

2020 Annual Report



Presented by: Chief of Police David J Bauer

DODGEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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David Bauer
Chief Of Police

Brandon Wilhelm
Lieutenant

Citizens, City of Dodgeville
Mayor, Todd Novak
Members, Common Council
Commissioners, Dodgeville - Police and Fire Commission

March 2, 2021

Dear Citizens, Mayor, Council Members and Commissioners,

The Dodgeville Police Department continues to experience staffing changes in 2020. We added a position which was filled by Officer Evan Andrews. Evan was sponsored in the academy by this department and hired full time upon his completion. We continue to have a depleted part-time staff as candidates seek full-time options instead of part-time opportunities. The department continued its involvement with a multi-jurisdictional drug task force and with the Dodgeville School District. Our volume of calls decreased from the previous year by 15.2%, with a 13.1% decrease to complaints which were classified as crimes, which is most likely creditable to COVID 19 restrictions.

The calendar year of 2020 was overshadowed by the COVID 19 Pandemic. This virus took over all aspects of policing, from personal protective gear and keeping the officers safe, to dramatically changing how we do business. The administration spent long hours searching for and purchasing equipment while adopting new protocols for day-to-day activities caused by decreased in person contact. These changes and safety protocols were somewhat mitigated by earlier preparations that had been made by the police and EMS departments. We were struggling to find supplies but were more prepared and better off than most police departments.

The second major law enforcement concern of 2020 was worldwide responses to concerns of abusive behavior and deaths at the hands of the police on persons of color. The concerns resulted in worldwide protests, which were sometimes attended by persons who committed acts of violence and damage to property. The City of Dodgeville was the site of a planned protest. A significant response plan involving numerous agencies was in place. The result was a peaceful and orderly public gathering.

The department had significant expenses in 2020 with purchasing personal protective gear, sanitizers, and air handling equipment. Also, this budget did not include the replacement vehicle, or recruit school sponsorship which was funded from approved carry over accounts. The department sought alternative revenue sources and worked with city departments to aggressively pursue federal and state reimbursements for the health and safety purchases. With these reimbursements and alternative revenue sources, the department's budget appears to be at or near the unaudited 2020 approved amounts.

This report and the services provided would not be possible without the hard work and professionalism shown by members of the department. If you have questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "David J. Bauer".

David J. Bauer, Chief of Police

Dodgeville, WI Data & Demographics (As of July 1, 2020)

The figures on this page are unverified but represent data found on various internet sites.

POPULATION

Total Population	4,740 (100%)
Population in Households	4,687 (98.9%)
Population in Families	3,718 (78.4%)
Population in Group Quarters ¹	53 (1.1%)
Population Density	1,219
Diversity Index ²	14

INCOME

Median Household Income	\$60,941
Average Household Income	\$79,613
% of Income for Mortgage ⁴	12%
Per Capita Income	\$33,150
Wealth Index ⁵	76

HOUSING

Total HU (Housing Units)	2,143 (100%)
Owner Occupied HU	1,232 (57.5%)
Renter Occupied HU	770 (35.9%)
Vacant Housing Units	141 (6.6%)
Median Home Value	\$179,844
Average Home Value	\$194,708
Housing Affordability Index ³	164

HOUSEHOLDS

Total Households	2,002
Average Household Size	2.34
Family Households	1,269
Average Family Size	3

GROWTH RATES

	2010-2020	2020-2025
Population	0.1%	0.13%
Households	0.18%	0.2%
Families	0.31%	0.09%
Median Household Income		0.26%
Per Capita Income		1.06%

Dodgeville, WI - Peer Comparisons by Rank and Percentile

The table below compares Dodgeville to the other 778 incorporated cities, towns and CDPs in Wisconsin by rank and percentile using July 1, 2020 data. The location Ranked # 1 has the highest value. A location that ranks higher than 75% of its peers would be in the 75th percentile of the peer group.

Variable Description	Rank	Percentile
Total Population	# 155	80th
Population Density	# 177	78th
Diversity Index	# 460	41st
Median Household Income	# 314	60th
Per Capita Income	# 227	71st

Read more:

https://wisconsin.hometownlocator.com/counties/subdivisions/data,n,city%20of%20dodgeville,id,5504920350,cfips_049.cfm#demographic

Full-time law enforcement employees in 2020, including police officers: 11 (11 officers).
Officers per 1,000 residents here: 2.3 - Wisconsin average: 2.18 (2019)

Violent crime rate in 2019
 Dodgeville: 95.5
 U.S. Average:205.8

Property crime rate in 2019
 Dodgeville: 168.7
 U.S. Average:178.6

Mission

"To protect and serve, in partnership with our community, through integrity and compassion."

Organizational Values

Human Life – We value human life above all. We will defend it with reasonable force if necessary.

Respect – We value respect, through fair and impartial deployment of our police services.

Integrity – We believe that character is the foundation of our value system and its preservation.

Team Work – We believe strength is derived from its employees and each is valuable to achieve goals.

Accountability – We believe accountability preserves the basic tenants of our organizational values.

Structure

Elected

Mayor and Common Council 2019

Mayor Todd D. Novak
Shaun Sersch
Larry Tremelling
Roxanne Reynolds-Lair
Tom Devoss
Dan Meuer
Jerry Johnson
Mike Borne
Cody Mainwaring

Appointed

Police and Fire Commission

Robert Kratochwill
Mary McKinley
Diane Messer
Marie Fralick
Mike Humke
Alternate - John Pipal
Patrick Forsyth

Command Officers

Under the general direction of the Mayor, Common Council, and Dodgeville Police and Fire Commission, the Chief of Police is responsible for planning through policy development, coordinating, supervising, and evaluating all police department operations. Lieutenant Brandon Wilhelm is second in command and is responsible for directing investigations. He also performs the task of scheduling and ensuring that training requirements are met by the staff.

New Hire



Officer – Evan Andrews - Hire Date – September 29, 2020

Evan Andrews was hired out of the SWTC law enforcement academy in September. He had previously completed an internship with our department and was a Dodgeville sponsored candidate in the academy. He has completed his field training and is assuming his full-time duties under his probationary status.

Support Staff – Confidential Secretary

Roseann Rossing and Amy Michek provide support at the direction of the Chief and Lieutenant with respect to parking citations, purchasing, reporting, records maintenances, transcription, projects and customer service. Roseann has been with the department since 2015 and Amy was added in April of 2019.

Sergeant and Police Officers

The Sergeant and Police Officers provide a wide variety of services to citizens and our community. The Sergeant supervises police officer reports and misdemeanor crimes. The majority of Police Officers' tasks include community service calls, traffic enforcement, initial investigations, and patrol. The full-time officers include Sergeant Jerron Wetter, Joseph Pepper, Nathan Birdsill, David Brennum, Blake Weier, Jared Weier, Cody Durni, Shane Groom and Evan Andrews. We have two part time officers working and they are David Pope and Todd Oellerich.

Duties include:

- Enforcement of state statutes, local ordinances, and traffic laws
- General Investigations to pursue matters of criminal conduct
- Patrol of the City to detect criminal or traffic activity and provide a police presence
- Member of the Richland-Iowa-Grant Drug Task Force which conducts investigations of drug related incidents in a three-county area.
- Liaison with the Dodgeville School District to provide education and assistance to the school system to divert young person from the criminal justice system.
- Preventative efforts that act as a deterrence by nature.
- Community involvement and education where officers engage community members through supportive efforts and being visible in a non-enforcement environment

Training

The delivery of quality police service to the community requires that officers be trained in a wide variety of tasks. The problems that face every officer and police manager today and the decisions they have to make are growing in complexity in direct relation to the issues in society today. The laws we enforce are constantly changing and the decisions concerning police action in relation to the laws and the Constitution are interpreted and then reinterpreted on a regular basis. With this goal in mind, the following goals and objectives are viewed as essential.

- In-Service Training – 24 hours per year classroom training per officer is the required minimum an officer must achieve in order to remain certified. 24 hours of in-service training fulfills the recommendation of Wisconsin Statutes, Section 165.85 concerning in-service training. Dodgeville Officers averaged 56 training hours per Officer in 2019.
- Firearms Training – includes pistol, rifle, shotgun, and other equipment. All sworn officers are required to demonstrate shooting competency with a minimum level of expertise as specified by state standards on an annual basis. In addition, all officers are required to demonstrate a complete grasp of the laws and policies governing the use of department firearms.
- Advanced Vehicle Operation/Pursuit Training is a bi-annual requirement and provides skills in vehicle operation and methods of bringing vehicles to a stop that minimize the risk to the officer and other motorists.

Specialized Training received in 2020

COVID RELATED TRAINING

Due to the COVID pandemic. Training transitioned to many on-line or video type programs. At the onset of the Pandemic POLICE1 Academy was utilized to prepare Officers with an average of 6 hours of online training specifically addressing COVID related concerns and preparation.

WELLNESS AND LEADERSHIP WEBINAR SERIES

Staff had the ability to attend virtual trainings regarding Officer Wellness and Leadership related curriculum provided free of charge by the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

DEPARTMENT IN-SERVICE

Our first in service of the year was conducted In May with six feet of social distancing and other precautions. The training involved our annual bloodborne pathogen refresher along with CPR, Naloxone administration, PPE usage. Dept. members also familiarized themselves with a new breaching kit which was obtained for forcible entry purposes.

FIREARMS TRAINING

Our firearms training for the year involved a slight alternative to our normal firearms trainings. This included Officer's increasing their heart rates via running and other physical means and then performing firearms drills and shooting.

POLICE1 ACADEMY

The Police1 Academy program was purchased by the Dodgeville Police Department midway through 2020. The platform allows further online training which will assist with Officers training during and following the pandemic. The State of Wisconsin has allowed for a greater number of training hours to be completed online. This also serves to provide training without the added expense of travel, meal and accommodations.

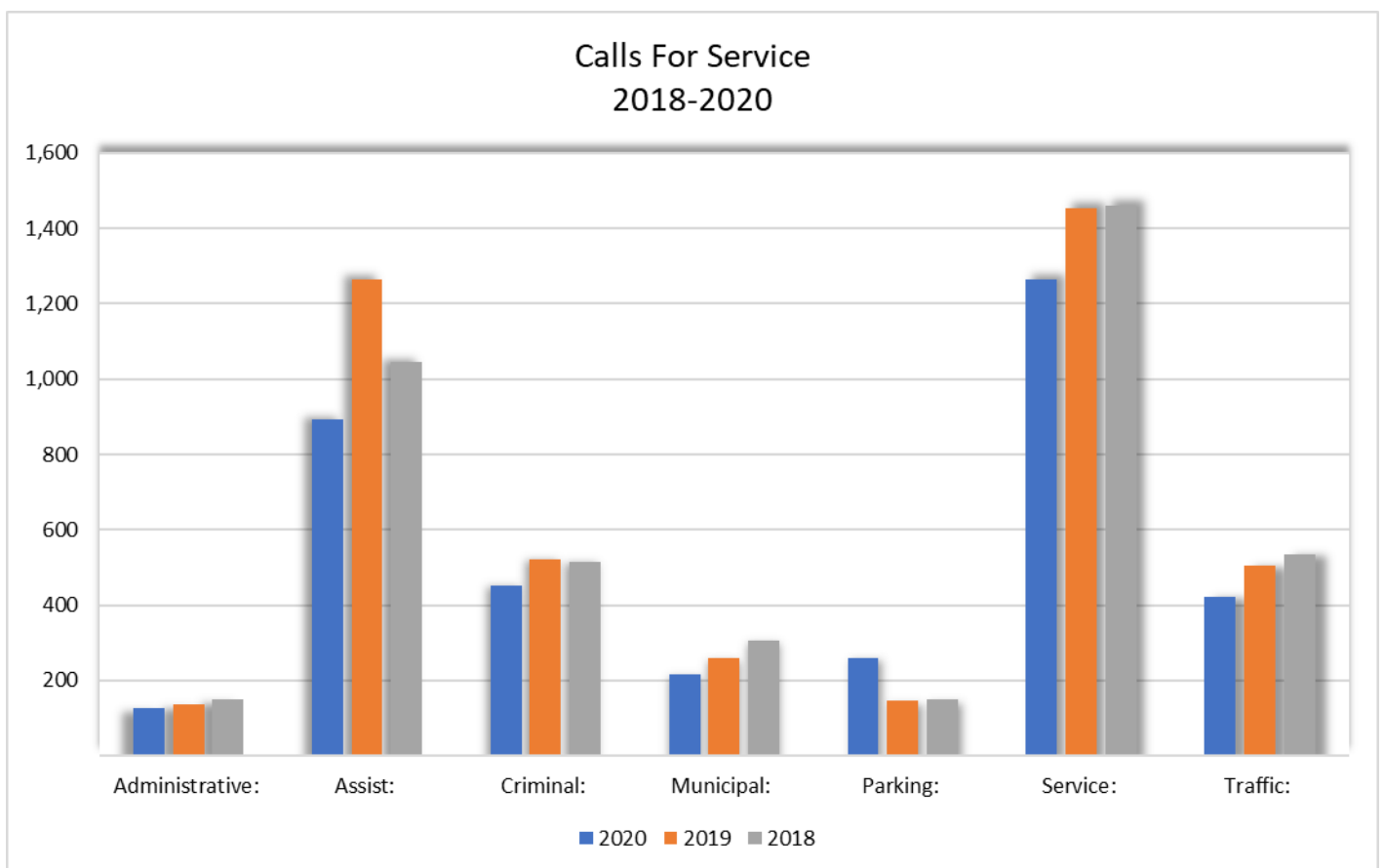
2020 IN REVIEW

Significant policing events and commitments included:

- A reckless homicide investigation which was due to an opiate overdose. Multiple arrests were made as a direct result of this investigation in Dane and Iowa Counties.
- An aggravated assault with a deadly weapon investigation which resulted in serious injuries to the victim. A suspect was arrested, and the case is in court proceedings. To date, this case has involved over 100 hours of investigation; resulting in 31 reports, 51 pieces of evidence, and multiple Felony and Criminal Charges referred to the Iowa County District Attorney.
- The department was notified of a planned protest at the Iowa County Courthouse on 06-02-2020. A six-page Operations plan was compiled by the Dodgeville Police Department. The operations plan was enacted prior to the event, with the assistance of at least ten local Law Enforcement Agencies as well as local EMS crews and Fire Departments. The protest was able to stay within the first planning Phase, due to the peaceful crowd. No injuries were reported, no arrests were made, and Community policing was accomplished with the public during the event.
- A record retention schedule was created and is in the process of final adoption by the Department. This will be a huge accomplishment which will allow the purge of certain records thereby opening space for future records.
- The department finished the year by preparing for Federal policy changes in several areas. This included use of force policy changes and reporting standards for using force. In addition, all departments were required to switch from Uniform Crime Reporting which has been the standard since 1930 to an Incident Based Reporting model. The latter is a much more complicated version and we have been working with our database vendor to test the software.
- 2020 was the first full year with the City Camera System in operation. As of date of this report (02-23-2021) The cameras have assisted in 27 Criminal incidents. In addition, the cameras have captured multiple vehicular accidents, ordinance violation issues and other matters of a law Enforcement nature.

- The Department obtained certification regarding use of force policies. Following the events of 2020, which included Use of Force concerns across the nation, the Federal Government ensured that all agencies had current use of force policies which met approved criteria.
- COVID-19 was a recurring issue for the Department. Protection of the public as well as our Officers created a sensitive balancing act which seemed to be effective. This was accomplished via extensive and frequent department communication, acquisition and distribution of substantial amounts of PPE and training regarding COVID related responses and protocols. A bi-polar ionization system was also installed in the HVAC of several city buildings (City Hall, Library, Police Department, Fire Department and EMS building) to combat the virus and other air quality issues.

Operations



Data from Dodgeville Police records

1. Administrative – Some of the functions provided by the Department involve licensing and permitting of activities to provide for the lawful and efficient monitoring of those persons performing the services. In addition, this group of activities also covers internal functions as it pertains to the routing of information and investigative reports.
2. Assist – The police department partners with many groups and organization to provide public services. These groups include the courts, social services, probation and parole as well as other law enforcement agencies and emergency services. It is only within these relationships that we can successfully provide the level of services that we do.

3. Criminal – The two primary methods of crime prevention are developed through effective patrol and establishing good public relations. Services provided by the department range from patrol tactics to prevent crimes from happening and investigations of criminal acts that have happened. The City of Dodgeville operates a 24/7 police force which provides a presence to give the criminals less opportunity to commit crimes and increases the opportunity for crimes to be detected.
4. Municipal– it is an officer’s responsibility to have a good working knowledge of the laws and ordinances of the State and City and to enforce those laws that are part of community norms when and where appropriate. Municipal Codes allows the officers to use discretion for the purpose of gaining compliance with law, using the least restrictive method. Regular patrol of known and potential trouble areas and supervision of special events help to ensure safety through planning.
5. Parking Enforcement – It is essential to enforce parking restrictions as we all share the use of roadways and public parking space. This comes in the form of 2-hour parking downtown, handicap parking and others. Alternate side parking is a significant factor in allowing for efficient snow removal, which allows for less expenditure of tax dollars. Parking compliance contributes to public safety.
6. Public Service – the core ideal behind law enforcement is to provide fair and impartial serve the public. The action of the police officer in performing his/her duties is directed at fostering a safe community environment and to reduce or minimize any fear that the public may be experiencing from social disorder. By using the Police strategies as a tool to accomplish these goals and through effective problem-solving techniques, a police officer has a genuine ability to effectively address problems within their community. Also, officers are encouraged to make contacts between themselves and citizens to create an open line of communication. This free flow of information provides an opportunity for citizens to share information with the police on community concerns.
7. Traffic –

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Fatal Crashes	36	53	65	51	49

This year the City of Dodgeville along with police agencies across the country backed away from large scale in person traffic stops. The contact with driver’s was not halted but limited to reduce exposure to the officers and the public from COVID 19. Even with the lessened enforcement the fatal crashes in Wisconsin were the lowest observed in five years. There are many possibilities for this, to include the lack of miles driven due to “stay at home” orders and the fact that alcohol establishments were shut down for a period of time.

Acknowledgements:

The Department would like to thank Mayor Novak, the common council, and the citizens of Dodgeville for providing the necessary resources to fulfill our mission. I would also like to thank Lt. Brandon Wilhelm for compiling local data contained in this report.