

The Riley County Police Department Crime Reduction Plan (2025)

Director Brian R. Peete

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Executive Summary

This is the Riley County Police Department's (RCPD) Crime Reduction Plan (CRP). The purpose of the CRP is to outline the department's efforts to reduce crime and its negative impact. There are many components which contribute to crime, and while the primary responsibility to fight crime rests with RCPD, it takes a multi-pronged community approach to make a true and sustainable reduction. By reducing crime and the perception of crime, Riley County shall remain safe and our community will thrive economically.

RCPD has re-adopted the previous CRP's problem-solving approach. This consists of four main categories: **Prevention, Proactivity, Response and Accountability, and Reducing Recidivism**. Prevention is achieved through active outreach to the community, stakeholder government agencies, businesses and private and public organizations; disseminating information to the public and pointing people to help and resources before difficult situations turn into crisis. Proactivity uses information and data to maximize limited resources; focusing our crime deterrence efforts to eliminate or push crime out of our community entirely. Response and Accountability. When called, RCPD must be prepared to respond to, and overcome, any potential threat in a manner which keeps both our officers and the public safe. Training, equipment, and preparation are the keys. We must be thorough, impartial, and beyond reproach so that the justice system can hold offenders accountable. Lastly, Reducing Recidivism. Research has consistently shown that generational cycles of crime exist. RCPD will adopt the P.I.E.R¹ (Prevention, Intervention, Enforcement, Reentry) and PAARI (Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative) models to continue to work with partner organizations to provide resources and hope to help end these cycles of violence and crime, thereby increasing opportunity, viability, and self-worth of those in its embrace.

Overall, crime in our jurisdiction is down nearly 13.5% in November 2024 compared to 2023, with only two (2) categories increasing: Murder and Auto Theft. During the last quarter of 2024, there has been an increase in violent crime involving firearms, higher investigative caseloads and calls for service, and an increase in the average daily population within the jail. In short, Riley County is seeing an increase in crimes which require more complex resources than it has in the past, though it is too soon to gauge whether this trend will be a new norm thus we caution perception versus actual crime. Still, the deliberate efforts outlined in this CRP are to ensure the norm of strong community safety remains the same. I remain exceptionally proud of the people at the Riley County Police Department! The aforementioned trends have motivated our staff to find new innovative ways to maximize personnel and resources to meet the challenges ahead of us. We remain resolute in our commitment to keep Riley County as one of the safest communities in Kansas as well as in the United States.

¹ <https://mediaplanconsult.com/SolveViolence/bookFinal/the-pier-model.html>

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Mission of the Riley County Police Department

“To reduce crime and improve the quality of life for the citizens we serve.”

RCPD holds itself to the highest standards of service, and we pride ourselves in our core values of Integrity, Teamwork/Cooperation, Initiative, Empathy, Reliability, Judgment, Loyalty, and Professionalism. These are more than just words for us, they are the foundation in everything we do.

RCPD Capacity and Resources

RCPD currently consists of five divisions: Patrol, Investigations, Corrections, Support and Administration. Each division houses teams which play crucial roles in public safety to include Dispatch, Victim Services, Narcotics and Sex Crime investigations, a Bike Team, Hostage Negotiations, Crime Scene Processing, a Criminal Intelligence Unit, an Emergency Response Unit (which includes a Bomb Team), K-9 officers, a HAZMAT evidence recovery team, and a dedicated Training staff. RCPD also utilizes intelligence-led policing strategies such as Arc and Playbook, boasts an embedded Mental Health Professional, and has implemented its own Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program.

Though RCPD has more specialized teams with capabilities than a majority of law enforcement agencies in the country, it comes at significant cost to bandwidth. Many officers have several additional duties resulting in competing priorities and a reduced ability for staff to become highly proficient in their given specialties. This also leads to an increase of burnout as officers are spending significant amounts of time working overtime and less time conducting specialized training, or volunteering in other areas within the organization.

Key Partnerships

RCPD has taskforce partnerships or communications with the FBI, the U.S. Secret Service, the and the KBI. The department also works closely with area public safety agencies including the Manhattan Fire Department, Junction City Police, the Pottawatomie Sheriff's Office, and Riley County EMS and FIRE.

Sustainment and Data Assessment

Like every county or municipality, Riley County has its own unique set of challenges, stakeholders, and resources. To sustain the recommended strategies of this CRP, RCPD must maintain its professional culture to retain personnel while attracting new motivated people of character, integrity, competency: people who prioritize service and servant-based leadership. The department must also look for ways to re-allocate existing funds to keep pace with increasing technological demands while responsibly requesting modest budget increases to slowly build staff, as well as make logistical and technological improvements that keep pace with future community needs and emerging criminal trends. The department's statistical data and strategic progression are routinely provided to the Law Board who provide oversight to the department and gauge our effectiveness.

Purpose of the Crime Reduction Plan

The purpose of a Crime Reduction Plan (CRP) is to identify the most commonly occurring crimes within a jurisdiction then work to reduce or eliminate crime through the development of comprehensive crime-fighting enforcement strategies. To effectively fight crime, it is vital RCPD has a better understanding of what, if any, internal or external contributors exist, and what types of crime are the most prevalent in our community to allow for the development of effective strategies. There are many theories as to what causes crime; biological, psychological, social and economic. Current research predominantly focuses on whether social causes or social contributors are the reasons as to why people commit crime, and/or whether it is the presence of pathological factors such as personality or psychological characteristics. It is beyond RCPD's scope or ability to affect broad-ranging socio-economic factors. Therefore, this plan will center on social learning-based factors (e.g., Social Learning Theory - that criminal behavior is learned)², individual factors as they pertain to basic needs (e.g., Maslow's hierarchy of needs)³, and how both contribute to an individual's immersion within the criminal justice system. RCPD is charged with maintaining public order and enforcing laws. The department does this by holding individuals accountable for any criminal acts they have committed, while remaining cognizant of our constitutional duty to protect individual rights. It is extremely important to note that despite the best efforts of any community or police department, it is impossible to eliminate or reduce crime through enforcement alone.

Enforcement Strategies

These responsibilities lay solely with RCPD. We incorporate a plethora of evidence-based and intelligence-led practices with the intent to identify and stop those committing or intending to commit crime before their actions have severe safety-related consequences. Thus, it is vital for RCPD to increase proactive investigative efforts to reduce the likelihood of more violent crimes from occurring. This means the department will focus its resources on narcotics, human trafficking, and domestic violence. In September 2024, FBI data showed national violent crime decreased by an estimated 3.0% in 2023 compared to 2022 estimates.⁴ Riley County is down 11% in violent crime however, our jurisdiction has experienced violent crime in 2024, several of which involving firearms. Additionally, a disproportionate percentage of serious criminal violations were committed by offenders on the department's Repeat Offender Program. National statistics indicate drug use is linked to 86.4% of homicides, drug dealing is linked to 64.2% of homicides, and both drug use and dealing are involved in 58% of homicides.⁵ The recent increase of violent crime in Riley County is consistent with this data, and several of violent-related crimes were linked to use and/or distribution of marijuana. Another crime linked to substance use disorder is human trafficking, as those with substance use disorder are especially vulnerable to trauma and victimization by human traffickers.⁶ While serving as a Chicago Police Officer in the 11th District, many of the young women I arrested for prostitution or came into contact with through preliminary investigations into sex-related crimes were originally from midwestern states to include Kansas. In fact, the Homestead Ministry here in Riley County reported to RCPD (during annual 2024 trainings) that human and sex trafficking are occurring throughout Kansas and in Manhattan. In 2022, the FBI and local police agencies in and around Springfield Missouri identified 84 minor victims of child sex trafficking and child sexual exploitation offenses, and located 37 actively missing children during a nationwide enforcement campaign dubbed "Operation Cross Country." Law enforcement located 141 adult victims of human trafficking, and arrested or identified 85 suspects with child sexual exploitation and human trafficking offenses: the average age of located victims was 15.5 years with

² https://study.sagepub.com/system/files/Akers%2C_Ronald_L._-Social_Learning_Theory.pdf

³ <https://www.webmd.com/mental-health/what-is-maslow-hierarchy-of-needs>

⁴ <https://www.fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-releases-2023-crime-in-the-nation-statistics>

⁵ <https://www.birchtreerecovery.com/blog/drug-related-crime-statistics>

⁶ https://2017-2021.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/TIP_Factsheet-The-Intersection-of-Human-Trafficking-and-Addiction-1-508.pdf

the youngest at the age of 11.⁷ The following summarizes just some of the most recent Department of Justice data (2022 statistics) as it relates to human and sex trafficking⁸:

- U.S. Law Enforcement reported an estimated 3,570 human trafficking incidents of which 78% were sex trafficking & 22% were labor trafficking: about 70% of both sex & labor trafficking involved a single victim. Of these, two-thirds of sex trafficking (66%) & labor trafficking (68% were not cleared by police - e.g., no arrests were made).
- Females represented 85% of sex trafficking victimizations & 64% of labor trafficking victimizations.
- The majority of sex trafficking (66%) & labor trafficking (80%) victims were white. A larger percentage of sex trafficking victimizations (28%) than of labor trafficking victimizations (16%) involved a black victim.
- About 45% of female sex trafficking victims were ages 12 to 17, & 42% of sex trafficking victimizations involved a larger proportion of males between the ages of 12 to 17 than labor trafficking victimizations (10%).
- A larger percentage of sex trafficking victimizations against females (50%) than of those against males (33%) were committed by a person outside the family, but known to the victim), & sex trafficking victimizations against females (13%) were more likely than those against males (5%) to involve an alleged offender who was an intimate partner.
- Both sex trafficking (87%) and labor trafficking (78%) incidents were more likely to occur at a residence or hotel than at any other location. Another one-quarter (23%) of sex trafficking incidents and one-third (35%) of labor trafficking incidents occurred at a transportation hub or outdoor public location.

As it relates to domestic violence, in 2021, overall 76% of female murders and 56% of male murders were perpetrated by someone known to the victim.⁹ In 2023, the DOJ reported there were 629,820 intimate partner violence victimizations and 1,165,890 domestic violence victimizations (with about half of intimate partner and domestic violence victimizations being reported).¹⁰ This means it is vital that our staff work to intercept offenders who exhibit potential violent behavioral indicators before they hurt or kill their partners. To do this, the department will prioritize additional staff, implement vital time-saving technology, and solidifying partnerships to adopt P.I.E.R and PAARI-based programs. The P.I.E.R¹¹ model (Prevention, Intervention, Enforcement, Reentry) targets both offenders and those most at risk of being victimized by crime (and committing crime) then brings a community effort to reduce negative contributing factors, while PAARI¹² (Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative) works to develop and implement deflection and diversion programs for those affected by addiction: both models can also be adapted to assist those affected by Domestic Violence. Other changes will include strengthening internal processes for an even higher level of investigative quality for cases submitted to the County Attorney; holding dangerous offenders accountable to the maximum extent of the law. Our focus on human and sex trafficking and domestic violence is simple: **Police Officers serve as guardians and must protect the most vulnerable within every community.**

Comprehensive planning to eliminate crime and its cyclical effects must include the jail. Due to the correlation between narcotics and crime, the jail must be equipped with additional technology and resources which surge internal investigative capabilities, increase both staff and inmate safety, and reduce liability. In 2024, RCPD experienced its first deaths in custody due to suicide and drug overdose. Technology and procedures will be added to make such occurrences more preventable. RCPD also notes that average daily inmate populations have trended high and have recently held steady at over 130: numbers for which the jail was not designed to house. Other factors for consideration are the high percentages of inmates who are coping with mental, intellectual, or behavioral health issues. Lastly, many inmates routinely exhibit signs of narcotic withdrawal meaning the department can play a role in helping them combat their addiction.

⁷ <https://www.ky3.com/2022/08/15/fbi-announces-locates-sex-trafficking-victims-across-midwest/>

⁸ <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/htirle22st.pdf>

⁹ <https://bjs.ojp.gov/female-murder-victims-and-victim-offender-relationship-2021>

¹⁰ https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/DomesticViolence_2023.pdf

¹¹ <https://mediaplanconsult.com/SolveViolence/bookFinal/the-pier-model.html>

¹² <https://paariusa.org/>

Lastly, all of the aforementioned enforcement strategies (and subsequent policies) will require in-depth and specific on demand legal-based training, as the recommended changes and additions in this CRP will be new to the department.

Cooperative Strategies with Peers and Stakeholders

These strategies are rooted in working with peer agencies, and helping members within our community meet their basic needs. This includes how to help our citizens avoid circumstances that may contribute to the learning of or exposure to external factors which often correlate to crime; whether a person is a victim, offender, or both. To maximize our ability to coordinate with police partners, the department must shift it's organizational and ranking structures. This is to insure RCPD's senior managers and decision makers have autonomous access to peers whether local, state, or federal due to law enforcement's para-military culture.

There are four categories RCPD will focus on in developing strategies to reduce crime within its jurisdiction: **Prevention, Proactivity, Response and Accountability, and Recidivism.** RCPD will employ a problem-solving approach for each which revolve around enforcement and cooperative stakeholder-based solutions.

- a. **Prevention** - A cooperative strategy where stakeholders are in partnership with other government entities, social service agencies, academic institutions and community organizations. RCPD will work relentlessly to provide information and education to the public about crime and related indicators. RCPD will also communicate with social service agencies to identify and help those who need essential services, as well as those who may be at higher risk of either being exposed to crime or potentially being victims of crime. Such a layered intervention approach may prevent more dangerous incidents from occurring, and in many cases, could increase the odds of breaking cycles of violence or further exposure to the criminal justice system.¹³ For 2025, the department will solicit ideas from, and increase the involvement of its Victim Advocate Coordinator to assist at-risk families with access to social resources to decrease the chances of cyclical involvement within the criminal justice system.
- b. **Proactivity** - An enforcement strategy that incorporates numerous aspects of law enforcement. This means using evidence-based, data-driven practices and analytics for intelligence-led policing to identify or potentially predict crime, as well as how to best deploy and manage resources to stop it. All crimes have a profoundly negative impact on victims and their families, and for those reasons alone, RCPD shall work diligently to prevent them. This will be especially true of trying to stop violent crime before it can occur (death or serious bodily injury). There is also a fiscal cost to violent crime. For RCPD it equates to a spike in overtime costs of roughly \$15,000 to approximately \$22,000 per incident. Proactivity also means ensuring employees have the training and tools to meet the highest risks of danger which threaten officers and the public. RCPD will take a renewed focus on repeat offenders who have indicated a potential for escalation towards their victims; reducing easy access to the tools and methods they often rely on in continuance of criminal behavior, and holding them accountable for any continued conduct that adversely affects the safety of the community. The department must also continue to build on successes from 2024 and implement assertive investigative strategies and technology in Investigations and Patrol.

¹³

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37125879/#:~:text=Background%3A%20Violence%20is%20a%20global,early%20development%20of%20antisocial%20behavior> , <https://ci.uct.ac.za/early-intervention-best-way-break-cycle-child-gender-violence> , <https://youth.gov/youth-topics/juvenile-justice/prevention-and-early-intervention#:~:text=Early%20intervention%20prevents%20the%20onset,a%20youth's%20assets%20and%20resilience.&text=It%20also%20decreases%20rates%20of,engage%20with%20the%20justice%20system>

c. **Response and Accountability** - Similar to proactivity, quality (and modern) equipment and training are essential to increase the likelihood of safe preferable outcomes when responding to calls for service and critical incidents. There are numerous critical infrastructures within Riley County, several of which demand the highest tactical levels of a law enforcement response due to the criminal or terroristic elements which often target them. Professionalism, integrity, and competency are the key components of ensuring accountability; we are truth-seekers who will ensure investigations are carried out correctly and fairly so that those who have committed crimes are held accountable by the appropriate institutions. Therefore, the department will re-configure its current organization structure in efforts to reduce administrative workloads on frontline responders allowing them to concentrate on responding to calls for service and developing new proactive crime-fighting strategies. RCPD will also expound upon the established working relationships with peer agencies and stakeholder organizations, and will continue to seek mutual training opportunities for seamless mutual aid cooperation in emergency situations (KBI, KHP, Regional Tactical and HAZMAT-based teams, etc.).

d. **Reducing Recidivism** – One of the many benefits of consolidation is RCPD’s control of the county jail. The jail sees thousands of inmates each year, a majority of whom were found to have committed lower level offenses making them more likely to be released back into the community within a relatively short amount of time. Since 1955, the number of state hospital beds in the U.S. dropped by almost 97% by 2016.¹⁴ According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, within three (3) years of their release from jail, two (2) out of three (3) people are rearrested and more than 50% are incarcerated again. Additionally, studies throughout the last twenty or more years have shown jails and prisons house more and more individuals with mental illness. In 2014, approximately 16,000 individuals with serious mental illness and with previous convictions for major crimes were released from federal and state prisons, and in 2016, approximately 383,000 individuals with a severe psychiatric disease were behind bars in the U.S.¹⁵ The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) estimated 18% of the general population of the U.S. has a mental illness with 44% of those being in jail, and 37% being in prison, and 63% of people in jail and 58% in prison have a substance abuse disorder.¹⁶ This circular system places significant financial strain on RCPD and taxpayers, and also presents an enormous burden of stress and mental well-being for corrections staff which leads to many negative consequences including burnout, poor health, and recruiting and retention issues. In 2024, RCPD has been involved in at least two incidents where local hospitals did not have adequate resources in dealing with two individuals in need of serious mental health care. As such, RCPD shall continue to partner with community stakeholders to provide resources to its inmate population in efforts to work towards minimizing police involvement in crisis calls for service which are more appropriately handled by mental health professionals. For 2025, RCPD will also create a Re-Integration Coordinator position within Corrections who will work with community agencies to provide resources, education, quality of life skills, and other opportunities designed to reduce the possibility of recidivism.

¹⁴ <https://www.treatmentadvocacycenter.org/key-issues/bed-shortages>

¹⁵ <https://www.treatmentadvocacycenter.org/evidence-and-research/learn-more-about/3695>

¹⁶ <https://www.samhsa.gov/criminal-juvenile-justice/about#:~:text=It%20is%20estimated%20that%20in%202018,those%20without%20behavioral%20health%20concerns.>

Goals and Objectives of the RCPD Crime Reduction Plan

It is RCPD's position that crime can never truly be eliminated from a community, however certain types of crime can be reduced, diffused, or displaced.¹⁷ By adhering to the four-category (Prevention, Proactivity, Response and Accountability, and Reducing Recidivism), RCPD intends to:

1. Reduce quality-of-life crimes (such as theft, truancy, damage to property, etc.), and hold violent or higher-risk repeat offenders accountable for criminal behavior to reduce the risk of the perpetration of violent crimes such as homicide, aggravated batteries, overdoses and poisonings, and sexual assaults.
2. Further reduce and dissuade violent and drug-related crime within the county while increasing its reputation of competency and expertise in order to promote deterrence.
3. Establish cooperative teams, both internally and with regional partners, to maximize intelligence sharing, and develop more proactive and investigative resources.
4. Reorganize the department to streamline and consolidate administrative requirements allowing for frontline managers to concentrate on operational needs and proactive-based strategies and enforcement. This also contributes to the reallocation of internal operational costs allowing for procurement of desperately needed additional personnel and technology.
5. Continue RCPD's storied history of legitimacy and community trust by maintaining impartiality, transparency, and diligence in how we interact with the public and how we conduct our investigations.

The Perception of Crime and Actual Crime in Riley County

Perception of Crime

Riley County enjoys a low violent crime rate. Open source internet information provided unofficial perception polls as to how safe citizens feel in Manhattan, KS (the highest population density area in Riley County) with 55% of those polled feeling pretty safe and 36% feeling very safe. 80% also believed law enforcement to be very visible and very responsive.¹⁸ (Figure 1).

¹⁷ <https://popcenter.asu.edu/content/tool-guides-analyzing-crime-displacement-and-diffusion-page-2> ,
<https://portal.cops.usdoj.gov/resourcecenter/content.ashx/cops-p167-pub.pdf>.

¹⁸ <https://www.niche.com/places-to-live/manhattan-riley-ks/crime-safety/>

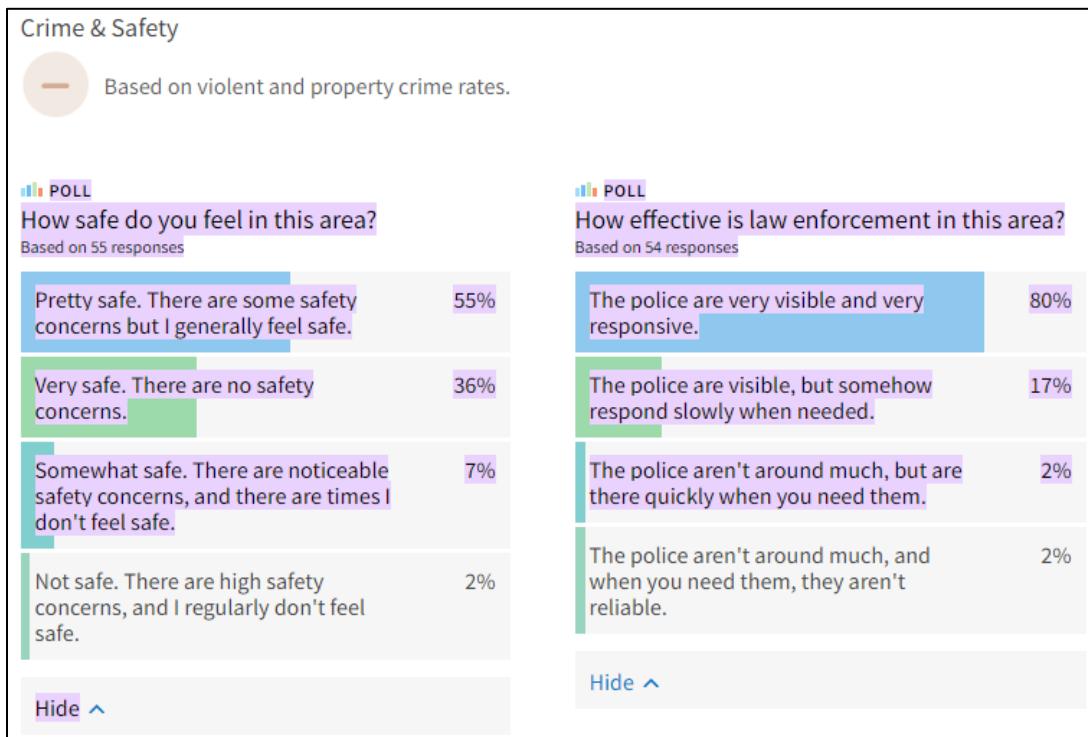


Figure 1. Crime and Safety Poll according to niche.com

Bestplaces.net described Manhattan as "...a bustling college town with a vibrant community and a low crime rate."¹⁹ The article also read, "...the city has seen a rise in violent crimes with a rate of 12.4, which is slightly lower than the national average of 22.7. Contextually, this may be alarming for residents and visitors alike, as Manhattan has always been known for its safe and family-friendly atmosphere." NOTE: This online opinion highlights the power of perceived vs. actual crime; as a reminder, crime in Riley County is substantially lower than in many jurisdictions in Kansas and in the country, and our part 1 violent crime is down 11% (see Figure 3, page 11).

RCPD is in the process of conducting its own community survey which closes December 31, 2024. The survey will play an intricate role in strategic planning and focus. However, there are other data sets the department can look to in gauging the public's perception of crime within its jurisdiction. The department's 2024 crime reduction plan indicated overall positive feedback for law enforcement. In June 25, 2024, the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce released an Economic Assessment which summarized solicited feedback on regional strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) confronting the Manhattan area economy. This information was derived from a survey the Chamber conducted from 211 business and community leaders from April 15th to May 3rd, 2024.²⁰ In evaluating attributes of the community's quality of life (Figure 2 below), 99% of respondents found Public Safety to be average, good or excellent (21% average, 52% good, and 26% as excellent), and only 1% describing it to be poor (with 0% describing it as very poor). This figure is consistent with a majority of other open source information as to the community's perception of safety.

¹⁹ <https://www.bestplaces.net/crime/city/kansas/manhattan>

²⁰

https://manhattanareachamberofcommerceks.growthzoneapp.com/ap/CloudFile/Download/Pe9oRBJP?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR22kI9tTN1zJmhSyj1uL-4vngx-2M5xAqfszSCpJulPr60U4SrdxNxFKCA_aem_CuwXtvIqSIpzqS-mt6V1UA

MANHATTAN AREA BUSINESS SURVEY

"Please evaluate the following attributes of the community's quality of life."

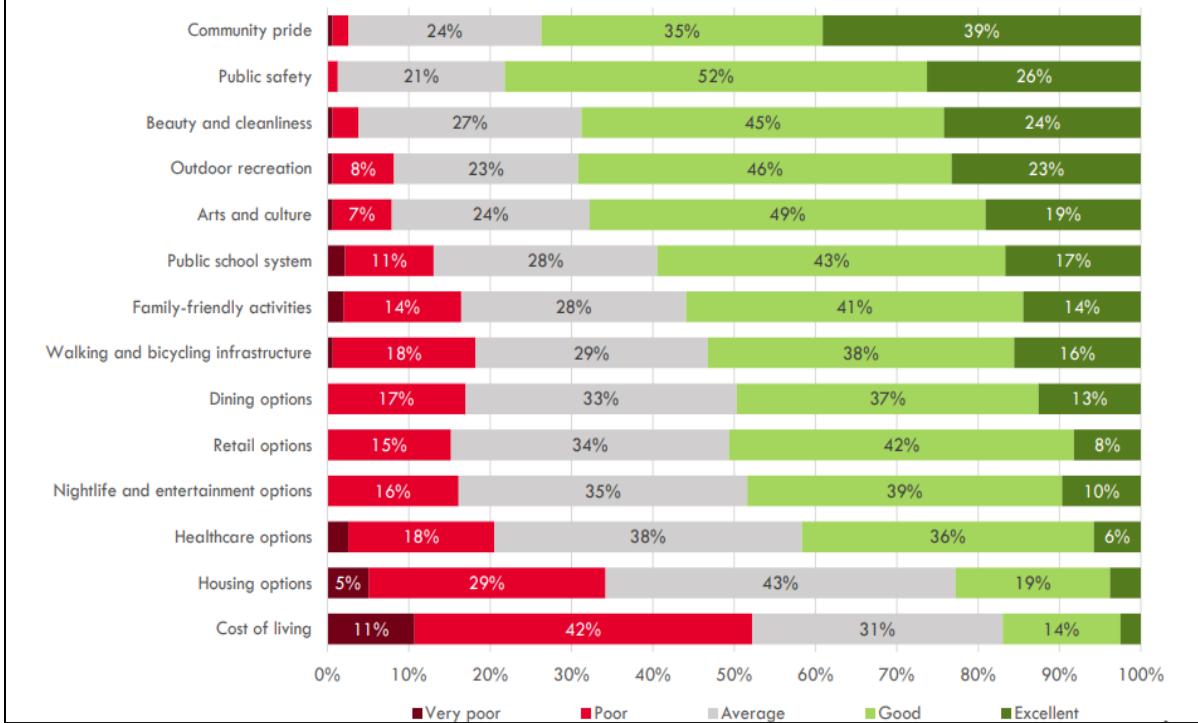


Figure 2. Manhattan Area Business Survey, 2024.

While this data is highly encouraging, RCPD recognizes the need for continuous improvement. The department is also laser-focused on the Cost of Living category within the same survey (42% finding the cost of living to be poor, and 11% labeling it as very poor). This is consistent with community input over the last several years in City, County, and other public meetings. Because RCPD is funded through tax dollars and is a direct contributor to a higher cost of living, it is especially vital the department strongly adheres to its strategic goal of prioritizing fiscal responsibility.

Actual Crime

The below charts provide total Part 1 and Part 2 crimes statistics, comparing 2024 to the previous five (5) years: 2019-2023. At the bottom of each table are the total number for each crime type; Type 1 Violent, Type 1 Property, and Type 2 Crimes. On the far-right column is the percent change based on the average of the previous five (5) years compared to 2024. These numbers are based off the primary offense of each case and are as of December 4, 2024. Though these are not full totals of 2024, the numbers are reliable for purposes of this plan.

Offense Nature	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Average	2024	Percent Change	
Part 1 Violent	HOMICIDE-NON-NEG MANSLAUGHTER	1	2	1	1	2	1.4	2	43%
	HOMICIDE-VEHICULAR	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	200%
	RAPE	35	31	31	40	33	34.0	32	-6%
	ROBBERY	20	16	17	11	10	14.8	9	-39%
	BATTERY-AGG	67	73	80	73	67	72.0	70	-3%
	BATTERY-AGG-LEO	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100%
	ASSAULT-AGG	70	64	54	45	50	56.6	45	-20%
	ASSAULT-AGG-LEO	2	1	1	2	6	2.4	1	-58%
		Total	195	187	184	172	168	181.2	162
									-11%

Figure 3. Part 1 Violent Crimes Jan 1- Dec 4, 2024. NOTE: Violent Crime is down 11%.

Part 1 Property	BURGLARY	147	152	136	135	121	138.2	88	-36%
	LARCENY-PICKPOCKET	3	4	5	2	4	3.6	7	94%
	LARCENY-PURSE SNATCH	4	3	1	2	7	3.4	6	76%
	LARCENY-SHOPLIFT	193	242	119	128	206	177.6	190	7%
	LARCENY-FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	201	225	230	113	216	197.0	137	-30%
	LARCENY-MOTOR VEH PARTS&ACCES	36	52	66	65	59	55.6	30	-46%
	LARCENY-FROM BUILDING	92	77	91	55	47	72.4	48	-34%
	LARCENY-ALL OTHER	477	343	394	333	334	376.2	331	-12%
	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	96	74	76	59	52	71.4	61	-15%
	ARSON	9	14	15	15	6	11.8	9	-24%
		Total	1258	1186	1133	907	1052	1107.2	907
									-18%

Figure 4. Part 1 Property Crimes Jan 1- Dec 4, 2024.

Offense Nature	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Average	2024	Percent Change
BATTERY-SIMPLE	510	455	476	468	407	463.2	496	7%
BATTERY-SIMPLE-LEO	18	13	19	23	10	16.6	21	27%
ASSAULT-SIMPLE	16	16	15	10	17	14.8	22	49%
ASSAULT-SIMPLE-LEO	0	1	0	3	2	1.2	1	-17%
FORGERY	90	47	60	35	62	58.8	46	-22%
FRAUD-BAD CHECKS	2	2	1	4	5	2.8	2	-29%
FRAUD-COMPUTER CRIME	2	0	0	0	0	0.4	0	-100%
FRAUD-FALSE PRETENSE/SWINDLE	79	83	72	73	63	74.0	61	-18%
FRAUD-IMPERSONATION	0	0	1	0	1	0.4	0	-100%
FRAUD-CRIM USE OF CARD	86	71	45	78	58	67.6	36	-47%
EMBEZZLEMENT	3	1	1	0	0	1.0	0	-100%
STOLEN PROPERTY	10	14	13	19	8	12.8	8	-38%
CDP	328	369	346	294	277	322.8	247	-23%
WEAPON VIOLATION	30	28	35	31	27	30.2	30	-1%
PROSTITUTION/COMMERCIAL VICE	2	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	-100%
SEX OFFENSE-STATUTORY RAPE	2	2	2	4	3	2.6	1	-62%
SEX OFFENSE-FORCIBLE FONDLING	29	17	18	19	37	24.0	24	0%
SEX OFFENSE-SODOMY	5	2	9	1	9	5.2	3	-42%
SEX OFFENSE-LEWD & LASCIVIOUS	8	6	4	5	12	7.0	11	57%
SEX OFFENSE-OTHER	10	2	2	0	2	3.2	6	88%
DRUGS-SALE/MANUFACTURE	35	23	51	36	23	33.6	22	-35%
DISTRIBUTION; CAUSE HARM	0	0	0	1	12	2.6	13	400%
DRUGS-POSSESSION	225	152	145	146	149	163.4	133	-19%
DRUGS-POSS DRUG PARAPHERNALIA	4	3	7	9	11	6.8	13	91%
DRUGS-OTHER VIOLATIONS	1	4	1	0	1	1.4	0	-100%
FAMILY OFFENSE-CHILD ABUSE	3	2	0	0	0	1.0	7	600%
FAMILY OFFENSE-INCEST	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100%
FAMILY OFFENSE-INTERFER W/CUST	7	4	7	9	6	6.6	6	-9%
FAMILY OFFENSE-CONT/CHILD/MISC	3	4	6	4	7	4.8	5	4%
FAMILY OFFENSE-OTHER	2	1	3	4	2	2.4	4	67%
DUI-ALCOHOL OR DRUGS	233	139	164	172	236	188.8	169	-10%
ALCOHOL-MIP/MIC	185	57	99	147	176	132.8	164	23%
ALCOHOL-OPEN CONTAINER	30	16	21	7	22	19.2	108	463%
ALCOHOL-TRANSPORTING	2	1	7	3	6	3.8	4	5%
ALCOHOL-FURNISHING/HOSTING	2	0	1	4	2	1.8	3	67%
ALCOHOL-OTHER	9	0	1	0	4	2.8	0	-100%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	44	28	33	57	64	45.2	64	42%
INTERFERENCE/OBSTRUCTION	26	26	32	32	49	33.0	34	3%
WARRANT-ALL OTHER	606	434	494	472	510	503.2	529	5%
ALL OTHR-ESCAPE FROM CUSTODY	4	5	2	1	0	2.4	2	-17%
ALL OTHR-WEAPONS/CONT IN JAIL	0	0	1	4	1	1.2	0	-100%
ALL OTHR-OBSCENITY	0	5	12	4	7	5.6	1	-82%
ALL OTHR-TRESPASS	100	77	94	77	100	89.6	62	-31%
ALL OTHR-EXPLOSIVES	0	2	2	1	0	1.0	2	100%
ALL OTHR-PERJURY	1	2	2	3	2	2.0	5	150%
ALL OTHR-FILING FALSE REPORT	2	1	1	3	4	2.2	1	-55%
ALL OTHR-CONTEMPT OF COURT	0	0	1	1	0	0.4	1	150%
ALL OTHR-KIDNAPPING	1	0	1	0	0	0.4	2	400%
ALL OTHR-HARASSMENT	23	21	13	18	31	21.2	22	4%
ALL OTHR-BLACKMAIL/EXTORTION	1	3	2	0	4	2.0	4	100%
ALL OTHR-CRIMINAL THREAT	65	60	50	62	42	55.8	77	38%
ALL OTHR-VIOL OF PROTEC ORDER	90	126	89	70	99	94.8	121	28%
ALL OTHR-CRIMINAL RESTRAINT	2	2	4	1	5	2.8	3	7%
ALL OTHR-INTIMIDATION	7	13	10	9	6	9.0	12	33%
ALL OTHR-OFFENDER REGISTRATION	36	24	24	16	25	25.0	22	-12%
ALL OTHR-MISC ORD/RESOLUTION	39	22	54	49	39	40.6	58	43%
ALL OTHR-CRIME AGAINST PERSONS	6	3	4	7	4	4.8	8	67%
JUVENILE CINC-RUNAWAY	54	68	63	72	75	66.4	50	-25%
JUVENILE CINC-OTHER	42	40	49	60	49	48.0	48	0%
Total	3120	2498	2670	2628	2774	2738.0	2795	2%

Figure 5. Part 2 Crimes Jan 1- Dec 4, 2024.

Calls for service (especially relating to violent crime) in Randolph, Leonardville, and Riley and remain relatively low. The city of Manhattan had the highest concentration of incidents/calls for service. The below images map Part 1 and Part 2 crimes with the only excluded reports being warrants. The threshold of incidents for red on the maps in the smaller towns are far lower than Manhattan. In Leonardville and Randolph, a point map was used and each point represents one report. See heat maps (Figures 6-11).

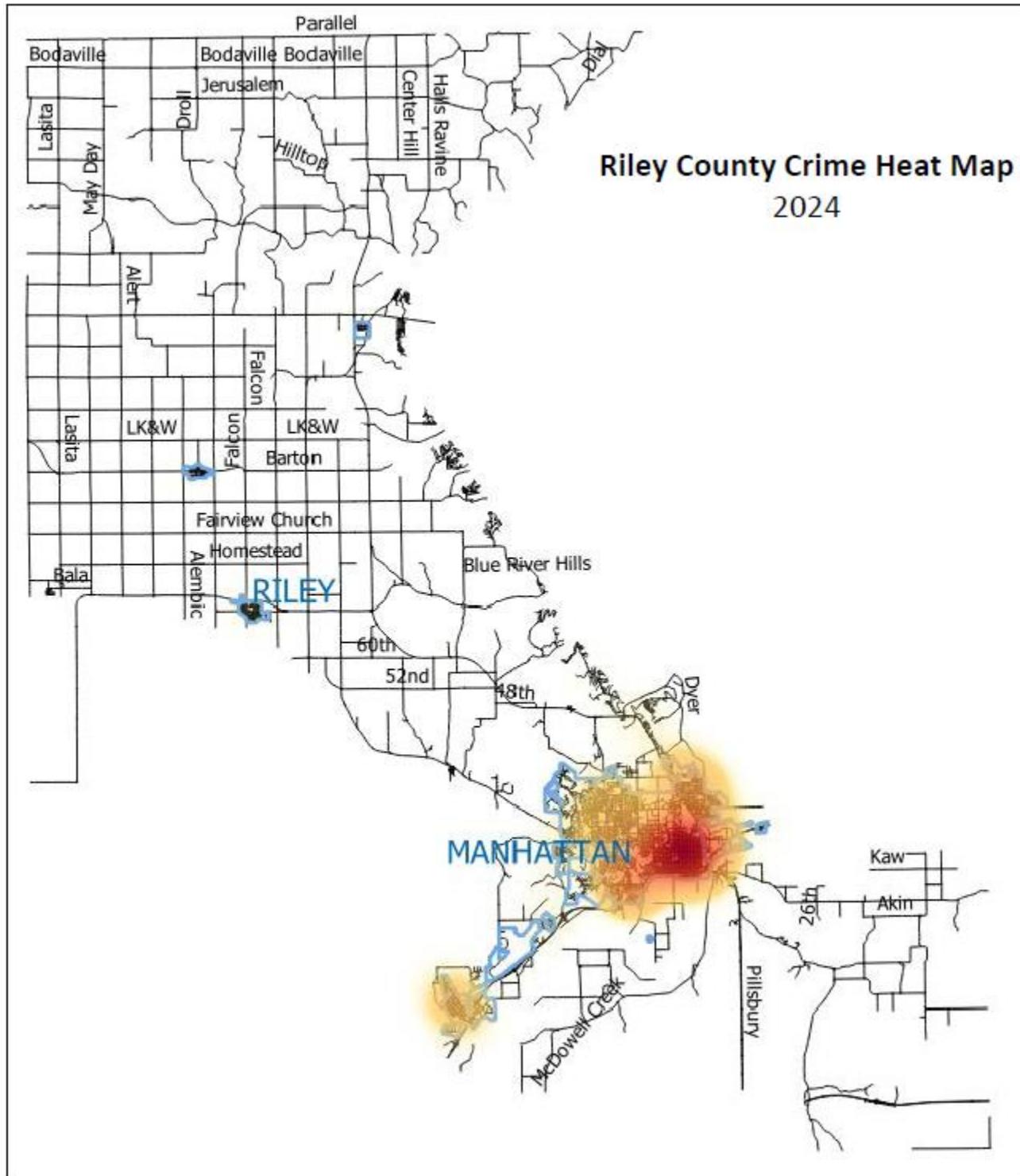


Figure 6. Crime Heat Map in Riley County, Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024.

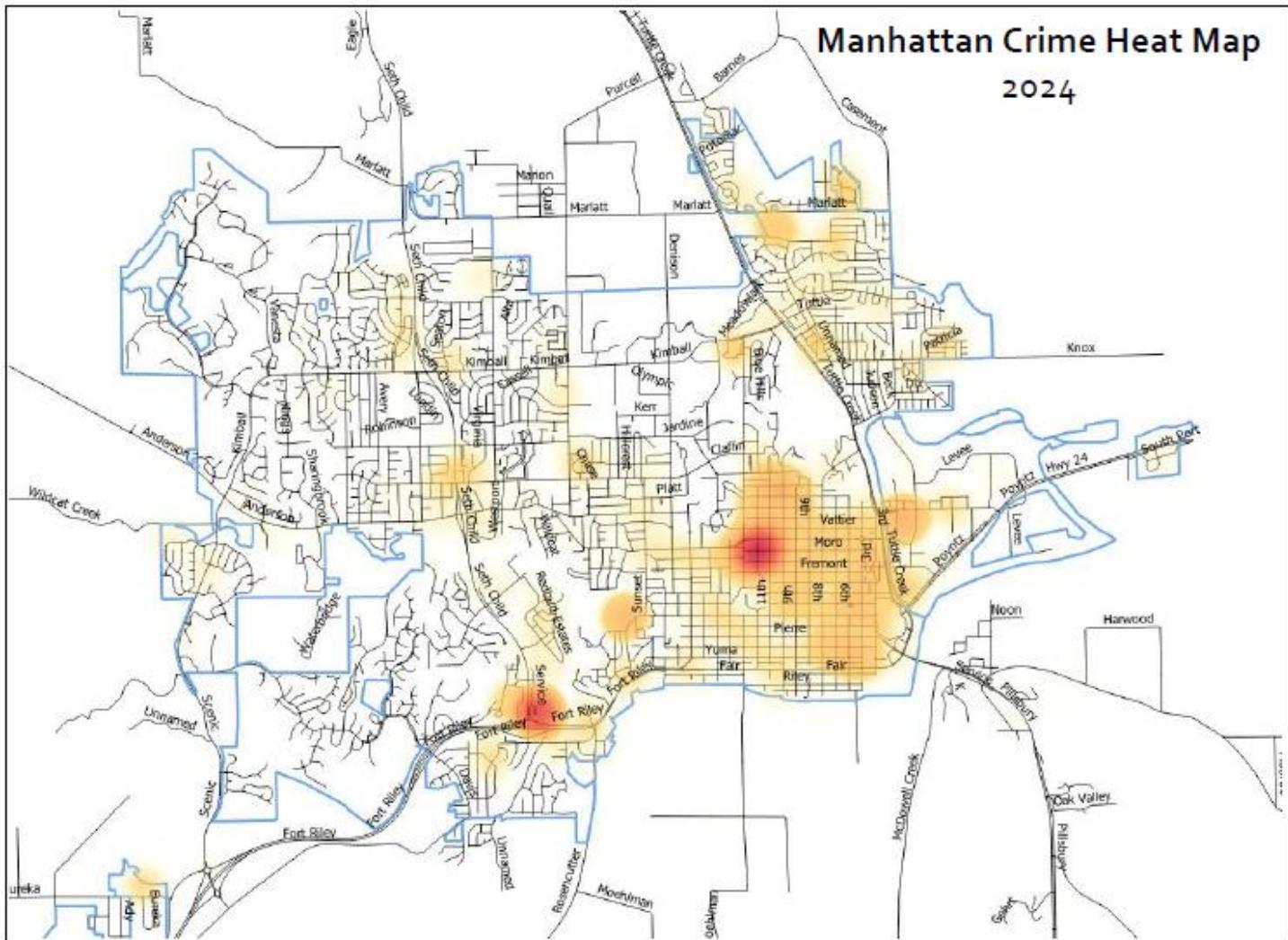


Figure 7. Crime Heat Map of Manhattan, Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024. Manhattan Crime is down 15.7% November 2024 compared to November 2023. NOTE: The second highest concentration is at RCPD HQ which is where many case reports are generated from (i.e., the reporting location).

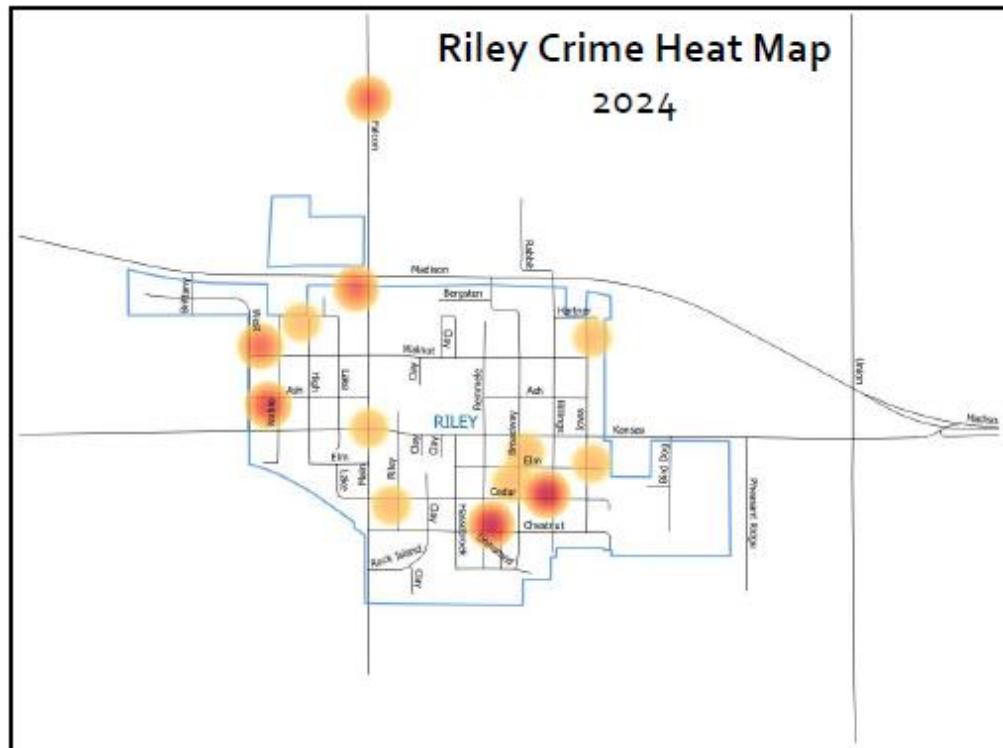


Figure 8. Crime Heat Map in Riley, Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024.

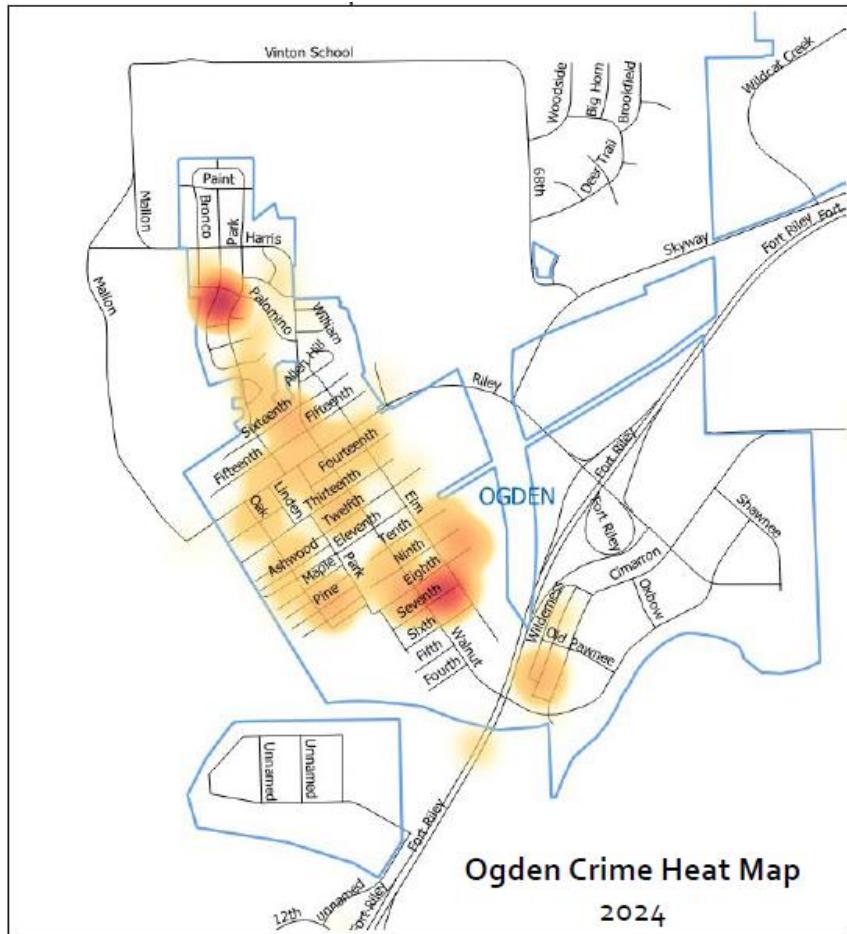


Figure 9. Crime Heat Map of Calls for Ogden, Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024. Ogden has seen a 77.1% increase in crime from November 2023 to November 2024 with increases in Rape (+3), Agg. Assault (+8), and Larceny (+14).

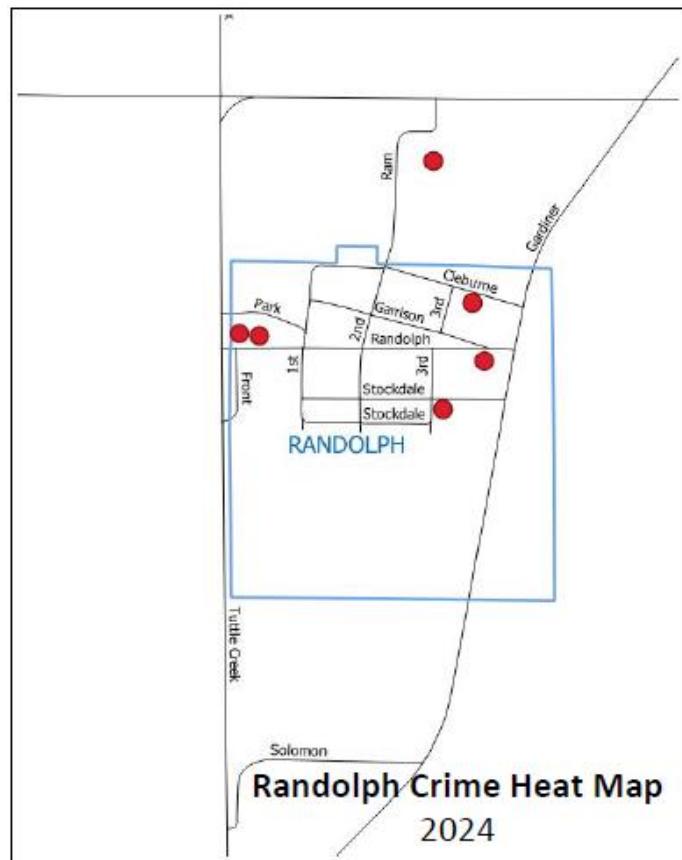


Figure 10. Randolph Point Map: Each point represents One Police Report, Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024.

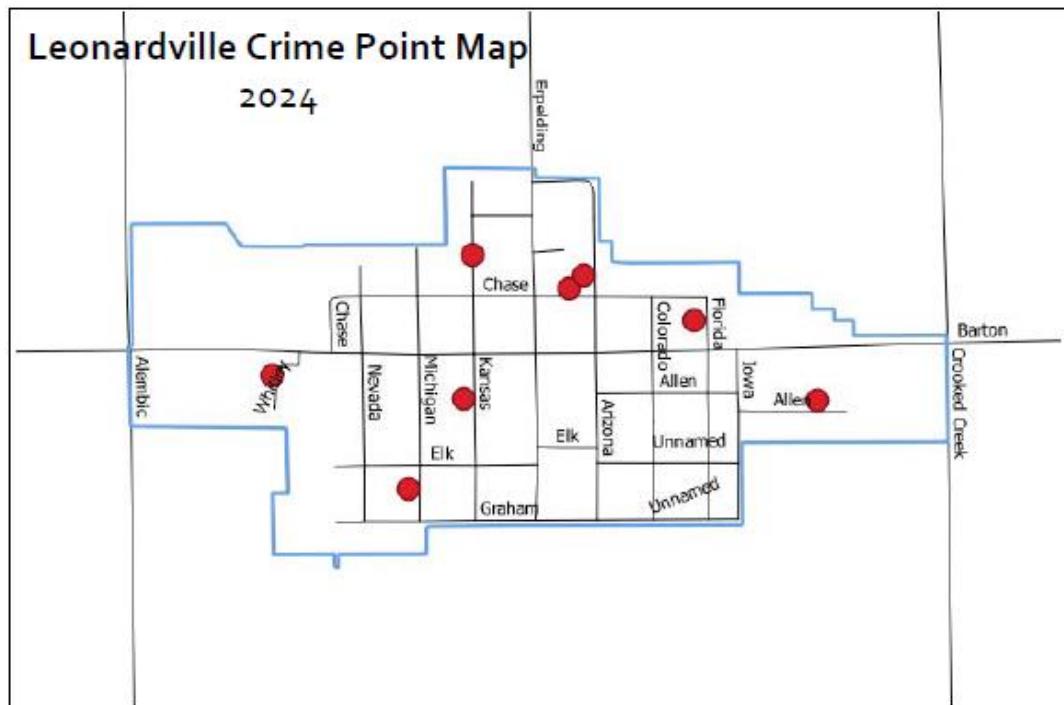


Figure 11. Leonardville Point Map: Each point represents One Police Report, Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024.

A significant amount of calls for service in the entertainment districts were alcohol-related (see Figures 12 to 22). RCPD cited 293 alcohol-related offenses in 2023, a 28.8% increase from 2022, and in 2024 (Jan 1 – Dec 5) the department cited 339 alcohol-related offenses which is a 15.7% increase. This is a continuation of an upward trend in year-end totals since the 2020's low (NOTE: this count did not include unlawful use of ID offenses). "Fake Patty's Day" is a historic driver of alcohol violations and it has morphed into very smaller and very disruptive independent celebrations compared to pre-2020. RCPD remains concerned of the gradual reemergence of "Fake Patty's Day" which over the past couple of years translated into an increase in disorderly conduct and private property damage. It is essential that RCPD remain diligent, yet measured, in alcohol-related enforcement. Doing so increases both safety (and the perception of safety) and appeal for our citizens and visitors, thereby strengthening patronization and business growth. Due to the long tradition of "Fake Patty's Day" and the continuous trend of increased participants, it is prudent for the department to work closely with the City of Manhattan as well as the Aggieville Business Association in 2025 to explore concepts that may move the informal event to areas within the city that is not as disruptive for residential neighborhoods. The goal remains for RCPD to have zero-tolerance enforcement of alcohol-related and disruptive behavior in neighborhoods, especially during "Fake Patty's Day."

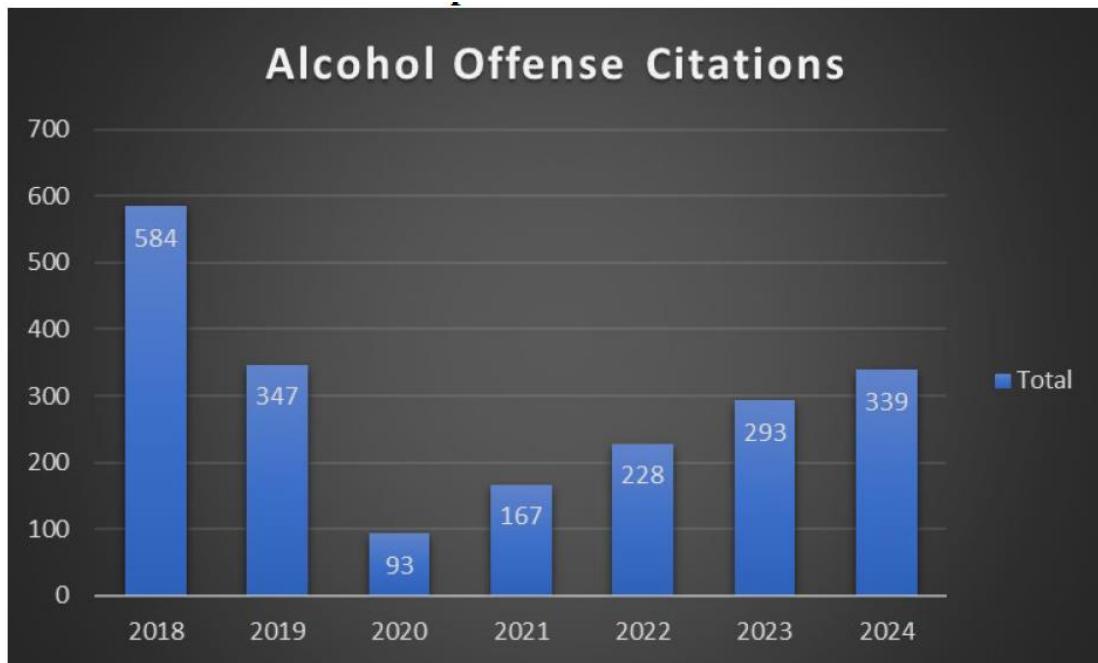


Figure 12.

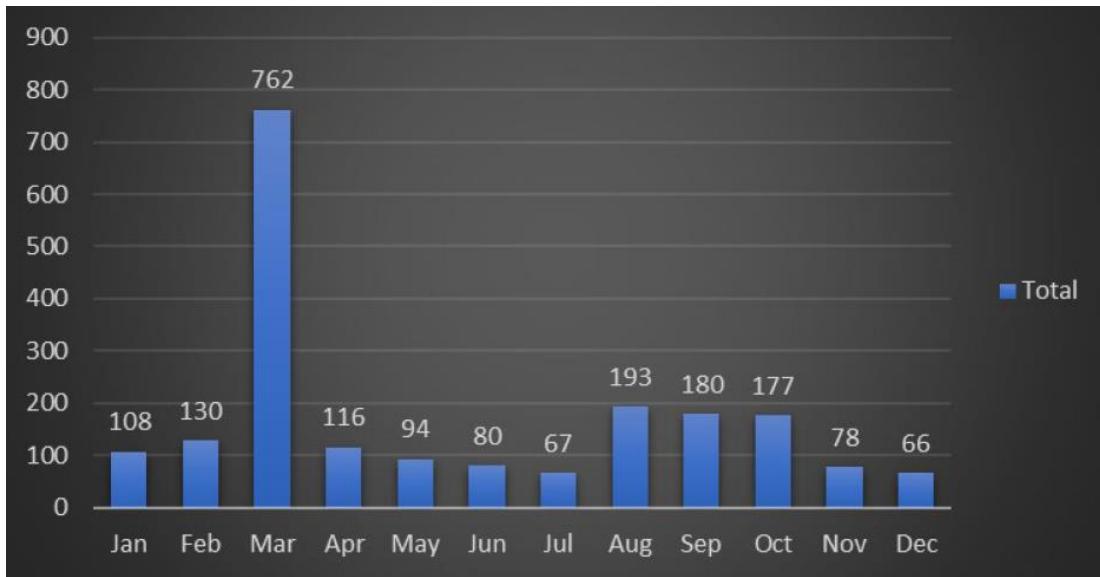


Figure 13. Alcohol-related citations by Month. Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024.

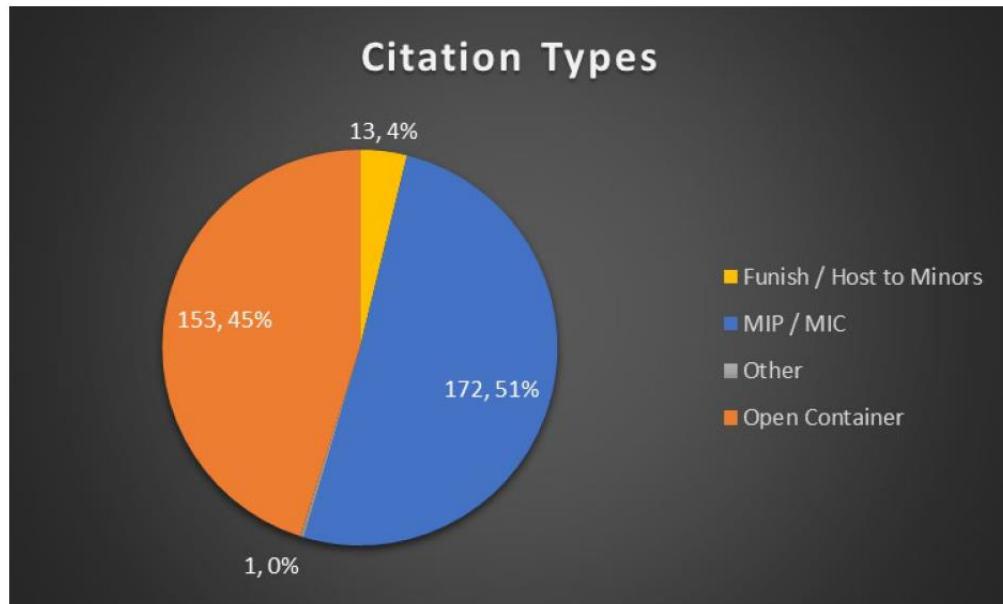


Figure 14. The most common alcohol-related offenses cited were minor in possession/minor in consumption of alcohol followed by open container violations. Jan 1 – Dec 4, 2024.

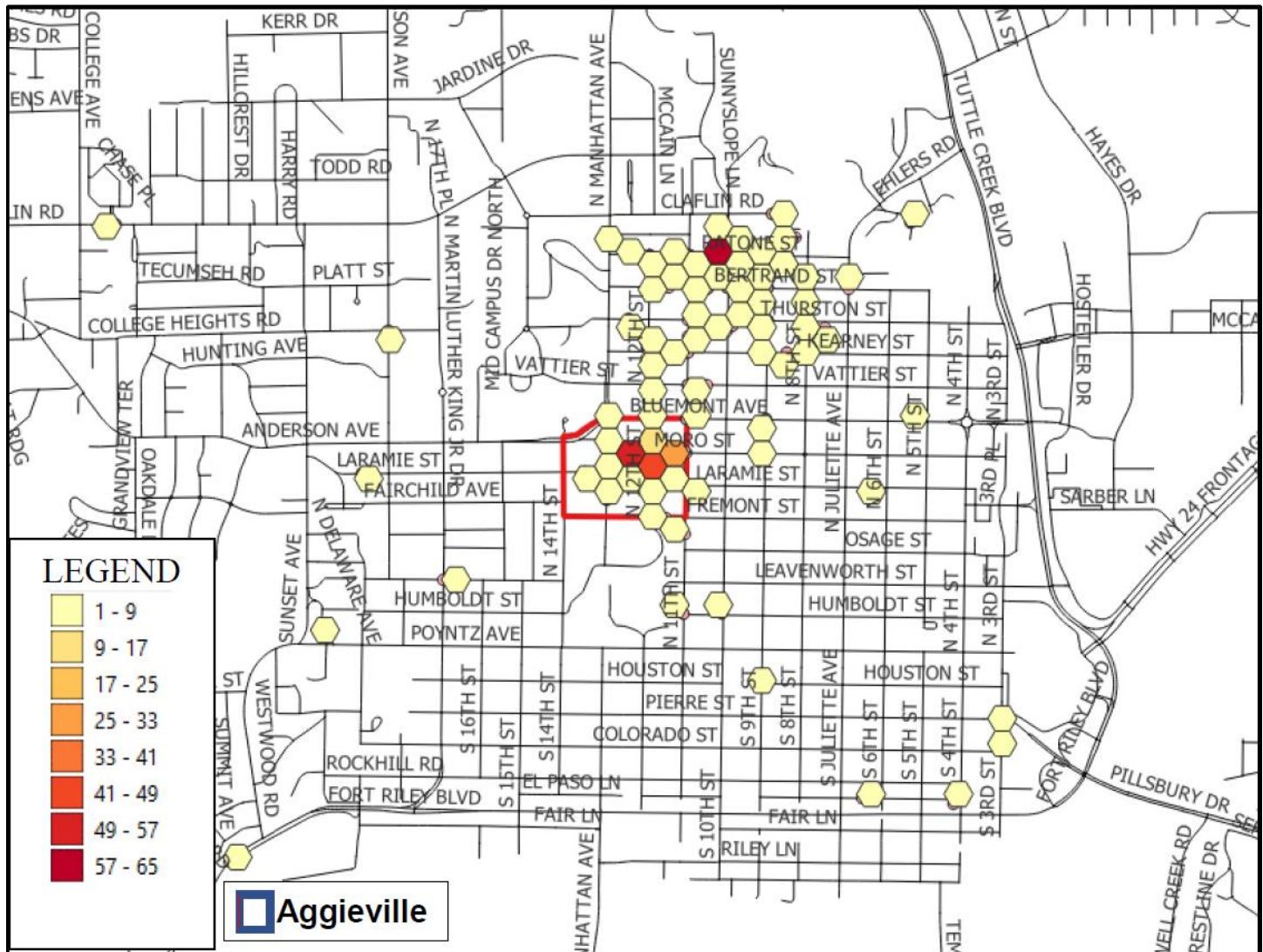


Figure 15. Above are the locations of all alcohol-related offense citations in 2024. 41.9% of all alcohol-related citations were issued in Aggieville. The residential area east of KState campus was host to many Fake Patty's Day house parties.

Establishment	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Tubbys	1	3	8	2	1	12	3	0	0	0	0	30
Johnny Kaws	2	3	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Dirty Dawgs	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	4
Porters	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Rock A Belly	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cock n Bull	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Tanners	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kites	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	6	6	12	14	2	12	3	0	2	0	2	59

Figure 16. Alcohol and ID-related cited offenses by month.

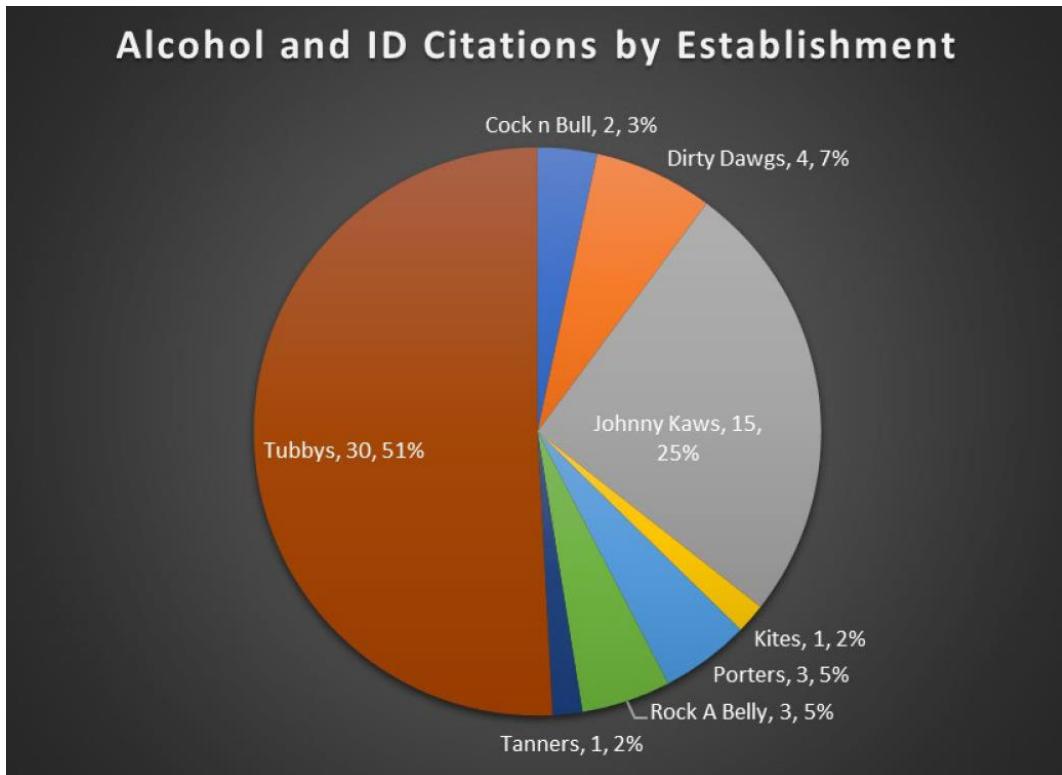


Figure 17. Alcohol and ID-related cited offenses by establishment.

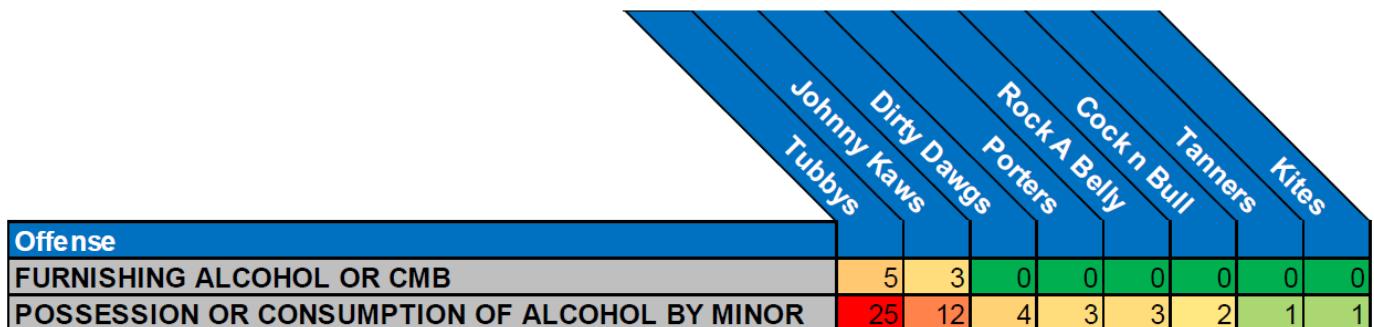


Figure 18. Cited offenses issued at the establishments.

	Alcohol Related	Disorderly Conduct	Drugs	Other	Part I Property	Part I Violent	Simple Assault / Battery	Weapons	Total
Tubbys	29	10	1	12	3	1	9	0	65
Johnny Kaws	18	0	0	2	1	1	3	0	25
Tate's	2	3	0	4	3	1	4	1	18
Dirty Dawgs	5	1	0	2	0	1	4	0	13
Johnny Kaw's Yard Bar	2	0	1	3	2	0	2	0	10
Texas Roadhouse	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	0	8
OMalleys	3	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	7
Auntie Maes	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	5
Porters	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
Chipotle	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	4

Figure 19. Reports filed which are directly attributed to an alcohol establishment (top ten establishments shown).

Establishment	Citizen Initiated	Officer Initiated	% Officer Initiated	Total
OMalleys	27	43	61%	70
Tubbys	26	180	87%	206
Dirty Dawgs	16	34	68%	50
Tate's	11	73	87%	84
Chipotle	11	13	54%	24
Johnny Kaw's Yard Bar	8	23	74%	31
Johnny Kaws	6	32	84%	38

Figure 20. All establishments averaging two or more calls for service per month, sorted to show the highest number of citizen-initiated calls for service.

	Top 10 Total	FOUND PROPERTY	ACCIDENT-NONINJ	SPEAK W/ OFC	PUBLIC SERVICE	ALCH-MIP/MIC	VERBAL ARGUMENT	WELFARE CHECK	FIGHT IP	UNWANTED SUBJ	PUBLIC CONTACT
Tubbys	30	46	27	7	24	28	5	2	0	2	171
Tate's	13	15	26	3	8	1	0	2	0	3	71
OMalleys	14	3	2	6	3	1	24	2	0	1	56
Dirty Dawgs	15	4	2	4	5	3	2	1	1	3	40
Johnny Kaws	7	4	0	1	2	14	0	0	0	1	29
Johnny Kaw's Yard Bar	3	6	4	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	19
Chipotle	5	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	10
Grand Total	87	79	61	27	42	47	33	8	2	10	

Figure 21. Top ten calls for service natures at establishments averaging two or more calls for service each month.

	PUBLIC SERVICE	BATTERY	LOST PROPERTY	UNWANTED SUBJ	LARCENY	WELFARE CHECK	FIGHT IP	SPEAK W/ OFC	FOUND PROPERTY	INFORMATION	Top 10 Total
OMalleys	12	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	24
Tubbys	1	6	2	4	2	1	1	2	1	0	20
Dirty Dawgs	2	0	4	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	11
Tate's	0	1	3	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	10
Chipotle	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	6
Johnny Kaw's Yard Ba	0	1	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	1	7
Johnny Kaws	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Grand Total	15	12	12	8	8	7	6	6	4	4	82

Figure 22. Calls for service initiated by citizens (not police officers).

Community Feedback

The most vital part of any Crime Reduction Plan is community feedback as it ensures the department knows the concerns and perceptions of those it serves, and allows for supervisors to develop specific strategies which meet need and demand. In summer 2024, RCPD conducted a series of community outreach events including a focused walk and talk in and around Aggieville. There were concerns related to intoxicated behavior in Manhattan's entertainment districts which were similar to concerns listed in the previous Crime Reduction Plan (see the below chart, Figure 23). Outside of alcohol-related occurrences, among the most noteworthy community conversations were several incidents in which an individual armed with a semi-automatic rifle walked throughout the city, Aggieville, and the KState campus. Of last note, citizens expressed a perception that individuals from outside the community were causing the most disruption. RCPD and the Aggieville Business District have made collaborative strides with plans to discuss streamlined information sharing, and potential trainings as they relate to security and ID checks. Of final note, RCPD has installed cameras in Aggieville which have significantly contributed to identifying subjects, investigations, and information sharing.

Violence and fighting in Aggieville
Citizens armed while intoxicated
Citizens openly and recklessly carrying firearms
Citizens leaving weapons in unlocked vehicles
Feelings of crime becoming more violent
Fentanyl and drug sales
Businesses illegally selling marijuana without repercussions
Overconsumption and minors with alcohol
Rape and Sexual Assault in and around the entertainment districts
Transparency and Accountability to the Community: Informing the public of incidents and potential dangers
Concerns of active and school shootings

Figure 23. Community concerns in and around Aggieville

Critical Infrastructures

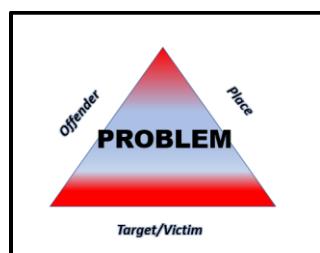
Critical infrastructures, as defined by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), are collections of systems, networks and assets, whether physical or virtual, that are considered so vital to the United States that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof.²¹ There are 16 sectors for critical infrastructure of which eight (8) are within RCPD's jurisdiction (Chemical, Commercial facilities, Critical Manufacturing, Defense Industrial Base, Emergency Services, Food and Agriculture, Healthcare and Public Health, Transportation, and Water and Waste Water Systems). We are home to Kansas State University, the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility, Fort Riley Army Post, KState's Biosecurity Research Institute, an active regional airport, and the Tuttle Creek Dam. Each of these employ key personnel and/or are critical to national or community safety and security, and/or draw large crowds/visitors which may draw domestic or international terrorism. There are also numerous public works facilities, schools, and houses of worship. RCPD is especially focused on these areas when developing partnerships and crime reduction strategies which are more proactive than reactive. For a multitude of reasons, RCPD should work with the City and County to establish designated parade and race routes (an increased safety control measure), then work to procure mobile vehicular arresting barriers to allow for safer traffic control and critical infrastructure protection (e.g., parade event routes or buildings where there is an identified potential threat of vehicles to be used as weapons).

Conducting a Crime Problem Analysis

In general terms, the literature of problem-solving and evidence-based policing indicates that 10 percent of locations generate more than 60 percent of crimes, 10 percent of offenders are involved in more than 50 percent of crimes, and 10 percent of victims are involved in 40 percent of victimizations.²² Such data emphasizes the importance RCPD must place in devoting resources to its Repeat Offender Program, specifically those whose behaviors and previous acts have escalated concerns of a higher likelihood of committing violent crime.

How RCPD Identified Community Safety-Related Problems

In identifying problems, RCPD uses a model emphasizing the Problem Analysis Triangle.²³



After conducting an analysis of the problem for strategy development, RCPD has employed a basic model as outlined by the Major Cities Chiefs Association and the Bureau of Justice Assistance in their Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide:

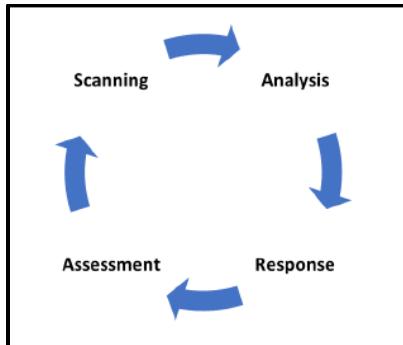


²¹ <https://www.cisa.gov/topics/critical-infrastructure-security-and-resilience/critical-infrastructure-sectors>

²² Spelman, W., and J.E. Eck. Sitting Ducks, Ravenous Wolves, and Helping Hands: New Approaches to Urban Policing. *Public Affairs Comment*. 1989; as cited in Anthony A. Braga. Problem Oriented Policing and Crime Prevention. Second Edition. 2008.

²³ <http://www.popcenter.org/>

In assessing the effectiveness of a strategy, RCPD will utilize the SARA Model (Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment):²⁴



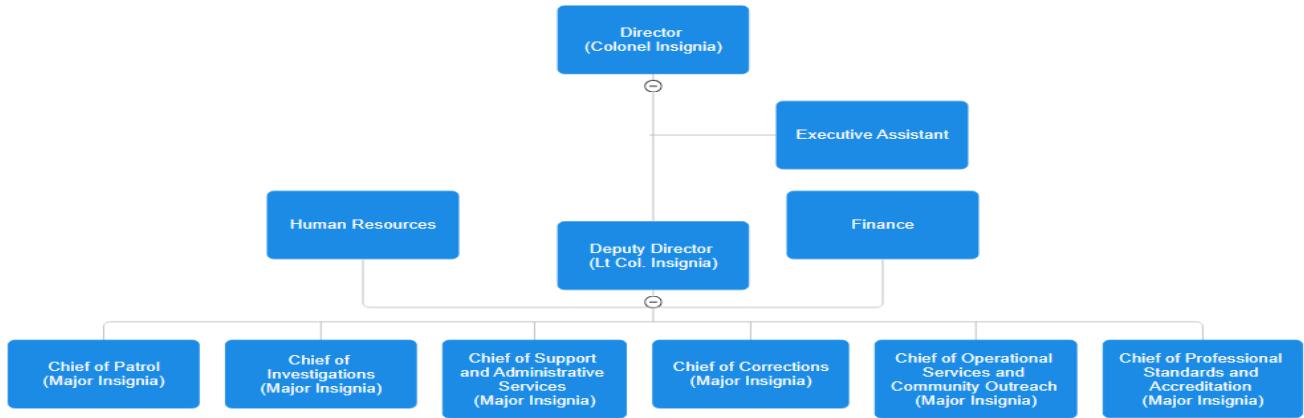
Overall Crime Fighting Strategies and Additional Actions to Reduce Crime

RCPD prioritized community feedback, concerns, and perceptions and combined them with its statistics on criminal trends in responding to community crime concerns:

1. Reorganize the department to streamline and consolidate administrative requirements to allow for frontline managers to concentrate on operational needs and proactive-based strategies and enforcement.

It is a best practice, and common recommendation from accountability SMEs, that Internal Investigations be conducted by individuals of a higher rank. This is especially an absolute need for RCPD. It is also recommended that senior staff members serve as IA officers for succession planning (to understand how to mitigate personnel-related issues when serving as Chief or Assistant Chief). Such a promotion of rank is exceptionally well-timed as organization adjustments will be required to evenly distribute new responsibilities among command staff for efficient management of numerous planned changes aimed at innovative 21st Century policing projects, community outreach, Animal Control, and grants. As such, RCPD will increase its divisions from five (5) to six (6). Titles will change from Assistant Director to Deputy Director (rank insignia of Lt. Colonel): NOTE- There will be no increase in pay or benefits for the Deputy Director. Commanders will change to Chief (rank insignia of Major). The Administrative Division will become Operational Services and Community Outreach, and the Support Division will be changed to Support and Administrative Services. A new division of Professional Standards and Accreditation will be created: NOTE- There will be no increase in pay or benefits for any Division Chief position. Human Resources and Finance will be placed under the Deputy Director and Director respectively. RCPD anticipates creating additional sworn supervisory positions throughout 2025 and 2026 to reduce increased administrative loads, and allowing for renewed focus on operations, training, and leadership development through experience and exposure. Reducing supervisory administrative loads also requires investments in time-saving (and liability reduction) technologies such as investigative case management and Internal Affairs software, body scanners, cameras, and health monitoring systems within the jail, a real-time intelligence center and additional cameras in key areas within the city and county including license plate readers on patrol vehicles. To ensure RCPD remains an intelligence-led, there is a need to reallocate some sworn and corrections personnel into investigative and intelligence-based roles, and a definite increase in sworn officers of about two or three.

²⁴ <http://www.popcenter.org/>



Proposed Re-Organizational Change

2. The department will focus its proactive resources on narcotics, human trafficking, and domestic violence.

The Investigations and Corrections Divisions shall add a new specialized Vice unit and utilize its Intelligence and Investigative unit respectively to help combat domestic violence, and to uncover any existing human or sex trafficking-related crimes within our jurisdiction (while simultaneously deterring sex trafficking consumers, aka “Johns”). It must be noted that narcotics and sex trafficking are intricately intertwined. New outreach strategies will be developed to partner with local hotels and transportation hubs. Patrol officers shall look for signs of human trafficking during calls for service at residents, especially in cases involving domestic violence, narcotics, and child abuse or neglect. Officers will also pay special attention to transportation hubs within the county and post information to help victims contact police or community resources. The department shall also consult with its Victim Advocate Coordinator to brainstorm ideas to monitor and hold accountable repeat DV offenders, and proactively assist at-risk families with access to social resources to decrease the chances of cyclical involvement within the criminal justice system. RCPD will also coordinate with regional agencies as Victims and Criminal often commute with central and east Kansas. Some Corrections Officers will be armed to free sworn officers to concentrate on responding to calls for service, traffic enforcement, or other proactive activities rather than assisting with transports.

3. Further reduce and dissuade/deter violent and drug-related crime within the county while increasing the department's reputation of competency and expertise.

RCPD shall work to procure additional camera technologies within the City of Manhattan, to include at/around USD 383 schools. The department shall also reach out to regional peers from KState PD and Topeka to Abilene to research routine intelligence sharing and mutual aid possibilities in dealing with specialized crime (narcotics, sex and human trafficking, homicide and gun-related violence, and potentially joint traffic enforcement missions). This is especially vital as many criminals and repeat offenders frequently travel between each of our jurisdictions. RCPD shall also establish strong intelligence sharing practices with Topeka, Salina, Wichita, KHP and the Kansas Intelligence Fusion Center, as well as research possible participation with the FBI's Intelligence Task Force Analysis Program. Such relationships also aid in succession planning and job competency through exposure to more intricate and complicated crimes. RCPD shall also incorporate a Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative (PAARI) for pre and post-overdose outreach.

4. Reduce Recidivism to improve community safety and reduce the operational costs of generational crime.

Corrections shall develop programs to assist inmates with assimilating back into the community, as well as research the feasibility of incorporating Buprenorphine into its treatment services (to reduce the physical and mental symptoms of substance abuse withdrawal). This will presumptively improve an individual's odds of overcoming opioid-related addiction.

5. Continue to audit programs, policies, shift and work hours, and procedures to look for ways to cut and reallocate costs.

To reduce staff burnout and maximize the department's allotted budget, RCPD shall reduce its traffic control involvement in community events or requests which do not require an immediate law enforcement presence (e.g., races, parades, funerals, and other non-public safety related events). The department will also work with the City of Manhattan to research the feasibility of standardizing parade and race routes for easier and safer logistics with minimal effect on the community. The Law Board has also mandated that RCPD begin conversations with USD 383/378/384, and look for ways to mutually cover costs associated with the SRO program (as applicable).

6. Implement programs to improve staff competency, safety, and resilience, as well as reduce risks and liability.

Senior staff will establish foundational working relationship and communications with larger and best-practice agencies to facilitate potential incorporation within the department. The department shall look for grant or other funding opportunities to procure training rooted in adult-based learning practices, to include Virtual Reality systems. These endeavors not only improve morale and the quality of life (at work and at home) for staff, but also reduce liability risks for the department and thereby the community. The department shall initiate a program where Sworn and Corrections officers carry Narcan, and it will work to procure at least one body scanner for the jail. Other endeavors shall include the feasibility of an emotional support K9 (and mascot), additional legal-based trainings, strengthen peer support resources with mental health and spiritual-based (protected) internal support groups for staff and families such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, conducted focused security assessments on facilities off campus where staff often work (County and Municipal Courthouses) to find ways to overcome any gaps in security and safety, and will request phased implementation of the department's 2024 Feasibility Study.

7. Take steps to increase safety measures for community events. Not only is there a local safety component, but a national one as our residents consist of soldiers, students and instructors, and civilian employees who are working on projects of significant importance to the U.S. (e.g., military, biological and global food supply, etc.).

Coordinate with City and County officials to establish standard parade and race routes and other community events. This allows for increased safety measures during planning. The department shall then work to improve safety through improve bollard systems, environmental design, and procuring vehicle arresting barriers.

8. Implementation of these strategies have associated costs.

RCPD shall employ the services of a professional grant writing service to identify local, state, and federal grant opportunities, and work with administrative staff in applying for and winning these grants. In 2025, the Justice Department anticipates to provide \$157 million dollars in funding for local, tribunal, and state agencies through its COPS Hiring Program (CHP) to hire nearly 1,200 additional police officers. There is also \$73 million anticipated for school violence prevention

programs, \$46 million to combat the distribution and trafficking of opioids and methamphetamine, \$9 million to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement and support staff.²⁵

9. Lay the ground work to implement a dedicated Traffic Enforcement Unit.

A common denominator in meeting the above community concerns is the department's need to conduct more proactive investigations, to be more visible and accessible, and to implement or increase specialty teams such as Traffic Enforcement. Traffic enforcement and police presence have long been acknowledged as having a strong correlation to safety. In 1985, the U.S. Department of Justice noted visible patrols were effective deterrents to crime, while high/low visibility patrols resulted in more apprehensions.²⁶ The study also found additional contributing factors to deterrence were close cooperation with the community, the use of team policing, and increased night patrols. While RCPD's culture and practices allow for both community cooperation and team policing, but the department sorely lacks the staffing to increase night patrols. Another DOJ article noted "...effective traffic law enforcement can be a means of detecting crime, intercepting fleeing criminals, and preventing crime."²⁷ This same study advised for officers to "look beyond the ticket" (i.e., they must be trained to observe signs that the occupants of a vehicle may be engaged in violations other than traffic infractions). RCPD officers do "look beyond the ticket" as they are trained to observe and notice other clues to detect DUIs, burglary, human and sex trafficking, and other violent crimes. A common and justified concern of more focused traffic enforcement is the potential to reduce police legitimacy through actual or perceived racial disparities (e.g., the targeting of historically marginalized populations). RCPD has a long history, validated by statistics and general public sentiment, of not targeting individuals based on protected class. Furthermore, the Director's recent Initial Organization Assessment (2023) confirmed that not only does RCPD not target marginalized groups, it has policies and intelligence-led practices in place that ensure traffic stops are more opportunities for public education rather than a demand for strict adherence to traffic laws. Therefore, there is strong confidence that any unintended consequence of implementing a dedicated traffic enforcement team will enhance safety and not erode public trust and confidence.

10. Data transparency from RCPD.

RCPD continues to pride itself on transparency and cooperation with the community it serves. The department is governed by an independent civilian Law Board consisting of citizens and elected officials from both the County and City of Manhattan. There is also a Community Advisory Board made of community members throughout the County who assist the department in maintaining strong community ties, legitimacy, and fairness. Any person wishing to know more about RCPD is encouraged to visit our webpage at <https://www.rileycountypolice.org/> where they will find lots of information, to include crime mapping, in an organized and easily navigable way. While there, people can sign up for various alerts and notifications. The department also maintains social media sites which include Facebook. If citizens cannot find what they are looking for, they can always email us at Contact_RCPD@rileycountypolice.org or can call 785-537-2122.

²⁵ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-awards-over-600m-hire-law-enforcement-officers-keep-schools-safe-and#:~:text=The%20COPS%20Office%20has%20been%20appropriated%20more%20than%20%2420%20billion,redeployment%20%20approximately%20138%2C000%20officers>.

²⁶ <https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/relationship-between-police-presence-and-crime-deterrence>

²⁷ <https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/does-traffic-enforcement-reduce-crime#:~:text=Criminals%20travel%20to%20and%20from,fleeing%20criminals%2C%20and%20preventing%20crime>.