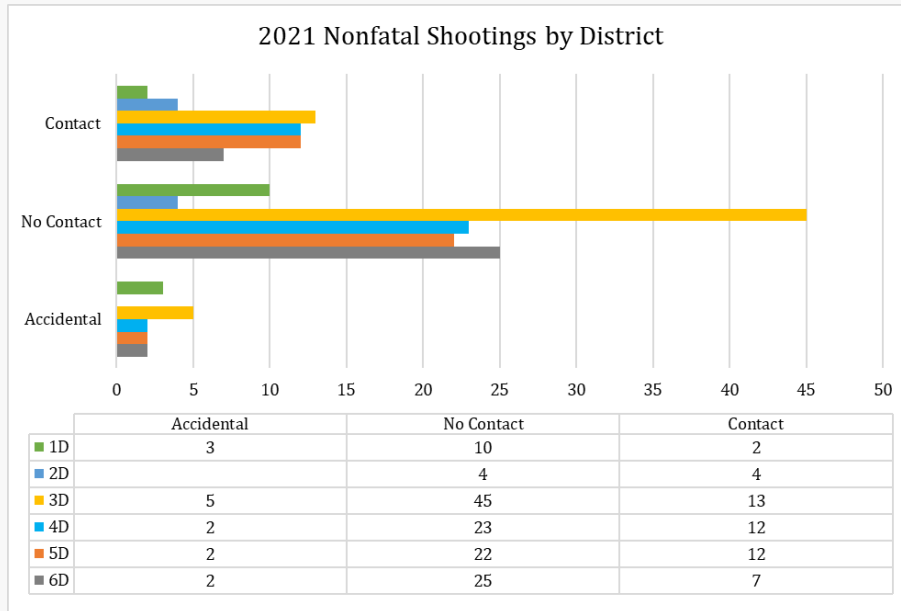
## NON-FATAL SHOOTINGS\*

There were a total of 189 non-fatal shooting incidents in 2021, an increase over the 140 non-fatal shooting incidents reported in 2020, and the 99 incidents in 2019. The Department classifies these incidents into three separate categories:

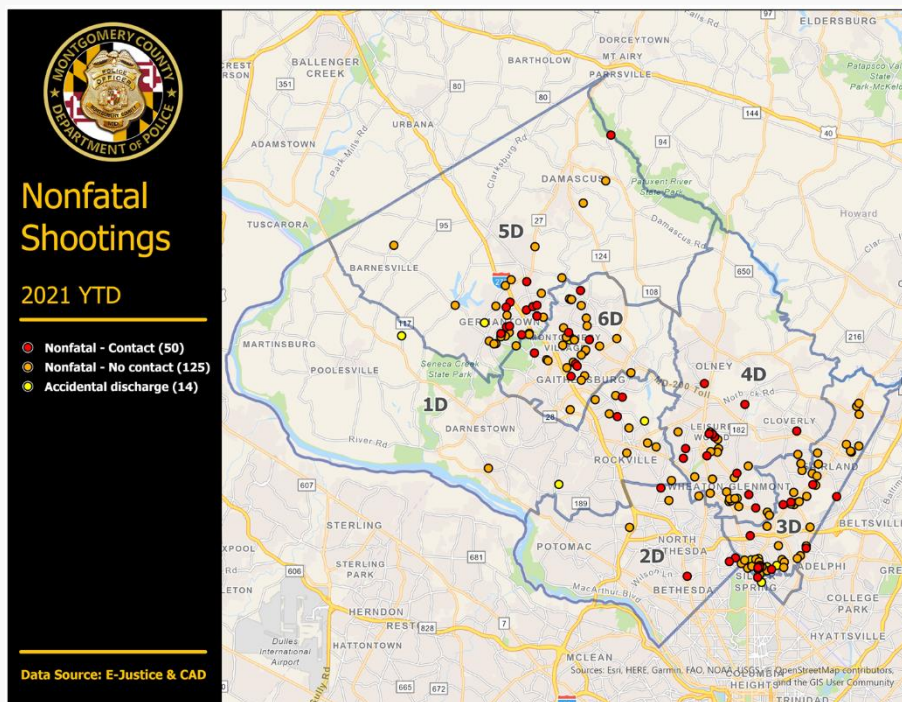
**Contact Shooting:** An incident where a person was struck with gunfire but did not suffer fatal injuries.

**Non-Contact Shooting:** An incident where a report of gunfire was received and evidence confirming the report was located, such as property damage or shell casings.

**Accidental Discharge:** An incident where a loaded firearm was accidentally discharged.



Nearly 75% of all contact shootings in 2021 occurred in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> districts.



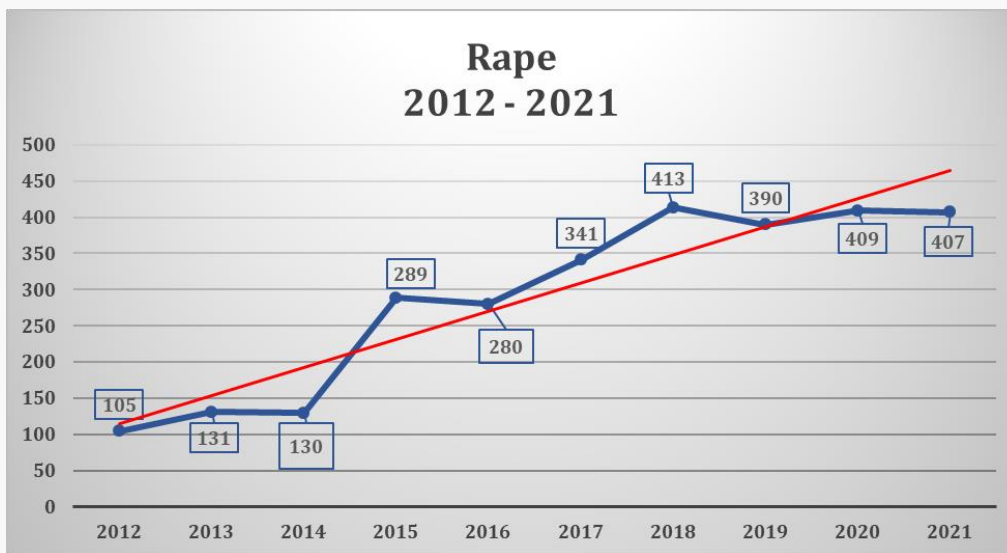
\*Takoma Park data is not available



## RAPE\*

As mentioned at the beginning of this report, the MCPD has decided to publicly report all offenses according to NIBRS requirements, which means that published annual statistics reflect the number of incidents that occurred in the calendar year. This change had the most significant impact on the published rape statistics, which look to be significantly less than previous years' annual reports. This is because many offenses are reported a period of time after they allegedly occurred. For example, if a victim reports on June 1, 2019 that a rape occurred on January 1, 1990, the MCPD would have counted that offense in 2019 and published it under previous reporting practices. While this practice was indicative of the number of cases reported to the MCPD, it did not align with NIBRS requirements or the annual reporting practices of surrounding jurisdictions.

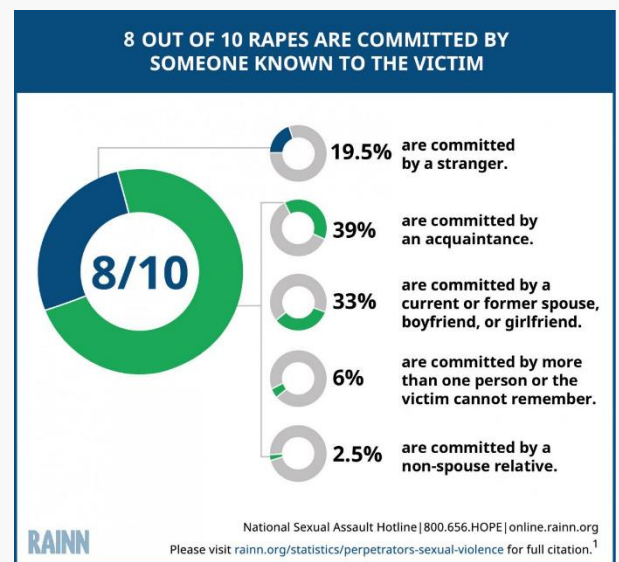
This modification in how the MCPD publishes these numbers does NOT affect how these crimes are investigated. The MCPD remains sensitive to the fact that victims of sex offenses struggle with the decision on whether to report being sexually assaulted and the MCPD has always fostered a belief in encouraging victims to come forward. Detectives from the Special Victims Investigation Division investigate every report regardless of when the victim states the offense occurred.



In 2021, there were more than 780 incidents of rape reported to the Montgomery County Police Department. Of those incidents, 52% were reported to have occurred prior to 2021. On average, 25% - 31% of rape reports in any given year are reported to have occurred before the current (reporting) year. The totals on the table to left have been recalculated with the most recent data.

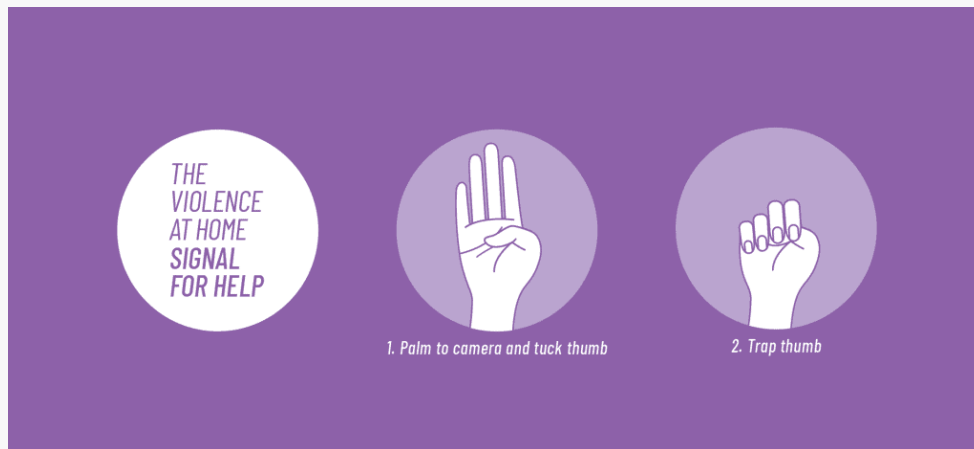
Another important point related to this offense category is that victims are frequently targeted by someone who knows and has access to the victim. On average, less than 20% of the victims from these reported offenses stated that they did not know the suspect at all (stranger).

In 2020 and 2021, the number of sex offenses may have been under-reported due to pandemic restrictions limiting accessible resources for victims to report such offenses. Likewise, school closures and ongoing remote learning also inhibited the mandatory reporting of physical or sexual abuse. The MCPD remains committed to reducing the total number of rapes through non-traditional means and education, with services offered to adult victims at the [Montgomery County Family Justice Center](#) and to juvenile victims through the Department of Health and Human Services' programs, in coordination with Child Protective Services and Victim Assistance Sexual Assault Program (VASAP).



\*Rape totals include forcible rape, sodomy and sexual assault with an object.

Due to the effects of the ongoing pandemic, there has been an increase in awareness of non-verbal ways for victims to let others know they need help or are experiencing violence. The Canadian Women's Foundation created the below hand signal so victims who are experiencing violence can request assistance without words.



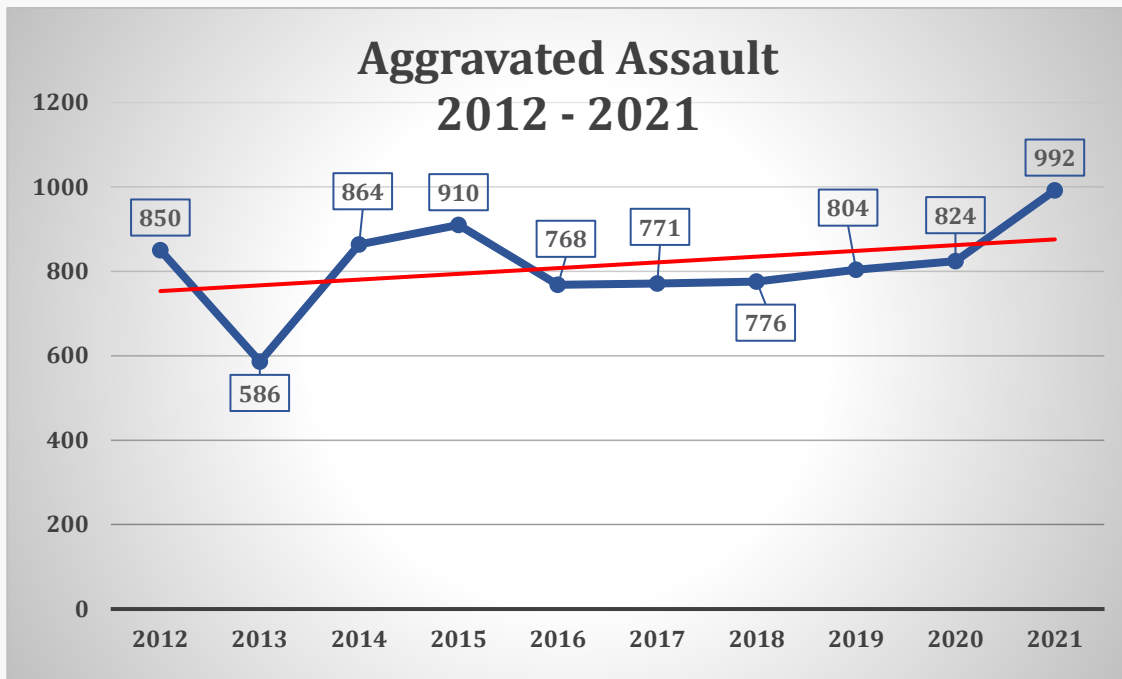
## AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS

On October 1, 2020, non-fatal strangulation became defined as a felony in Maryland under section 3-202, First Degree Assault (otherwise known as an aggravated assault). Strangulation is defined as impeding the normal breathing or blood circulation of another person by applying pressure to the other person's throat or neck. Before this important legislation passed, strangulation alone could not raise an incident to a first-degree assault and had to be coupled with other indices of significant injury. Studies have shown that victims of intimate partner strangulation are 750% more likely to become homicide victims at the hands of their assailant. Victims of strangulation are often only seconds away from death, and intimate partners who strangle do so as an ultimate show of power over their partners. Loss of consciousness can occur after only 6.8 seconds of pressure on the carotid artery and death may follow under a minute later. After hard work in the Maryland legislature by many of the Department's partners throughout the state, this lethal compounding factor of intimate partner violence (IPV) is now recognized for its potential standalone lethality in Maryland.

Often, a victim of strangulation will show no outward signs of injury, making identification of a potential strangulation victim difficult for officers without an admission. Knowing this, and understanding that a victim of strangulation, despite bearing no signs of visible injury, is at an increased risk of death even weeks after the event, the Montgomery County Police Department set out to train officers about the long-term effects of strangulation and signs of strangulation they may see at a scene. The Department also updated the Domestic Violence Supplement, completed by officers at the scene of every domestic violence incident, to include questions regarding strangulation and encouraging forensic examinations for strangulation victims at local area hospitals. In 2021, MCPD officers completed approximately 1,052 Domestic Violence Supplements.

Below are some physiological consequences of strangulation, with as little as 4.4 to 11 pounds of pressure:

- 5-10 seconds can render the victim unconscious
- 15 seconds-renders loss of bladder control
- 30 seconds-loss of bowel control
- 62-157 seconds-death, respiration ceases



Approximately 29% of all aggravated assaults investigated in Montgomery County were domestic or family related in 2021. There was an increase in total assault offenses (aggravated, simple and intimidation) of 12% in 2021 versus 2020 which includes a 20% increase in aggravated assaults. This increase is likely due in part to the change in legislation explained above.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE<sup>3</sup>

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Montgomery County Police Department has been an active partner in the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council’s Family Violence Prevention campaign. Partnering with the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office, State’s Attorney’s Office, and other partners, the campaign has educated thousands about resources available for survivors through social media campaigns, town halls, bus advertising, and educational cards distributed throughout the county in multiple languages and through different means, including food distribution sites, restaurants, and county liquor stores.

Do you feel unsafe at home?  
Are you concerned about a neighbor or loved one?  
Free help is available.

¿Te sientes inseguro en tu casa?  
¿Estás preocupado por su vecino o ser querido?  
Ayuda gratuita disponible.

**The Montgomery County Family Justice Center**  
240-773-0444  
safe@montgomerycountymd.gov

**The Montgomery County Crisis Center**  
240-777-4000 (24 hours/horas)

SCAN ME

The Domestic Violence/Elder Vulnerable Adult Abuse Unit (DV/EVAAU) is housed in the Family Justice Center and investigates and assigns all felony domestic violence cases. Likely as a result of the new law and heightened awareness in addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, the unit assigned 313 cases in 2021. This is a 45% increase from the 215 in 2020, and 52% higher than the 206 in 2019. Of the assigned cases, 170 of them involved strangulation. Domestic violence related investigative responsibilities of the unit include:

- Investigation of all felony intimate partner DV incidents (whether an arrest was made on scene or not)
- Stalking
- Burglary
- Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPO) and associated removal of firearms

<sup>3</sup> All data regarding the strangulation law and 2021 domestic violence was provided by the MCPD Special Victims Investigation Division

Additionally, the DV/EVAAU makes referrals for services using a victim-centered and trauma-informed approach. As a result of greater awareness by patrol officers of strangulation and cases being assigned to DV/EVAAU detectives, more victims are being referred and connected to services provided by partners at the FJC. Some of these services are safety planning, protection orders, legal assistance and counseling.

Identification of lethality factors and expanded survivor screening helps MCPD unite victims of intimate partner abuse with the resources they need to become survivors, with the goal of breaking the cycle of violence for future generations.

## ROBBERY<sup>4</sup>

Robberies increased in 2021 by 5% over 2020 but are still less than 2019 totals by 16%. COVID-19 pandemic restrictions likely plays a part in the overall decrease as compared to pre-pandemic data. With people quarantining in their homes and continuing to be socially distant in public, there were fewer opportunities to approach potential victims.

Conversely, armed carjacking offenses (61) increased 69% from the total reported in 2020 and 210% from the total reported in 2019. The 3<sup>rd</sup> District continues to experience the most carjacking offenses of all police districts with 56% in 2021, 61% in 2020 and 45% in 2019.

Montgomery County is not the only jurisdiction that is experiencing significant increases in carjacking offenses. It is a regional issue within the Metropolitan Washington DC area. The Department created a Carjacking Task Force in 2021 and is collaborating with various local and federal agencies within this region to combat this trend. In 2021, more than 70% of vehicles stolen during carjacking offenses were recovered outside of Montgomery County.

A public awareness campaign also took place in conjunction with the task force in the hopes that potential victims could reduce their risk of being targeted. The flyer to the right was released in multiple languages.

Since the inception of the task force, arrests were made in nearly 50% of the carjacking offenses. Less than 15% of those arrested were residents of Montgomery County and slightly less than half were juveniles.

**Carjackings are on the rise in Montgomery County.**  
**Your car is replaceable ... YOU ARE NOT.**

# Don't Get Carjacked!

If the carjacker threatens you with a gun or other weapon, give up your car. Your life is worth more than the car. Get away from the area as quickly as possible.

**REPORT THE CRIME IMMEDIATELY TO POLICE**

- ✓ Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings. Trust your instincts. If something makes you feel uneasy, get into your car quickly, lock the doors and drive away.
- ✓ Always approach your car with the key/fob in your hand. Look around and inside your vehicle before getting in.
- ✓ Always keep your doors locked and windows rolled up.
- ✓ When you come to a stop, leave enough room to maneuver around other cars, in case you need to get away.
- ✓ Do not stop for apparently stranded strangers along the road. Note their location and pull over in a safe place once you've passed to call for help.
- ✓ NEVER leave the keys/fob in the ignition when you exit the vehicle.
- ✓ Park in high traffic or well lit areas.

**Carjackers look for these opportunities:**

- Intersections controlled by stop lights or signs
- Garages, parking lots, shopping malls, grocery stores
- Self-serve gas stations
- Residential driveways
- Highway exit ramps

**Common Carjacking Strategies:**

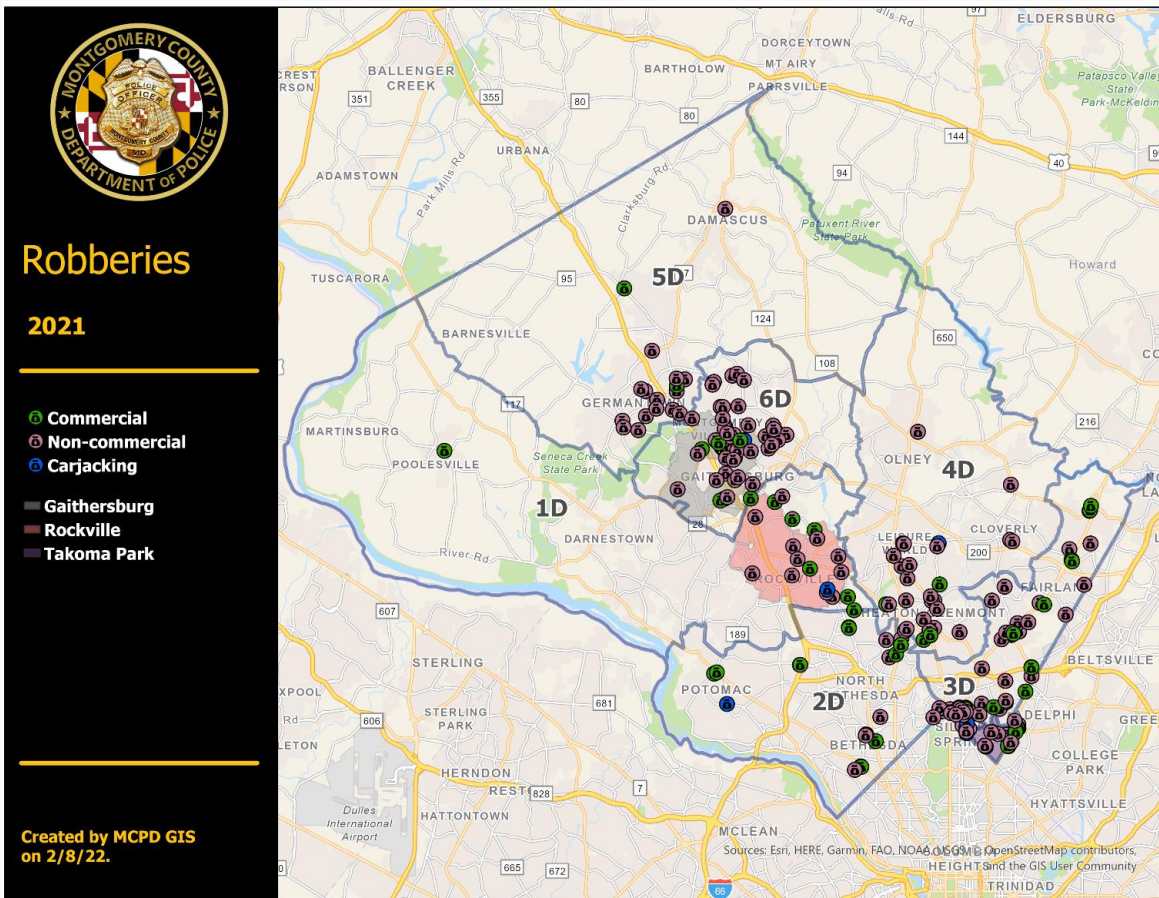
- A car, usually with a driver and at least one passenger, rear-ends you in traffic. You quickly get out to check the damage and exchange information. Either the driver or one of the passengers jumps in your car and drives off.
- ✓ If you're bumped by another car, look around before you get out.
- ✓ If possible turn your cell phone on and begin recording.
- ✓ Make sure other cars are around, check out the car that's rear-ended you and who's in it. If the situation makes you uneasy, memorize or jot down the car's tag number and description; signal the other car to follow you. Drive to the nearest police station or to a busy, well-lit area.
- ✓ If you do get out of the car, take your keys/fob (and purse/wallet) with you and stay alert.
- A carjacker flashes their lights behind you in order to signal a maintenance problem.
- A carjacker follows you home and attacks when you pull into the driveway.

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING. CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY.**

<sup>4</sup> According to NIBRS guidelines, the offense of robbery falls under the crime against property category. However, because of the force and/or weapons that are generally used to perpetrate a robbery, most police departments refer to robbery in the violent crime category.



# Robbery 2012 - 2021



# CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

## MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS

The number of auto thefts increased 23% in 2021 over 2020 and is higher by 58% over 2019 totals. The increases are most likely attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. Citizens have been teleworking more and driving less since March 2020; as a result, there are many unattended vehicles creating easy targets for opportunistic thieves. Likewise, with the increase of food and supply deliveries to area homes and businesses, delivery vehicles became notable targets, especially when left running or unlocked and unattended during drop-off and pickups. These kinds of thefts are known as “jump-ins”, which is defined as any vehicle that is stolen while it is left running and unattended, enabling a thief to jump into the running vehicle and flee the scene.

To educate the public about the increase in motor vehicle thefts and the dangers of leaving vehicles unlocked, running and/or unattended, the Department created the flyer to the right that was distributed in multiple languages.



**PREVENT VEHICLE THEFT**

Vehicle thefts and thefts from vehicles in Montgomery County have **SURGED** since the COVID-19 Pandemic as many people are staying home. **BOTH CAN BE PREVENTED.**

**LOCK**

- Never leave your vehicle running while unattended.
- Always lock your vehicle and activate your alarm every time you park your vehicle.
- Completely close car windows.
- Consider installing a kill switch, use a steering wheel lock, tire lock, locking lug nuts.

**KEYS/FOB**

- Never leave your keys/fob in the vehicle.

**PROPERTY**

- Never leave valuables in view, even if your car is locked. Loose change, purse/wallets, backpacks, shopping bags, GPS, cell phones, laptops, tablets, charging cords, sports equipment, cameras, clothing, etc. are all targeted by thieves.

**PARKING**

- Park in high traffic or well lit areas when possible.
- Avoid parking between large vehicles.

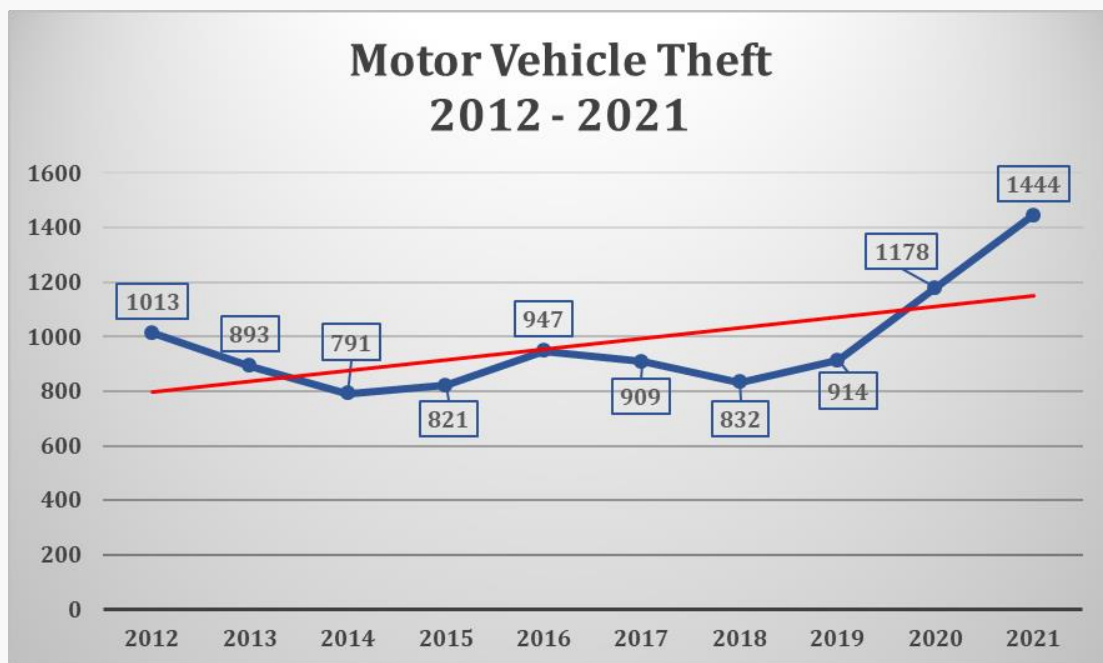
**PREVENT THEFT**

- LOCK YOUR CAR**
- TAKE YOUR KEYS/FOB**
- HIDE YOUR STUFF**

**SUBMIT AN ANONYMOUS TIP**  
**1-866-411-TIPS (8477)**

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.**  
Call the non-emergency line at 301-279-8000 or 911.

A regional trend occurred in 2021 where high-performance Dodge Challengers were targeted for thefts. A regional task force was created to combat the issue and share information and resources. Since its inception, thefts of high-performance Dodge Challengers were significantly reduced in number, and multiple arrests were made.



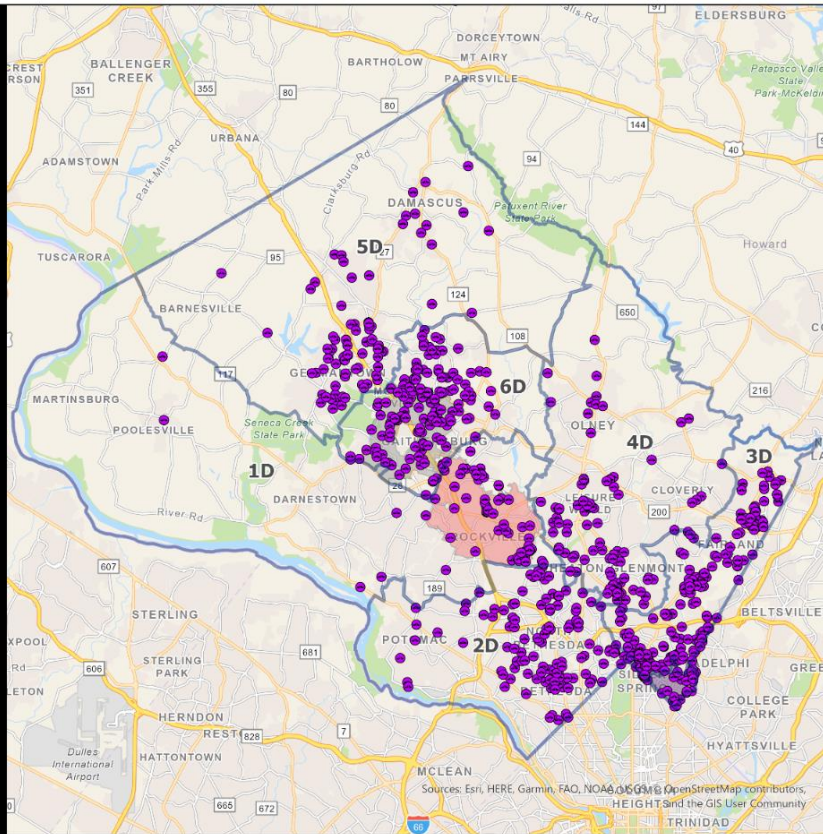




**Auto Thefts**  
**2021**

- Auto Thefts
- Gaithersburg
- Rockville
- Takoma Park

Created by MCPD GIS on 2/8/22.



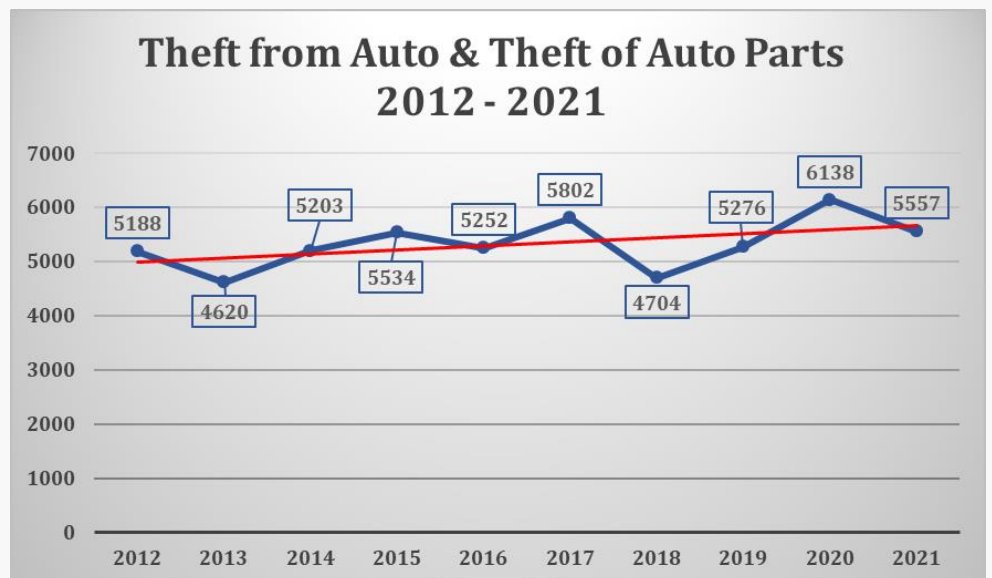
## THEFTS FROM AUTOS/THEFTS OF AUTO PARTS

While thefts from vehicles have decreased in 2021 (41% from 2020, 11% from 2019), that is not the case with thefts of auto parts. That category increased 40% in 2021 over 2020 and 89% over 2019.

Several specific trends carried over from 2020 related to thefts of auto parts. Each of the below trends occurred countywide and are consistent with regional and national trends.

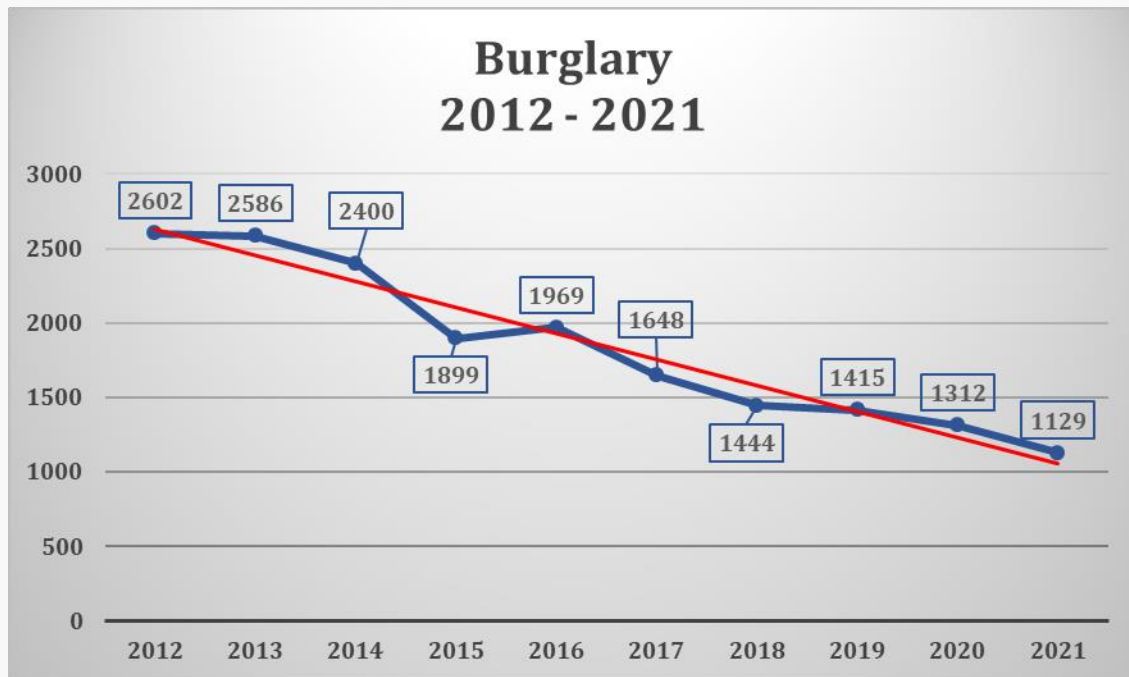
- Thefts of airbags from Honda products
- Thefts of tools from work trucks/vans
- Thefts of catalytic converters from Toyota Prius models and commercial Ford trucks and vans
- Thefts of tires and rims

Catalytic converters continue to be targeted for the precious metals contained within which include platinum, rhodium and palladium. Hybrid models tend to have higher concentrations of these metals due to a hybrid engine's heat demands. The prices for these precious metals are higher in recent years and the pandemic has only heightened the trend. In 2021, catalytic converter thefts from Toyota Prius models accounted for nearly 65% of all catalytic converter thefts.



## BURGLARY

The number of burglaries has steadily declined 57% over the last 10 years, and in 2020, there were just over 1100 burglaries reported in Montgomery County. Both commercial and residential burglaries saw decreases in 2021 from 2020. Commercial burglaries did increase in 2020 over 2019 since many businesses were closed due to COVID-19 regulations, but they continue to see an overall reduction. Residential burglaries continue to decrease in number year over year, but many residential burglaries occur from unlocked and unsecured garages and sheds. Treating your garage or shed in the same way as your living area (ensuring doors and windows are closed and locked) would decrease these numbers further.



Dealing with a burglary at your home or business can be traumatic and expensive. To avoid the emotional and financial losses associated with a burglary, make safety a lifestyle. These are some suggested tips to avoid becoming a burglary victim:

- Always lock your garden sheds and garages – keep your garage door closed
- Lawn mowers and equipment, barbecues and bicycles are best stored out of sight
- Check your locks on doors and windows and replace them with secure devices as necessary
- Make your home look occupied, and make it difficult to break in
- Don't share your vacation plans on social media
- If you have a home alarm system, use it
- Never leave keys under doormats, flowerpots, mailboxes or other “secret” hiding places - burglars know where to look for hidden keys
- Keep a detailed inventory of your valuable possessions, including a description of the items, date of purchase and original value, and serial numbers, and keep a copy in a safe place away from home
- Be a good neighbor - if you notice anything suspicious in your neighborhood, call 9-1-1 immediately

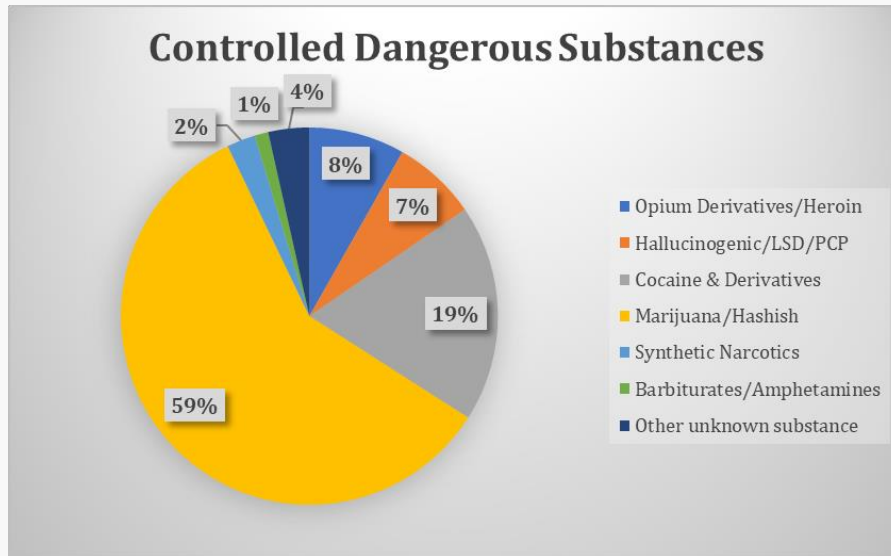


# CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY

## CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

The total number of offenses involving controlled dangerous substances (CDS) in 2021 declined 45% from 2020 but has declined 76% since 2019. The likely cause, however, can be attributed to the coronavirus pandemic and not a decrease in illegal drug activity in Montgomery County. Police reports for illegal drug offenses are frequently precipitated by an arrest. Arrests are usually made due to police contact with subjects who are involved in illegal drug activity. Since the pandemic has forced the reduction of in-person police contact, illegal drug offenses have subsequently fallen as well.

Of the CDS-related offenses in 2021, marijuana offenses made up 59% of the total with offenses related to cocaine making up 19% of the total. These two CDS types account for 78% of all CDS-related offenses. Plus, 87% of the CDS-related offenses were related to possession.

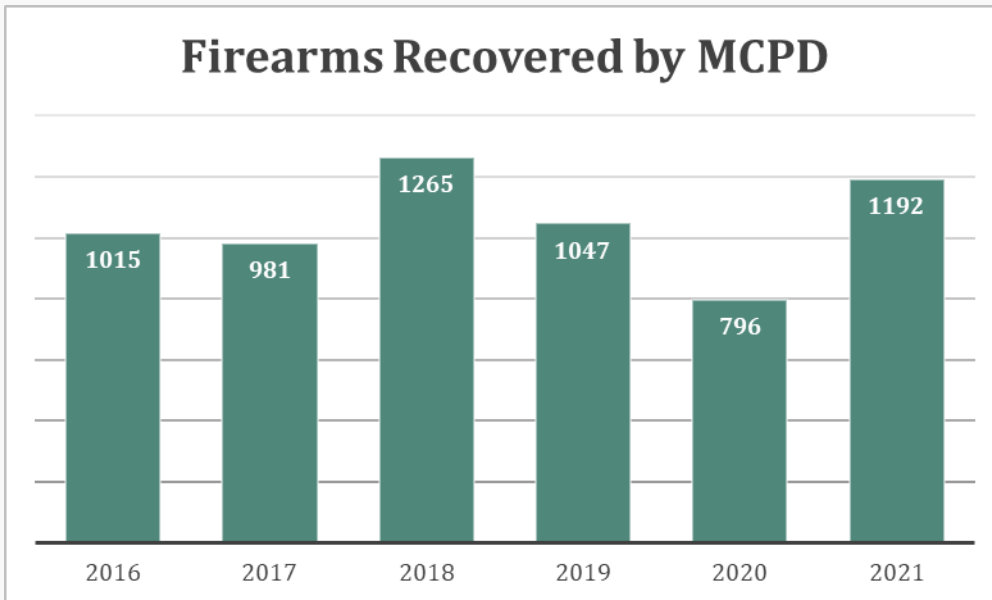


The number of opioid overdoses in Montgomery County increased by 32% in 2021. Non-fatal overdoses increased by 40% and fatal overdoses increased by 21% from 2020. Throughout 2021, we continued to have pressed fentanyl related overdoses caused by counterfeit pills that contained fentanyl or fentanyl-related compounds. We typically saw counterfeit Oxy, Percocet and Xanax.

*Nationwide Note: Drug traffickers continue to combine fentanyl or fentanyl-related compounds with other drugs to increase their potency and profit. Many unsuspecting drug users who are abusing cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, or other synthetic drugs have overdosed and died within days, hours, or minutes, of each other following the introduction into a community of fentanyl or heroin laced with fentanyl (U.S. Department of Justice, 2022)<sup>5</sup>.*

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Justice. "Opioid Facts." The United States Department of Justice, March 31, 2022, <https://www.justice.gov/opioidawareness/opioid-facts>.

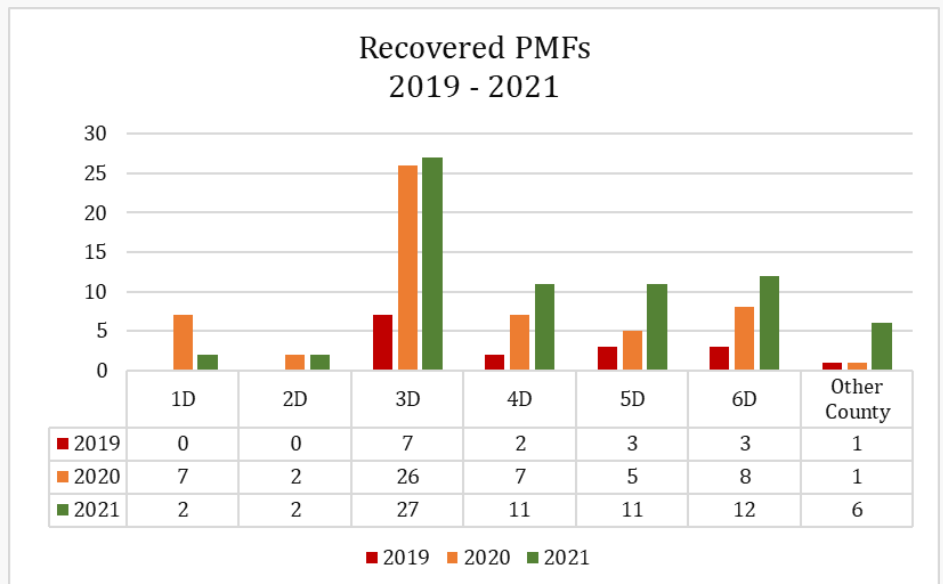
## WEAPON OFFENSES



The number of firearms (all types) recovered by MCPD increased by 50% from 2020.

### Privately Made Firearms

Privately Made Firearms (PMFs), often referred to as "ghost guns", are guns that are not manufactured but made individually and as a result do not have a serial number. The term "ghost gun" comes from the fact that since these firearms are not serialized, they are not traceable to their maker, seller, or original owner. They are usually constructed by completing an 80% lower receiver. An 80% lower receiver is described as a firearm frame or receiver of which 80% of the machining has been completed prior to its sale. The remaining 20% of the work can be completed using a drill press or other common hand tools. The lower receiver or frame is the only part legally considered a "gun" and the other components are unregulated.



Companies make the lower part of the firearm and tools to help finish the build of the firearm. PMF kits are sold by online retailers or at gun shows and include everything needed to build a gun. When the gun is sold, it is not considered a firearm and, therefore, there are no restrictions on the sale of the kit. Anyone can buy these kits including minors as well as convicted felons. Once someone has purchased the kit, they only need to build the gun, which can take less than an hour. Many of the parts can also be made with 3D printers. Due to the ease of access, the Department seen an increase in the amount of PMFs in Montgomery County as well as the State of Maryland. In 2021, there were 71 PMFs recovered in Montgomery County, which resulted in a 27% increase in recovered PMFs in the county from 2020 (56 recovered). Montgomery County has seen an increase in violent crimes involving firearms and PMFs have played a significant role in these incidents.

Per current Maryland State and federal law, it is legal to buy, manufacture and possess a PMF unless the possessor is legally prohibited from possessing a firearm due to criminal history, age, or another factor. No license is needed to manufacture a PMF so long as the manufacturer is not selling them as a means of profit.

There are several pieces of legislation in effect now or pending that are related to PMFs:

Montgomery County Bill 4-21 – Effective April 2021

A “ghost gun” means a firearm, including an unfinished frame or receiver, that lacks a unique serial number engraved or cased in metal alloy on the frame or receiver by a licensed manufacturer, maker or importer under federal law or markings in accordance with 27 C.F.R. § 479.102.

- ❖ The bill restricts the possession, use, sale and transfer of ghost guns, undetectable guns, and certain other firearms with respect to minors (under age 18).
- ❖ The bill restricts the possession, use, sale and transfer of ghost guns, undetectable guns, and certain other firearms within 100 yards of places of public assembly.
- ❖ The bill requires the Montgomery County Police Department to submit an annual report to the County Executive and the County Council regarding the availability and use of ghost guns and undetectable guns in the County.

Maryland State Bill 387 – Takes Effect June 2022

The bill alters the definition of “firearm” to include those with an unfinished frame or receiver.

- ❖ An unfinished frame or receiver means a forged, casted, printed, extruded or machined body or similar article that has reached a stage in manufacturing where it may readily be completed, assembled or converted to be used as the frame or receiver of a functional firearm.
- ❖ The bill requires Maryland State Police to maintain a system to register firearms imprinted with serial numbers.
- ❖ The bill prohibits a person from purchasing, receiving, selling, offering to sell, or transferring an unfinished frame or receiver or a firearm unless imprinted with specified information.

Additional parameters related to Maryland State Bill 387 take effect in March 2023. A person must not possess a firearm unless:

- ❖ The firearm has been registered with the Maryland State Police.
- ❖ The firearm has been imprinted or serialized by a federally licensed firearm manufacturer, a federally licensed firearm importer or a federal licensee authorized to provide marking services.

## GROUP B OFFENSES

The NIBRS Group B offense category contains ten offenses which encompass all the crimes that are not Group A offenses and represents several of the offense types that were previously reported under the SRS Part II offenses (note: runaway is not a criminal offense. Under NIBRS rules, a Group B offense must have an arrest to be reportable under the NIBRS program. For internal tracking and reporting, the MCPD records all incidents of Group B offenses, shown in the chart below.

Group B Offense Category	2019	2020	2021	% Diff
<b>Bad Checks</b>	83	28	22	-21%
<b>Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy</b>	2	2	1	-50%
<b>Disorderly Conduct</b>	897	475	306	-36%
<b>Driving Under the Influence</b>	2,804	1,659	1,579	-5%
<b>Drunkenness</b>	17	9	7	-22%
<b>Family Offense (Non-violent)</b>	138	110	125	14%
<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>	1,476	479	155	-68%
<b>Peeping Tom</b>	19	18	14	-22%
<b>Trespass of Real Property</b>	755	509	318	-38%
<b>All Other Offenses*</b>	12,776	11,198	11,782	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,753</b>	<b>14,234</b>	<b>14,309</b>	<b>1%</b>

*The % Diff column depicts the increases or decreases in offense categories between 2020 and 2021.*

It should be noted that the category *All Other Offenses*, which has the highest volume of the Group B offenses, includes all crimes that are not Group A offenses or one of the specifically named Group B offense categories. Under the current police records management system, *Police Information* reports are currently included in this count. A *Police Information* report is made by an officer when he or she needs to document an incident or activity in which no element of a criminal offense occurs and/or suspicious circumstance(s) may warrant documentation for later or future investigative purposes. Generally, these are noncriminal incidents, and should not be factored into any calculations of crime rates per capita.

## TRAFFIC SAFETY & ENFORCEMENT<sup>^</sup>

In 2021, the MCPD conducted 36,452 traffic stops. This is an 8% decrease from the number of traffic stops made in 2020. With COVID-19 restrictions being lifted in 2021, the total number of traffic stop has slowly increased when comparing 2019 to 2020 which showed a 63% decrease from 2019 to 2020. Montgomery County police officers continued to emphasize pedestrian safety, occupant protection, aggressive driving, and distracted and impaired driving enforcement. Despite these efforts, the Montgomery County Collision Reconstruction Unit (CRU) responded to 32 fatal collisions which resulted in 35 total deaths in 2021. The number of 2021 fatal collisions represents an 18% decrease over the 39 collisions that occurred in 2020 and took the lives of 41 people.

<sup>^</sup>Traffic data does not include data from Takoma Park



# CY2021 Fatal Collisions

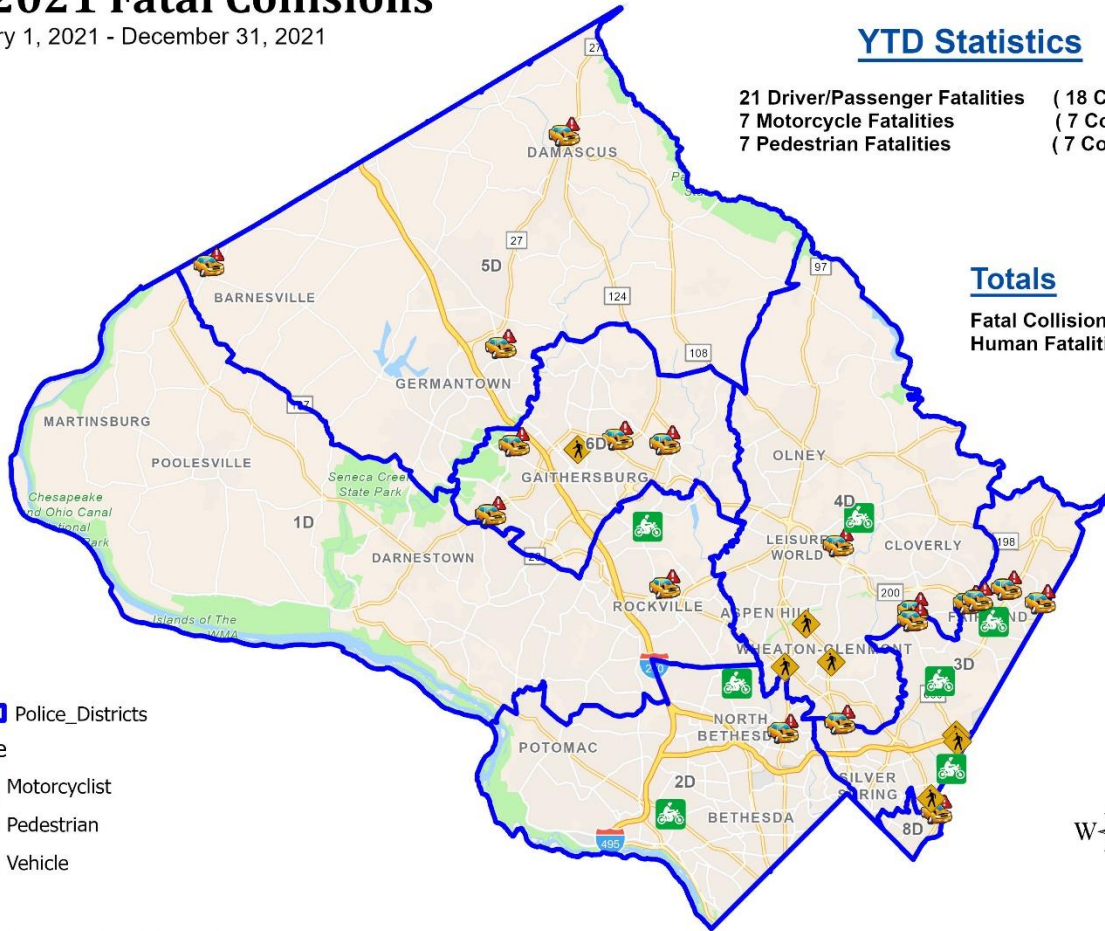
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

## YTD Statistics

21 Driver/Passenger Fatalities ( 18 Collisions )  
 7 Motorcycle Fatalities ( 7 Collisions )  
 7 Pedestrian Fatalities ( 7 Collisions )

## Totals

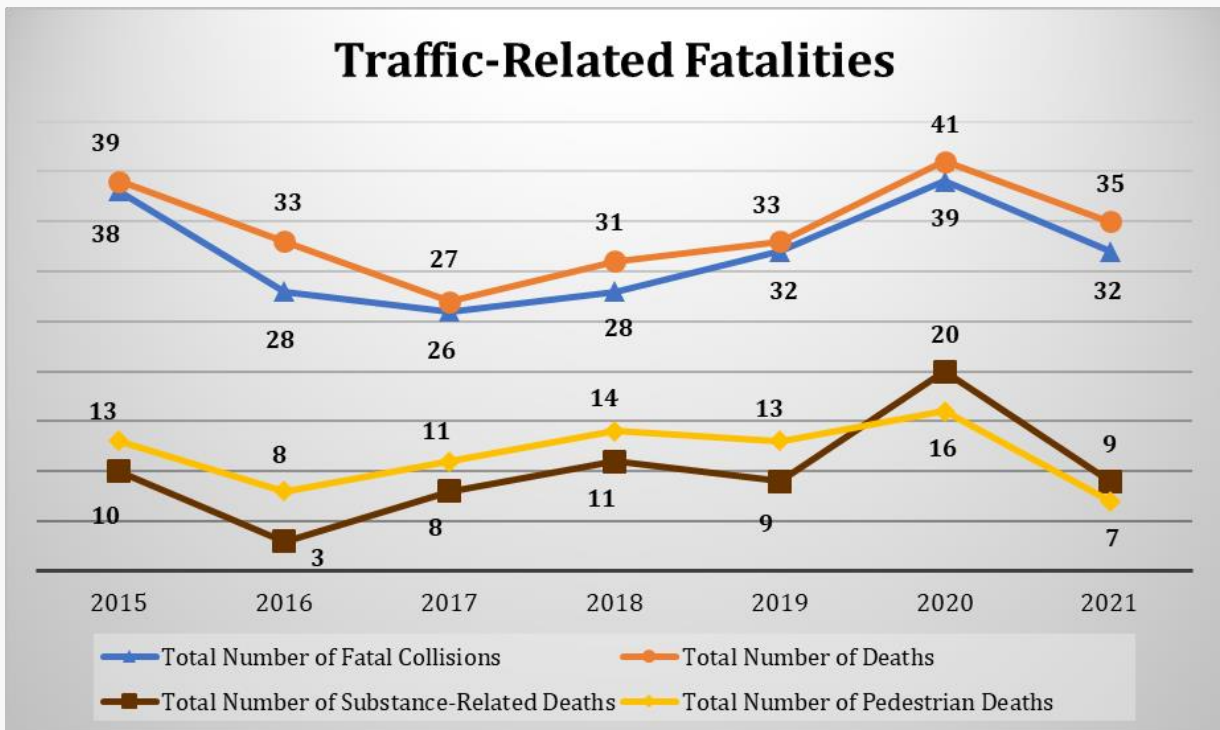
Fatal Collisions = 32  
 Human Fatalities = 35



Data Source: Montgomery County Police Department  
 Collision Reconstruction Unit Database

Prepared By: Lor, TI (1/10/2022)  
 CAS#: 22-041

## Traffic-Related Fatalities



The MCPD takes this matter very seriously. The department is actively involved in the County's Vision Zero initiative and conducts various data-driven enforcement initiatives throughout the year directed at these specific issues and trying to change human behavior through enforcement and education.

## Vision Zero Principles

Transportation-related deaths and severe injuries are preventable and unacceptable.

- 1. Transportation-related deaths and severe injuries are preventable and unacceptable.**
- 2. Human life takes priority over mobility and other objectives of the road system.** The road system should be safe for all users, for all modes of transportation, in all communities, and for people of all ages and abilities.
- 3. Human error is inevitable;** the transportation system should be designed to anticipate error so the consequences are not severe injury or death. Advancements in vehicle design and technology, as well as roadway engineering advancements, personal electronic device innovations, etc., are necessary components for avoiding the impacts of human errors.
- 4. People are inherently vulnerable, and speed is a fundamental predictor of crash survival.** The transportation system should be designed for speeds that protect human life.
- 5. Safe human behaviors, education, and enforcement are essential contributors to a safe system.**
- 6. Policies at all levels of government need to align, making safety the highest priority for roadways.**

The Holiday Alcohol Task Force was in effect again in 2021. Even though the task force operated with more than 20% fewer officers, they exceeded last year's total prior to the final week of deployment. Through snow, rain, temperatures in the teens, and everything in between they excelled, making stops which ultimately lead to the arrest of many impaired drivers. Results include:

- 284 DUI arrests (280 alcohol DUIs, 4 drug-only DUI), 32 arrests were crash-related
  - 3 impaired drivers arrested while transporting minors
- 6 handgun arrests
- 2 stolen vehicle recovery/arrests
- 2,002 traffic stops
- 2,701 traffic citations
- 2,100 traffic warnings
- An armed robbery case closure through Gaithersburg PD

On November 10, 2020, the MCPD created the Coordinated Enforcement Section to have a unified command structure that standardizes traffic enforcement duties and deployment across all six districts. This change created a new section under the Field Services Bureau known as the Traffic Operations Division by moving officers from the Patrol Services Bureau. This move became effective in July 2021. With this change, MCPD keeps one traffic officer at each station with two in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District to handle community complaints and reallocate officers to the Centralized Traffic Unit.

The goal of this organizational change was to increase resource efficiency through a centralized, data-driven approach to deployment, with consistent scheduling, and standardized performance goals. The responsibilities of the new Centralized Traffic Unit include:

- Using High Visibility Enforcement in High Incident Networks focusing on the four serious violations that cause collisions: aggressive, distracted, pedestrian, and occupant protection
- Conducting self-initiated enforcement on other important violations, including but not limited to fail to obey a traffic signal, reckless driving, negligent driving, suspended/revoked driver permits, speeding, following too close, and emergency repair orders
- Focusing on outreach and education to help change the dangerous behavior of drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists



The MCPD reminds residents that anyone who plans on drinking must rely on a sober driver. People should use taxis, Uber, public transportation, or sober friends or family to take them where they need to go.

Anyone who sees a driver they believe is under the influence of drugs or alcohol should call 911 and try to get the license plate and description of the vehicle, if it is safe to do so.

Residents who have information on businesses selling alcohol to underage youth or over-serving customers should call the police non-emergency number at 301-279-8000.

Anyone who has information on underage drinking at parties should also call the police non-emergency number.

A disturbing trend the County has experienced is the number of vehicles passing stopped school buses picking up or dropping children off at bus stops. The Automated Traffic Enforcement Unit (ATEU) and the Centralized Traffic Unit are working to combat violations related to stopped school buses. The greatest risk to a child isn't riding a bus but approaching or leaving one. For the safety of the children of Montgomery County, the MCPD asks that all residents and visitors be aware of the below Maryland laws regarding school bus safety. When following or approaching a school bus:

- Be Prepared to Stop - Flashing yellow lights on the bus are activated 100 to 300 feet before the bus is going to stop to load or unload children.
- Drivers must stop and remain stopped when red lights flash. Drivers should not proceed until flashing red lights are turned off or the bus begins to move.

School Year	Citations
2016 - 2017	16,256
2017 - 2018	33,477
2018 - 2019	54,603
2019 - 2020*	87,830
2020 - 2021**	9,400
2021 - 2022^	28,484

\*MCPS schools closed in March 2020 due to the pandemic

\*\*MCPS schools were closed for a majority of the school year

^Data is through 2021

**SCHOOL BUS SAFETY**

**What is the law in Maryland?**

**TWO LANE:** Vehicles traveling in both directions MUST STOP.

**TWO-LANE with center turn lane:** Vehicles traveling in both directions MUST STOP.

**MULTI - LANE:** Vehicles traveling in both directions MUST STOP.

**DIVIDED HIGHWAY:** With dirt, grass, or barrier median - Vehicles behind bus MUST STOP. Vehicles traveling in opposite direction USE CAUTION.



## THE MCPD IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Montgomery County is a vibrant and growing community, and the MCPD remains committed to providing the highest quality police services and responding to the needs of a community impacted by the growing population, increasing development, traffic challenges, and crime and public safety concerns. The MCPD believes that community outreach and engagement is the foundation for providing police services throughout the county. Community policing stresses prevention, early identification, and timely intervention to deal with problems and concerns before they reach an unmanageable level. It is instilled in every officer that healthy community relationships are based on mutual respect, supported by trust, developed over time, and must be constantly nurtured.

In 2021, many of the department's community outreach and engagement efforts were still being interrupted by COVID-19; restrictions prohibited many of the common efforts the department employs. Despite those challenges, the Department came up with some creative solutions, as well as some tried and true solutions, to increase community engagement during a trying time for all residents.

- ❖ MCPD Officer Petr Speight participated in a CBS News Program called Behind the Badge about rebuilding the public's trust in police.
- ❖ MCPD officers attended the In the Streets event in downtown Frederick with Frederick City PD and SOUL (Surviving Our Ultimate Loss) to provide prevention and educational information on the opioid epidemic.
- ❖ The MCPD Autism/Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Unit presented on autism awareness at Damascus High School.
- ❖ For the second year, the MCPD and the Upcounty Hub hosted a toy drive during the holiday season. The Upcounty Hub is a program that distributes food and essentials to families in need in our communities.

This is just a sample of what the men and women of the MCPD do with and for our public and private community partners. The Montgomery County Police Department relies heavily on the support of a highly engaged community, and is grateful to all community members, businesses, non-profit organizations, and other partners, as we continue to work together to reduce crime and the fear of crime and make Montgomery County a better, safer place for all.





# THANK YOU

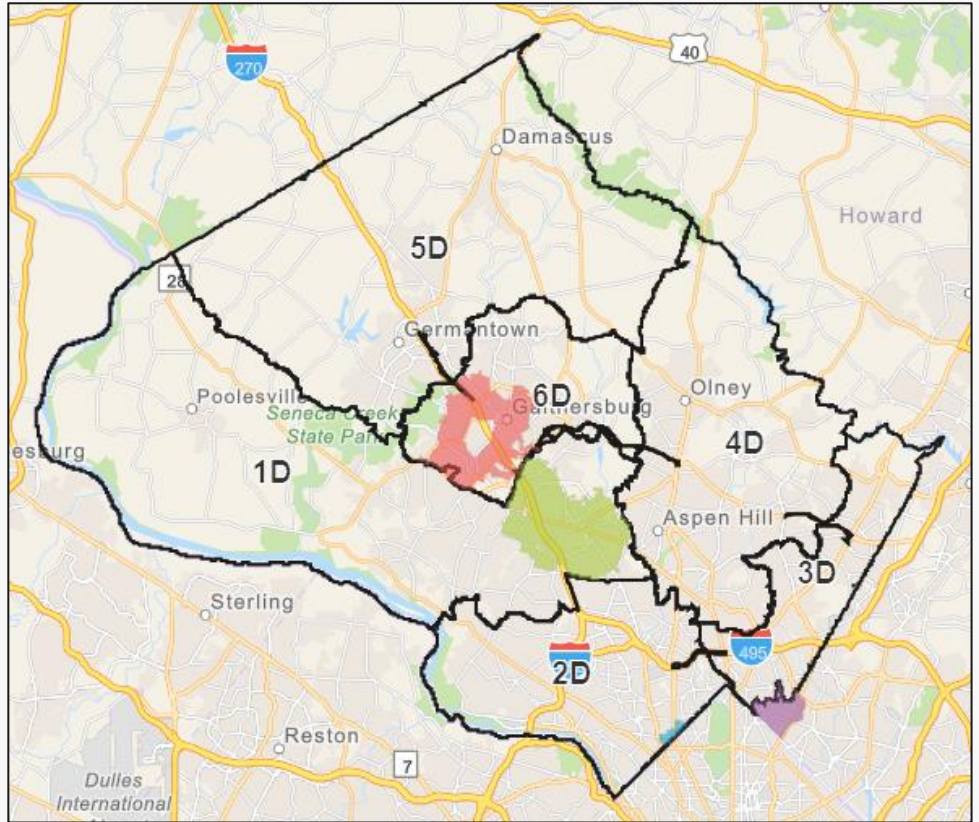
The Montgomery County Police Department is grateful to our many residents and community partners who make events like these possible. Whether it's joining together to provide supplies or holiday cheer, or events that lift our less fortunate and more vulnerable populations, we appreciate your support and generosity.





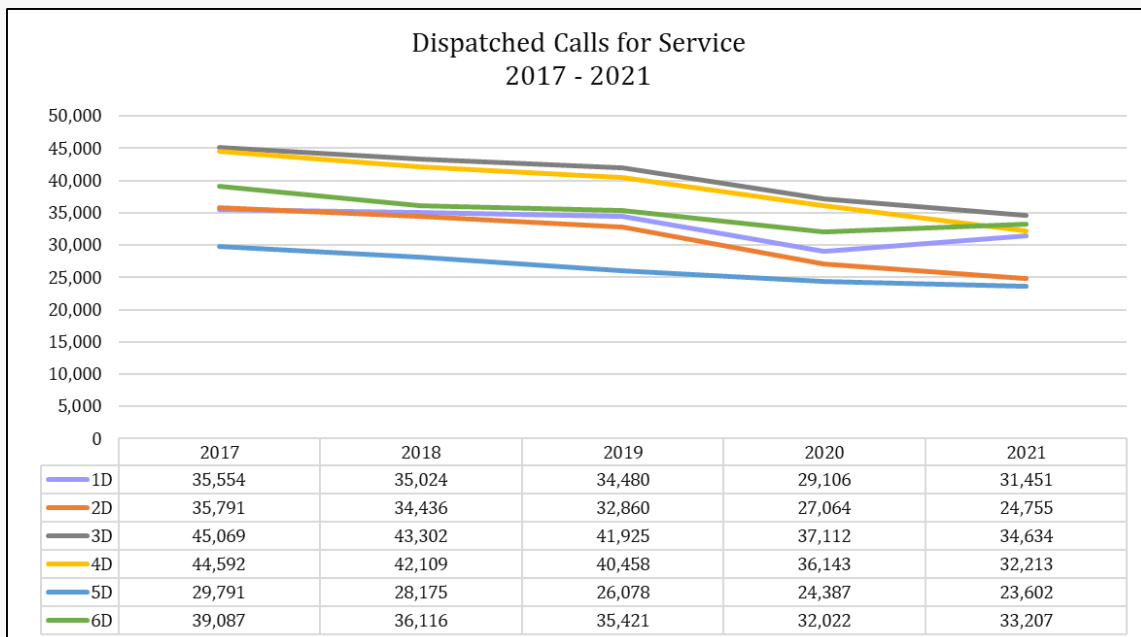
# DISTRICT ANALYSIS

The Montgomery County Police Department provides patrol services from six district stations: Rockville (1D), Bethesda (2D), Silver Spring (3D), Wheaton (4D), Germantown (5D), and Gaithersburg (6D). Each of the districts varies significantly in size, density, and demographics, and each faces its own challenges with preventing and reducing crime. Geographic and demographic factors specific to each district must be considered comprehensively, to make an accurate and complete assessment of crime in that area. Takoma Park has its own police department which responds to calls for service within their jurisdiction.



## Calls for Service

The number of dispatched calls for service for the six MCPD districts decreased for the fourth consecutive year, decreasing approximately 3% in 2021. Overall, dispatched call volume is approximately 22% lower than it was in 2017. Over the last five years, dispatched calls for service have declined in all districts. The largest decreases were in districts 2, 3, and 4 (-31%, -23%, and -28%, respectively), followed by districts 1, 5, and 6 (-12%, -21%, and -15%, respectively).



## 2021 NIBRS Offenses at the District Level

The districts saw disparate overall changes in crime in 2021. While there are variations regarding increases and decreases of total crime in each district and Takoma Park, none of the overall annual changes are more than 10%. Each district experienced an increase in crime against person in varying degrees.

As previously noted throughout this report, the COVID-19 pandemic likely influenced elements of both the surge and reduction seen among various crime types and offense categories, and the related restrictions posed both opportunity and obstruction of criminal activity.

For more specific information about crime in your community as it occurs, there are multiple locations to access the details:

- MCPD Public Safety Data  
[Public Safety Data Page, Montgomery County Police Department , Montgomery County, MD \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/public-safety-data)
- dataMontgomery Public Safety Data  
[Montgomery County Data | Open Data Portal \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/data)
- MCPD Find My District Tool  
[Find my district page, Montgomery county Police Department, Montgomery County,MD \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/find-my-district)
- MCPD Press Releases  
[Montgomery County Maryland \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/press-releases)
- MCPD Facebook Page  
[Montgomery County Police Department | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/montgomerycountypolice)
- MCPD Twitter Page  
[Montgomery County Department of Police \(@mcpnews\) / Twitter](https://twitter.com/mcpnews)
- Rockville City PD 2021 Annual Report  
[Police | Rockville, MD - Official Website \(rockvillemd.gov\)](https://www.rockvillemd.gov/police)
- Gaithersburg PD Crime Summary & Crime Annual Reports  
[Crime Summary & Crime Annual Reports | Gaithersburg, MD \(gaithersburgmd.gov\)](https://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/crime)
- Takoma Park PD Crime Statistics  
[Crime Statistics | City of Takoma Park \(takomaparkmd.gov\)](https://www.takomaparkmd.gov/crime)
- Maryland-National Capital Park Police  
[Park Police - Montgomery Parks](https://www.parkpolice.org)

Montgomery County residents should also consider joining the [Nextdoor](#) platform. Each district commander uses this social network to provide real-time crime updates and other important information to the “neighborhoods” within their districts.

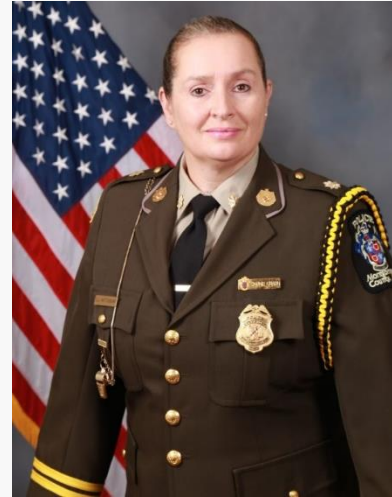
*Note: As a reminder, the numbers for the Group B offenses contain some noncriminal report classifications. The **crime rate per capita** on the district pages was calculated using the Group A offense totals only. Population estimates for each district were extrapolated using population figures from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.*

*The % Diff column on the following tables depicts the increases or decreases in offense categories between 2020 and 2021.*

## 1st District

**1st District Commander**  
**Captain Elizabeth Hattenburg**  
100 Edison Park Drive  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
240-773-6070

[1DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:1DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov)



Offense Categories	2019	2020	2021	% Diff
Crime Against Person	637	617	721	17%
Crime Against Property	2,889	2,824	2,782	-1%
Crime Against Society	678	388	234	-40%
Group B Offenses	3,120	2,640	2,252	-15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,324</b>	<b>6,469</b>	<b>5,989</b>	<b>-7%</b>

## 2nd District

**2nd District Commander**  
**Captain Sean Gagen**  
4823 Rugby Avenue  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
240-773-6700

[2DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:2DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov)



Offense Categories	2019	2020	2021	% Diff
Crime Against Person	577	472	559	18%
Crime Against Property	3,850	4,043	4,315	7%
Crime Against Society	568	170	74	-56%
Group B Offenses*	2,215	1,780	1,843	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,210</b>	<b>6,465</b>	<b>6,791</b>	<b>5%</b>



## 3<sup>rd</sup> District

3<sup>rd</sup> District Commander  
 Captain David McBain  
 1002 Milestone Drive  
 Silver Spring, MD 20904  
 240-773-6800

[3DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:3DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov)



Offense Categories	2019	2020	2021	% Diff
Crime Against Person	1,146	1,053	1,349	28%
Crime Against Property	4,790	4,808	4,702	-2%
Crime Against Society	1,574	648	376	-42%
Group B Offenses*	4,102	2,740	2,702	-1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,612</b>	<b>9,249</b>	<b>9,129</b>	<b>-1%</b>

## 4<sup>th</sup> District

4<sup>th</sup> District Commander  
 Captain Nicholas Augustine  
 2300 Randolph Road  
 Wheaton, MD 20902  
 240-773-5500

[4DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:4DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov)



Offense Categories	2019	2020	2021	% Diff
Crime Against Person	1,188	976	1,066	9%
Crime Against Property	3,985	3,995	3,875	-3%
Crime Against Society	1,117	487	264	-46%
Group B Offenses*	3,782	2,714	2,524	-7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,072</b>	<b>8,172</b>	<b>7,729</b>	<b>-5%</b>

## 5<sup>th</sup> District

5<sup>th</sup> District Commander  
 Captain Edward Pallas  
 20000 Aircraft Drive  
 Germantown, MD 20874  
 240-773-6200

[5DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:5DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov)



Offense Categories	2019	2020	2021	% Diff
Crime Against Person	1,040	932	998	7%
Crime Against Property	2,731	2,902	3,042	5%
Crime Against Society	629	320	223	-30%
Group B Offenses*	1,973	1,689	1,781	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,373</b>	<b>5,843</b>	<b>6,044</b>	<b>3%</b>

## 6<sup>th</sup> District

6<sup>th</sup> District Commander  
 Captain Eric Stancliff  
 45 West Watkins Mill Road  
 Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
 240-773-5700

[6DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:6DCommander@montgomerycountymd.gov)



Offense Categories	2019	2020	2021	% Diff
Crime Against Person	1,255	1,202	1,281	7%
Crime Against Property	3,406	3,669	3,387	-8%
Crime Against Society	901	565	452	-20%
Group B Offenses*	3,248	2,549	2,835	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,810</b>	<b>7,985</b>	<b>7,955</b>	<b>0%</b>

## TAKOMA PARK

<b>Offense Categories</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>% Diff</b>
<b>Crime Against Person</b>	131	106	124	17%
<b>Crime Against Property</b>	658	738	765	4%
<b>Crime Against Society</b>	85	48	30	-38%
<b>Group B Offenses*</b>	503	348	340	-2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,377</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>2%</b>

For more information about the Takoma Park Police Department, its command staff and how they can be contacted, please visit their website using the link below.

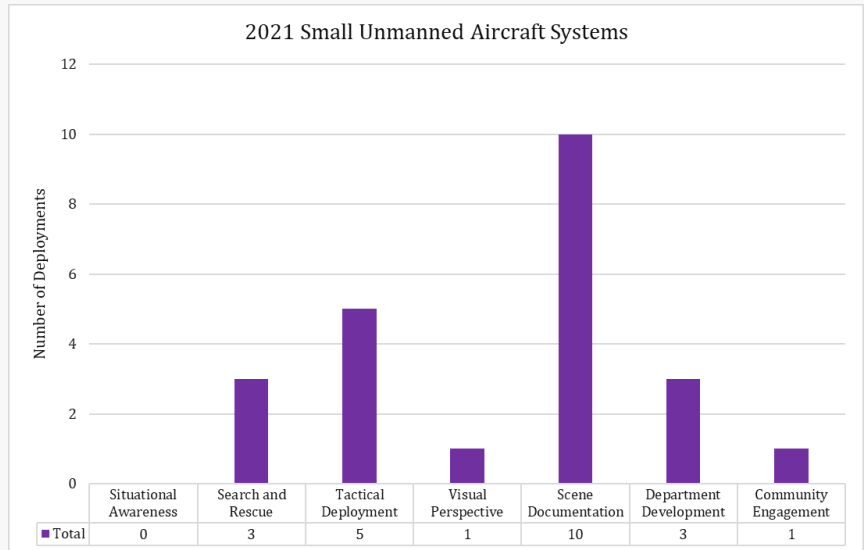
[Takoma Park Police Department | City of Takoma Park \(takomaparkmd.gov\)](http://takomaparkmd.gov)

# LEGISLATIVE/POLICY REPORTING

## Deployment of Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) Devices

The Montgomery County Police Department has adopted the use of sUAS to be used for the focused and limited purpose of public safety and law enforcement activities. A sUAS can provide an aerial visual perspective in responding to emergency situations and exigent circumstances that include events that could lead to serious injury or the loss of life, and for the following objectives:

- **Situational Awareness:** To assist decision makers (e.g., incident command staff; first responders; city, county, and state officials) in understanding the nature, scale and scope of an incident – and for planning and coordinating an effective response.
- **Search and Rescue:** To assist critical missing person investigations (e.g., AMBER Alerts, Silver Alerts) and other search and rescue missions (e.g., body recovery).
- **Tactical Deployment:** To support the tactical deployment of officers and equipment in emergency situations (e.g., response to terrorist activities, active shooters, SWAT raids, hostages, and barricades), support for large-scale tactical operations, and other temporary perimeter security situations.
- **Visual Perspective:** To provide an aerial visual perspective to assist officers in providing direction for public safety events, traffic incident management, special events, and temporary perimeter security.
- **Scene Documentation:** To document a crime scene, collision scene, or other major incident scene (e.g., disaster management, incident response, large-scale forensic scene investigation).
- **Department Development:** To capture aerial digital multimedia evidence used to enhance department training and outreach initiatives.
- **Community Engagement:** To provide demonstrations and engagement opportunities with community groups and education programs.

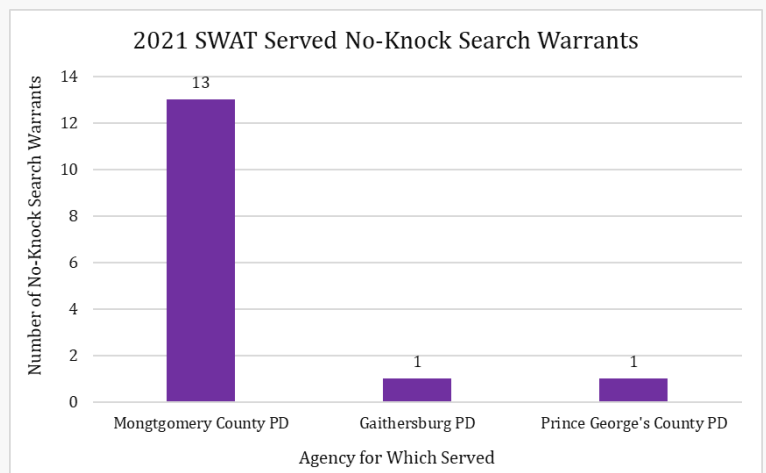


The sUAS deployment and data collected is used in a lawful manner consistent with all provisions of applicable law. The Department obtains all applicable authorizations, permits, or certificates required by the Federal Aviation Administration prior to deploying or operating the sUAS.

## Montgomery County House Bill 27-20

HB 27-20 requires the Montgomery County Police Department to provide the number of no-knock search warrants served by the Montgomery County Police SWAT team, including statistics on the number of warrants served on behalf of the MCPD and on behalf of another agency at a location within Montgomery County.

A no-knock search warrant is defined as a search where a member of the police may enter private premises without first knocking and announcing the member's presence.

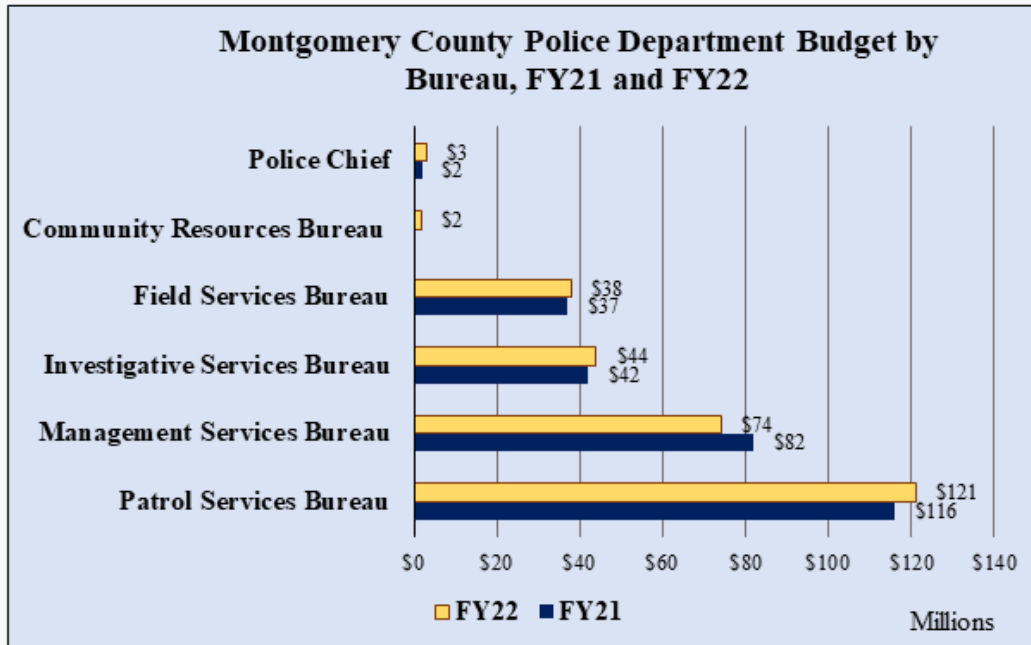




# MCPD ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

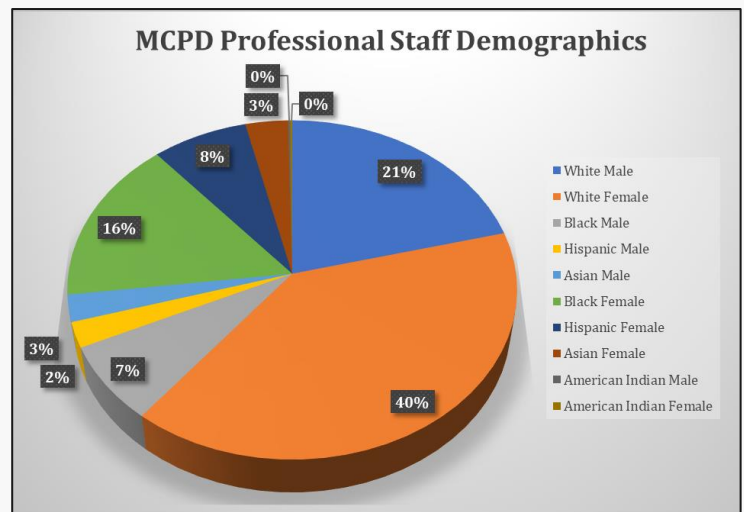
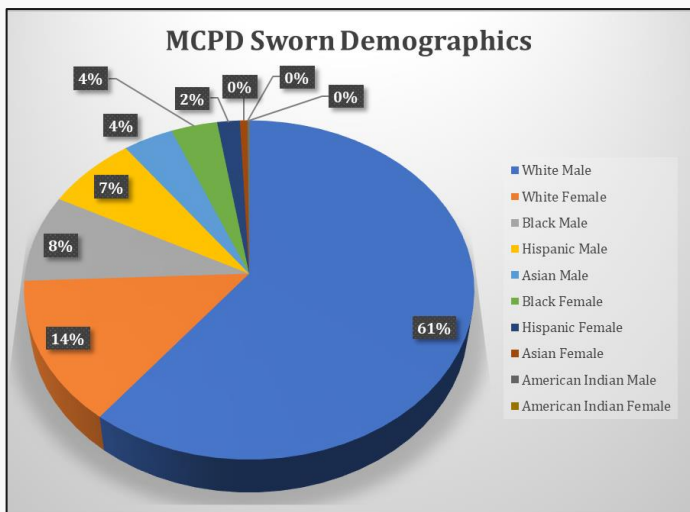
## BUDGET

The MCPD FY22 budget (July 2, 2021, to June 30, 2022) is 0.16% higher than the FY21 budget and includes the creation of the Community Resources Bureau, enhancements in recruitment, and additional personnel within the Internal Affairs Division.



## PERSONNEL

At the end of 2021, the number of filled sworn MCPD positions totaled 1235 out of an authorized 1283, and there were 624 filled professional staff positions out of an authorized 731.



There are many ways to become part of the Montgomery County Police Department team. If you or someone you know is interested in being an MCPD employee or volunteer, please visit the [Join Our Team](#) webpage.

### Police Officer Candidate

The department is regularly looking for highly qualified police officer applicants who are ready to answer the call for a challenging and rewarding career in law enforcement. Our police officers receive very comprehensive training in a brand-new training facility and all uniforms and equipment are provided. We offer many opportunities to serve to include our 6 District Police Stations and over 50 specialized units. Visit the rest of our site to learn more of the many benefits this prestigious agency has to offer.

In 2021, The Public Safety Training Academy graduated 32 officers for the MCPD as well as 6 for the Montgomery County Sherriff's Office, 7 for the Gaithersburg PD, 2 for the Rockville City PD, 3 for the Maryland National Capital Park PD and 2 for the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service.



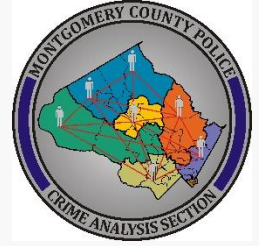
### Police Cadet Program

The Cadet Program has been established to provide qualified individuals, who are interested in becoming a Police Officer with the Montgomery County Department of Police, first-hand experience in law enforcement.



### Professional Staff Vacancies

For the MCPD professional staff employees, the call to duty to make a difference in their communities is no less strong than for those who choose to become sworn officers. There are many divisions within the MCPD with professional staff positions such as the Emergency Communications Center, Information Management & Technology Division, Forensic Services Section and Training Division just to name a few.



To view current professional staff job openings, visit the [Montgomery County Careers](#) page and search for open public safety positions.

### Interns & Volunteers

Volunteers and interns serve with diligence, pride, and dedication, and they continue to introduce new ideas, a fresh outlook, and an invigorating spirit to our workforce. Their contributions are highly valued and greatly appreciated by the Police Department and the community it serves. Volunteers are involved in nearly all aspects of the department's operations from training to communications. They work side-by-side in support of the line officers, command staff, and professional staff employees.

In 2021, volunteers and interns contributed approximately 4,200 hours to the mission of the Montgomery County Police Department.

### **CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY**

In 2021, the Public Safety Training Academy, with support from all of the bureaus, graduated a total of 96 community members from three, 15-week Citizen Police Academy classes and 93 Hispanic community members from three sessions of the Hispanic Community Police Academy, which was established five years ago in response to the growing Hispanic population in Montgomery County. All the participants in these programs graduated with a much higher level of insight into the hiring, training, and operations of the police department, through a mix of classroom and hands-on learning opportunities. All six sessions were offered in a hybrid learning method of in-person and virtual environments. In addition to letting community members learn about how MCPD operates, every class emphasized that the department's vision is to protect ALL people who live and work in our county or visit it, irrespective of their immigration status. Together, the MCPD and the academy participants are changing fear of the police into a partnership with the police, where the community regards the police as trusted problem solvers who understand and listen to their concerns and work to improve the safety level in their communities for them and their children.



Graduates from Session 65





**MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**

100 Edison Park Drive  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pol/>

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