



**FROM: Stan Standridge, Chief of Police**  
**SUBJECT: 2014 in Review**

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The Police Department is committed to the safety of Abilene and its many visitors. The men and women of the Department are thankful to call Abilene home, where we work alongside the community to accomplish the City's Mission Statement – *We work together to build a community of the highest quality for present and future generations*. This report is in furtherance of our mission and is intended to keep our citizens and City Council informed about their police department.

Of greatest concern for 2014 was a significant increase in crime. Violent crime increased by 18% and property crime increased by 12%. Some of the increase in violent crime is attributed to a change in the definition of Forcible Rape, which went into effect January 1, 2014. The FBI changed the Uniform Crime Report definition to better capture offenses that were deemed forcible.

As call load and crimes increased, the Department struggled to meet these increasing demands. Consequently, through Meet and Confer the Department was able to adopt an 80-hour work period that allowed Administration to implement 12-hour shifts for many officers in the Patrol Division. By adopting varied shift configurations, the Patrol Division increased staffing during peak call hours.

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## **1. Significant Accomplishments:**

1. The Special Operations Division arrested 168 felons and 118 misdemeanants; executed 43 search warrants; assisted with 108 other search warrants; performed 65 controlled buys; seized \$85,415 cash and \$116,759 in drugs; and the Division filed 146 cases with the DA's Office.
2. The Department was involved in 14 pursuits, which is a decrease of 3 from 2013. There were no injuries as a result of pursuits in 2014.
3. The Street Crimes Unit (SCU) conducted 406 hours of surveillance, resulting in 44 felony arrests and 25 misdemeanor arrests; SCU examined 1,004 cases with few or no leads and ultimately were able to file 208 of those cases; executed 7 search warrants and recovered \$182,327 in stolen property.
4. The K-9 Unit assisted with 1,369 calls for service, resulting in 119 felony arrests, 75 misdemeanor arrests and \$10,032 cash; and \$80,633 worth of illegal narcotics. K-9's also conducted 32 tracks resulting in 10 arrests, searched 57 buildings, and recovered 6 firearms. K-9 Zeke was added to the team after K-9 Cain was retired.
5. The Traffic and Patrol Divisions investigated 3,351 crashes, including 20 confirmed fatalities with 1 pending cause of death.
6. The Patrol and Traffic Divisions handled 99,775 calls for service, which is an increase of 2,106 calls from 2013. The same divisions conducted 28,254 self-initiated traffic stops.
7. The Criminal Investigation Division (CID) was assigned 3,671 cases for 2014. Detectives filed 842 cases with the District Attorney's Office; served 127 search warrants; completed 124 consensual searches; interviewed 3,237 witnesses and 985 suspects, seized \$44,899 in cash and recovered \$111,938 in stolen property. Detectives were called out to crime scenes 167 times and answered off-duty phone calls 286 times.
8. The Department made 7,869 arrests in 2014.
9. The Child Advocacy Center (CAC) provided services to 404 children and conducted 390 forensic interviews. The CAC also trained the victim advocate as a back-up forensic interviewer to meet the increased demand for services.
10. APD's Victim Impact Coordinator (VIC) made some 1,500 follow up calls to victims of violence and 673 victims received some type of follow-up service, including 130 victims receiving assistance with protective order applications.
11. The Department initiated a hybrid patrol staffing model to include a mixture of 8, 10, and 12 hour shifts that was designed to increase officer availability during peak call hours while trying to reduce overtime costs.
12. In a joint effort with the Betty Hardwick Center, the Department obtained a new emergency committal transport van to be utilized during mental health transports. This van enables officers to discreetly transport mental health consumers in a manner that better decriminalizes transports.
13. An administrative sergeant position was created to oversee grant administration, public information, and a restructuring of neighborhood watch among other tasks.
14. In addition to hiring a full-time Public Information Coordinator, the Department began an initiative to increase our social media footprint to include Facebook and Twitter.
15. APD implemented the Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) Program. The program is designed to inform local businesses, school districts, and organizations on how to respond to an active shooter event. The CRASE program was presented at no charge to 16 school campuses, 6 private businesses, and 5 governmental agencies. Total attendees for the year exceeded 1,600.
16. The Records Division destroyed 3,467 lbs of records, as well as 27,580 lbs of guns, knives, video tapes and computers. They processed 11,941 open records requests; and they issued 558 residential and 142 commercial burglar alarm permits.

17. The Youth Division arrested 361 juveniles, compared to 423 the previous year. Of those arrests, 97 were for assaults. Additionally, the Division worked 247 runaway cases, 72 missing person's cases, and 268 offenses involving the interference of child custody. Child custody offenses increased 9% in 2014.
18. For the first time in 21 years, the Department and Police Association commissioned a legacy album which documented APD's history from 2000 to 2014. The album contains current employee photos, divisional photos, and a historical timeline.

**2. Departmental Training**

1. The Training Division processed 221 applicants for Class #52.
2. Academy Class 52 achieved a 100% pass rate on the state licensing exam and graduated 9 officers and 1 Fire Department arson investigator.
3. The Department reported a total of 2,476 training hours to TCOLE (state licensing commission).
4. The Police range was utilized 47 times by 18 different outside agencies.

**3. Use of Force Review**

The Department has a culture of utilizing force conservatively and appropriately. During 2014, only one incident was determined to be negligent, when an officer discharged his Taser during a spark test. There were 63 documented use-of-force incidents, including one use of force against an aggressive dog. OC spray continued to be the most used force option. It was utilized 30 times, representing 47 % of all force options used by the Department. The Taser was second with 19 incidents, representing 30 % of all force options used by the Department. Firearms were used 3 times and hard empty hands 3 times. Stop sticks were deployed in four instances. K-9 bites were reported in three cases.

**4. Complaints**

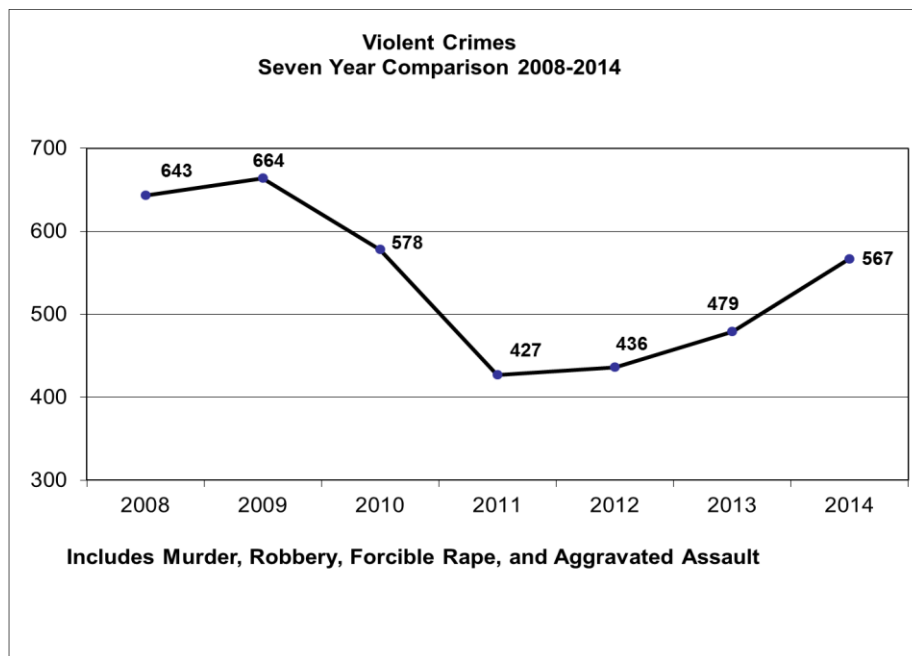
The Department classifies complaints according to the severity of the conduct alleged. Class 1 complaints include, but are not limited to: excessive use of force; criminal activity; serious misconduct; and abuse of authority. Class 2 complaints are typified by allegations of harassment, discourtesy, minor misconduct, and improper police procedures. In 2014, the Department investigated the following number of complaints, resulting in discipline ranging from indefinite suspension to verbal counseling:

1. Class 1 Complaints:                               7 (4 were sustained)
2. Class 2 Complaints:                            46 (5 were sustained)

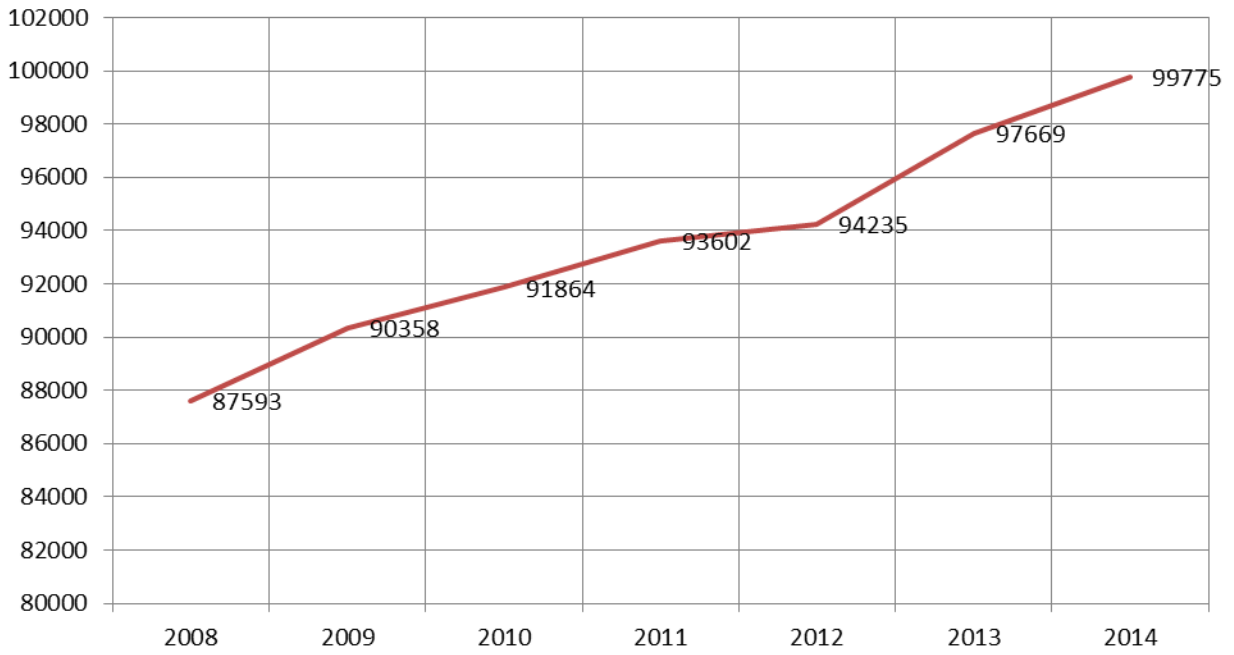


## 5. Crime Data

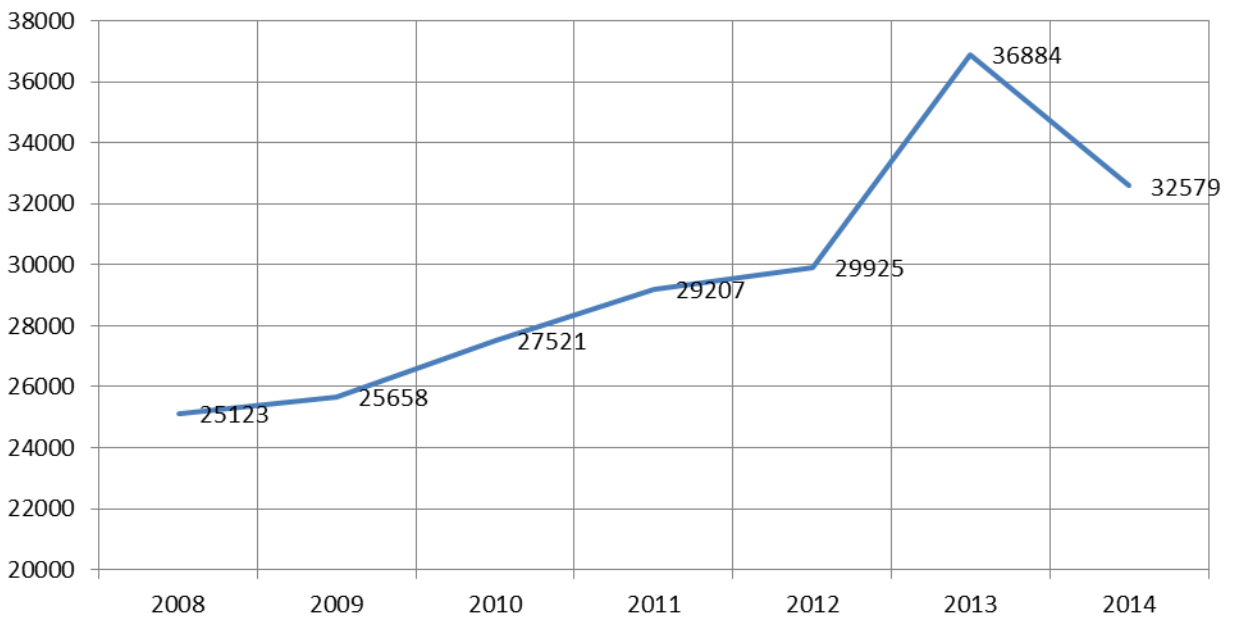
	2013	2014	% of change
Murder / Homicide	1	7	+600.0%
Rape	37	90	+143.2%
Robbery	124	128	+3.2%
Aggravated Assault	317	342	+7.9%
<b>Violent Crime Total</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>+18.4%</b>
Burglary	1,054	1,095	+3.9%
Theft	3,466	3,899	+12.5%
Auto Theft	252	366	+45.2%
<b>Property Crime Total</b>	<b>4,772</b>	<b>5,360</b>	<b>+12.3%</b>
<b>UCR PART 1 TOTAL</b>	<b>5,251</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>+12.9%</b>
Simple Assaults	2,282	2,633	+15.4%
Forgery	235	321	+36.6%
Fraud	609	581	-4.6%
Criminal Mischief	1,220	1,075	-11.9%
Weapons Offenses	97	80	-17.5%
Other Sex Offenses	180	156	-13.3%
Drug Abuse	907	981	+8.2%
Driving While Intoxicated	355	310	-12.7%
Public Intoxication	833	658	-21.0%
Disorderly Conduct	248	249	+0.4%
<b>UCR PART 2 TOTAL</b>	<b>6,966</b>	<b>7,044</b>	<b>+1.1%</b>
<b>UCR TOTAL</b>	<b>12,217</b>	<b>12,971</b>	<b>+6.2%</b>



**Calls Dispatched Each Year. Does Not include Traffic Stops.**



**Traffic and Pedestrian Stops**



## **6. SWAT Calls**

In 2014 the SWAT team was called out ten times. There were five barricade calls and five warrant calls. The following are the calls for 2014:

1. 2000 Chestnut - Barricaded Person 01/25/14 – Patrol located a suspect from an aggravated assault that occurred earlier that day. The wanted suspect had a violent history that necessitated the use of SWAT. The team surrounded the house where the suspect was located. A warrant was issued to search and arrest the suspect. The team served the warrant and arrested the suspect. The Bearcat was utilized to deploy chemicals and the team.
2. 2601 Nonesuch - Warrant Service 03/05/14 – Agents with Special Operations (Narcotics) obtained a warrant for the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apartment to search for narcotics. The suspect was armed and made threats to fight with police. The SWAT team used an explosive breach to make entry to serve the warrant. The suspect was taken into custody without incident. The suspect had a handgun on his person and an assault rifle within reach.
3. 1900 Burger - Barricaded Person 04/24/14 – Patrol responded to a call of a subject with a stolen AR-10 rifle. The suspect barricaded himself in the house with a female. The SWAT team responded with the Bearcat and attempted to get the suspect to exit. The front door to the house was breached with an explosive charge and chemicals introduced. The suspect exited without any further incident.
4. 900 N. San Jose - Warrant Service 05/17/14 – Agents with SOD obtained a warrant for the residence. The suspect had ties with a Mexican drug cartel and was known to carry weapons. SWAT served the warrant early in the morning utilizing a dual explosive breach. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.
5. 1900 Denton - Warrant Service 05/31/14 - CID located the suspect from an aggravated assault that occurred the previous day. SWAT served the warrant on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apartment. The suspect was taken into custody without incident. There were five other subjects in the apartment at the time of the warrant.
6. 3200 W. Broadway Sweetwater - Barricaded Person 06/26/14 – The Sweetwater Police Department requested assistance through Chief Standridge for a barricaded subject who had pointed a gun at responding officers. The officers were at the location to arrest the subject for a warrant related to stealing heavy equipment. The SWAT team responded to the location and began to negotiate with the suspect. The SWAT team was utilizing the Bearcat for cover and to breach a door to the trailer house. The suspect began firing a handgun at officers striking the Bearcat. SWAT returned fire hitting the suspect, who was then taken into custody. Immediate medical aid was provided by AFD SWAT medics. The suspect, however, died from his injuries.
7. 300 Meander - Warrant Service 09/04/14 – Agents with SOD obtained a warrant to search for narcotics located at the residence. The suspect had ties to a Mexican drug cartel and was known to carry weapons. SWAT served the warrant at the residence. A mechanical breach of the front door was used to gain entry. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.
8. 300 West Overland - Barricade Person 09/12/14 – Patrol responded to a check welfare call at a motel. The subject was located and during the call fired a handgun at the officers. The SWAT team responded and surrounded the motel. Prior to the perimeter being set up the suspect jumped out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window and fled. The suspect was located by Lake Patrol and APD patrol. The suspect rammed a police vehicle and confronted an officer with a handgun. The suspect was shot and died due to injuries.

9. 400 N. Jefferson - Warrant Service 09/20/14 – The RID unit obtained a warrant to search for stolen weapons at this location. SWAT served the warrant on the apartment and used a mechanical breach of the front door to gain access to the apartment. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.
10. 2800 Westview - Barricade Person 10/31/14 – Patrol responded to a call of a subject with a gun and drugs at the location. When officers contacted the suspect through a window he produced a shotgun. A perimeter was set and SWAT notified. The suspect did not live at the house and was high on drugs. The SWAT team responded and utilized the Bearcat to observe the suspect from cover while attempting to negotiate with him. The suspect finally exited the residence and was taken into custody without incident.

## **7. Bomb Squad Calls**

The Abilene Police Department Bomb Squad is a regional asset responsible for response to 21 counties surrounding and including Taylor County. For the calendar year 2014, the Bomb Squad responded to 12 calls for service. 5 calls were joint responses with Abilene SWAT. The calls for service included assisting federal agencies, recovered WWII ordinance, suspicious packages, 2 IED's, and commercial explosives recovery.

## **8. Tier 1 Partial Exemption Racial Profiling Report**

The Department claims partial racial profiling report exemption because our vehicles that conduct motor vehicle stops are equipped with video and audio equipment, and we maintain videos for a minimum of 90 days. The Department has a detailed written policy that strictly prohibits racial profiling.

### **Motor Vehicle Racial Profiling Information:**

The Police Department conducted 28,254 stops in 2014. The following information is specific to traffic stops that resulted in citations, arrests, or both:

Number of motor vehicle stops:

1. 17,391 Received a verbal warning
2. 7,750 Received citations
3. 2,087 Arrests made
4. 198 Arrested with citation
5. 1,550 Arrested on outstanding warrants

Traffic Stops by Race:

1. 17379 Caucasian
  2. 6767 Hispanic
  3. 3652 African American
  4. 265 Asian
  5. 127 Native American
  6. 64 Middle Eastern
- 28,254 Total Stops





Traffic Stop Arrests Race or Ethnicity:

- 1. 1067 Caucasian
  - 2. 792 Hispanic
  - 3. 405 African American
  - 4. 11 Native American
  - 5. 8 Asian
  - 6. 2 Middle Eastern
- 2285 Total Self-Initiated Arrests

Race or ethnicity known prior to stop?

- 1. 3,286 Yes
  - 2. 24,968 No
- 28,254 Total

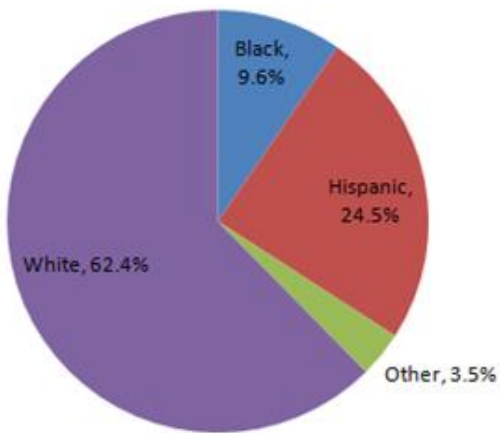
Search conducted?

- 1. 2,971 Yes
  - 2. 25,283 No
- 28,254 Total

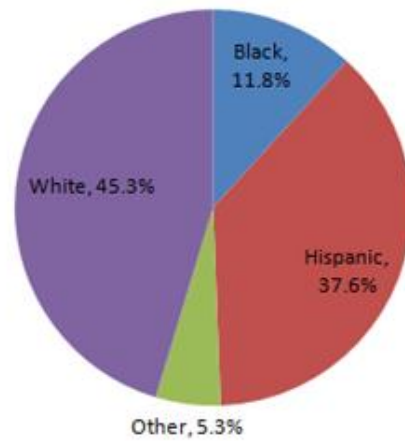
Was search consensual?

- 1. 484 Yes
  - 2. 2,487 No
- 2,971 Total

Abilene Demographics

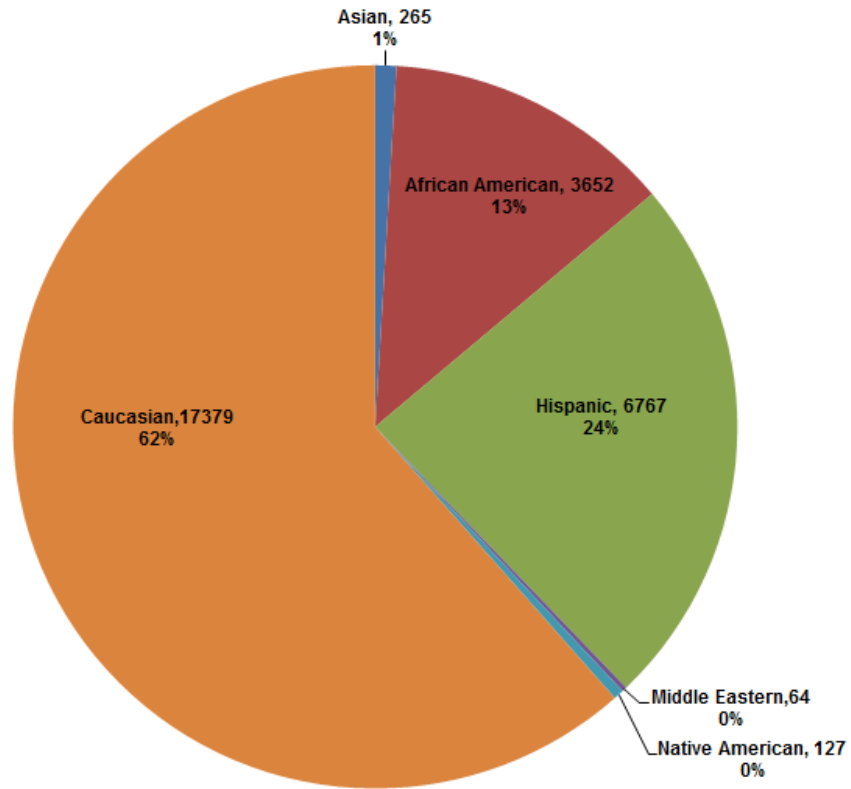


Texas Demographics

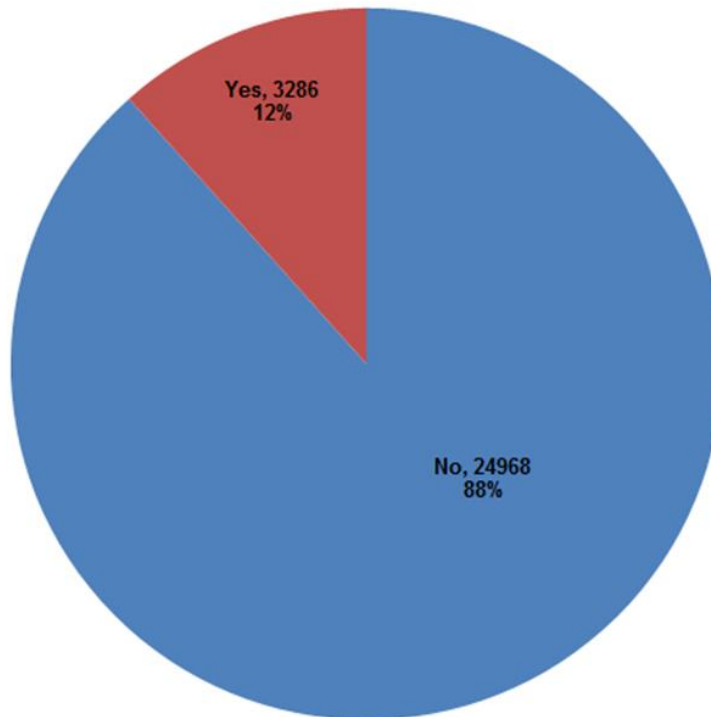




**Officer Initiated Contacts by Race 2014**



**Race Known Prior to Stop 2014**



**Results from Contact Stops 2014**

**Contacts for 2014:**

28,254 Individuals

**Contacts Were:**

Males 16,663 (59%)

Females 11,591 (41%)

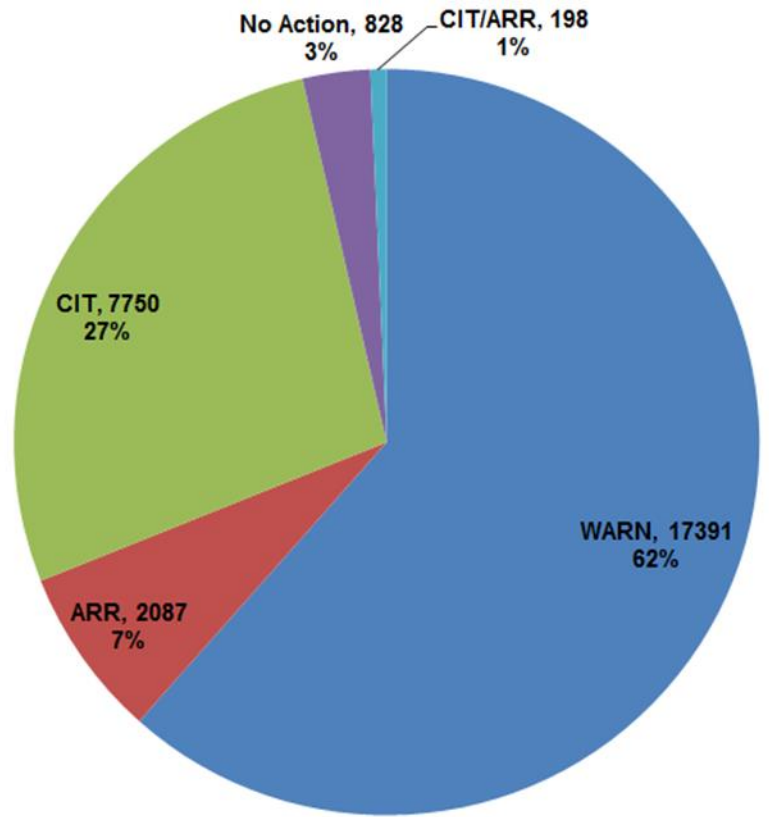
**Why They Were Contacted:**

Traffic Code Violation 26,795(94.8%)

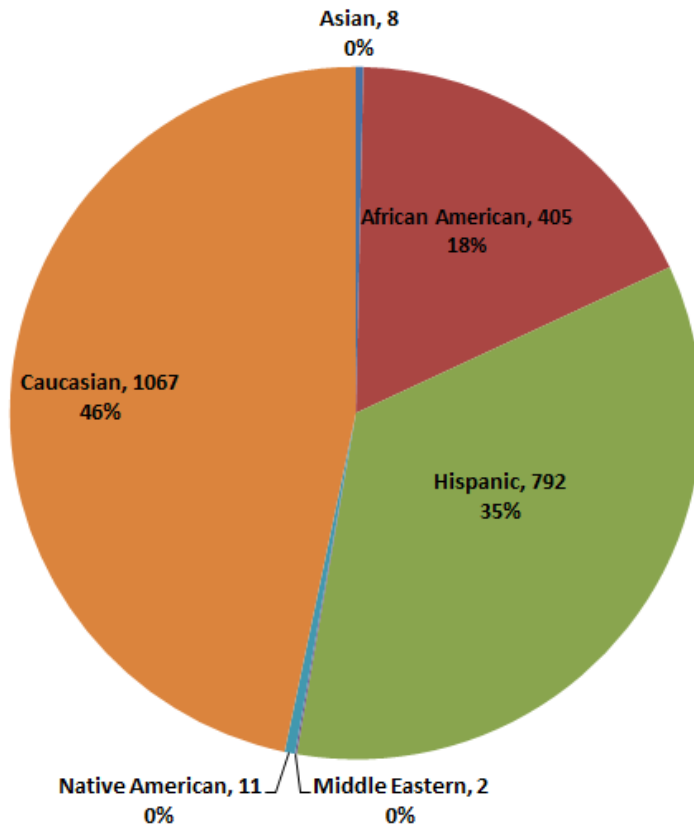
Suspicious Activity 931 (3.3%)

City Code Violation 442 (1.6%)

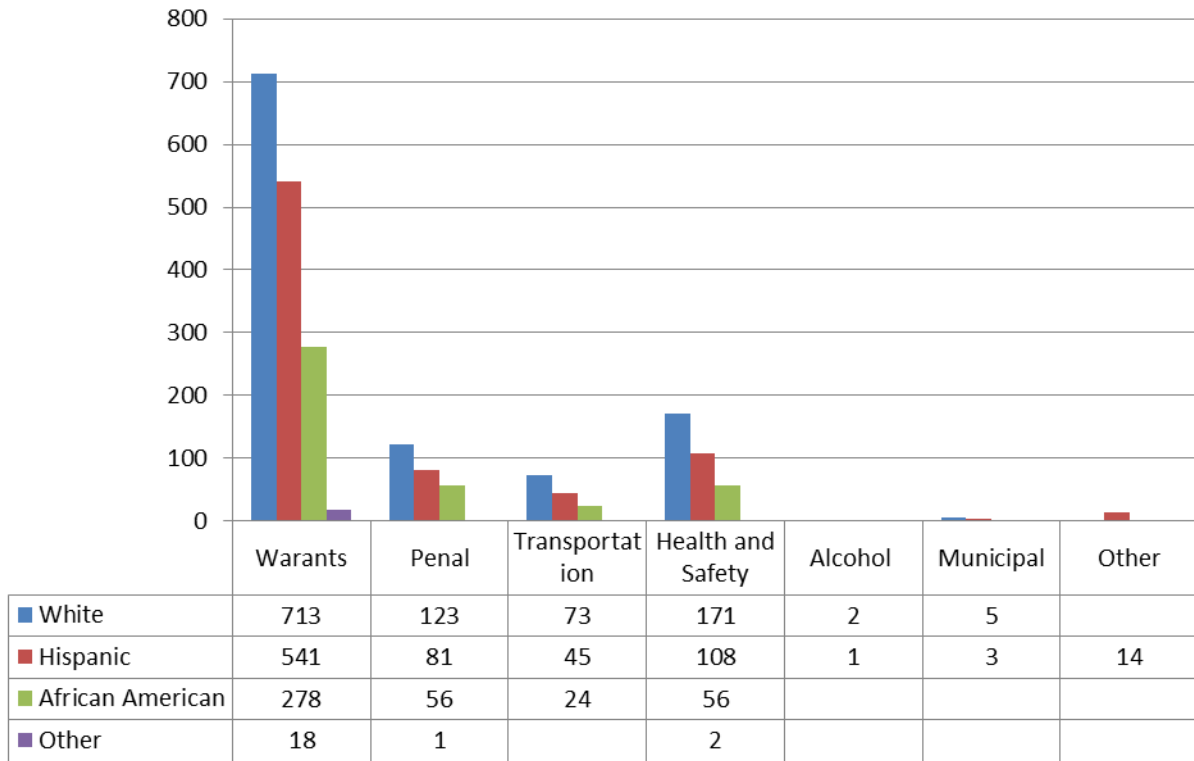
Penal Code Violation 86 (0.3%)



**Arrests by Race 2014**



### Reason For Arrest by Race 2014



### 9. **Goals - Seeing the Future 2015 - 2020**

1. Staffing – acquire and maintain a right sized, competent, and well trained staff to accomplish the Mission Statement
2. Technology – pursue innovation that supports employees while increasing productivity
3. Procedures – practice continuous improvement by evaluating and adapting policies and procedures to the changing needs of the community and department
4. Facilities and Fleet– provide a safe, pleasant workplace for staff and visitors; provide safe, dependable vehicles in accordance to the needs of the community and department
5. Impact – collaborate with stakeholders to reduce crime, the fear of crime, and traffic collisions
6. Safety – operate in a manner that minimizes risk to all persons involved
7. Quality Control – constantly review competence, integrity, motivation, effectiveness and performance to ensure the department is best serving those they protect
8. Stewardship – carefully manage that which has been entrusted to the department

### **Enabling Objectives – Achieving the Future**

Each objective is referenced to one of the 8 listed goals above. Additionally, it is given a time frame and a budgetary impact.

Time Frame:	Long-term	Consideration should be given within the next 5 years
	Mid-term	Consideration should be given within the next 2 years
	Short-term	Consideration should be given immediately

Budget Impact:      High            Greater than \$25,000  
                                  Med             Between \$5000 and \$24,999  
                                  Low            Less than \$5000

<u>Enabling Objectives</u>	<u>Related Goal(s)</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Budget Impact</u>
a. Increase authorized sworn strength to meet growing demand for police services	1,5	Short-term	High
b. Upgrade or replace Computer-aided Dispatch / Records Management System and iMobile	2	Short-term	High
c. Replace decades-old target system at Range	4,6	Short-term	Med
d. Adopt Sex Offender Apprehension Program	5,7	Mid-term	Low
e. Research juvenile curfew for Abilene	1,5	Mid-term	Low
f. Support Abilene Neighborhood Initiative (ANI) objectives while working to foster community trust	3,5,7,8	Short-term	Low
g. Reduce Part 1 Property Crimes by 3% citywide	1,2,5	Short-term	Low
h. Increase fleet to ensure vehicle availability for Patrol	1,5,6	Short-term	High
i. Reduce Traffic Collisions by 3% citywide	5	Short-term	Low
j. Quality Control of the agency, including uniform policing among companies and divisions	7,8	Short-term	Low
k. Incentivize fitness for all employees	1,5,6,7,8	Mid-term	Low
l. Partner with Connecting Caring Communities on N2N program	3,5,8	Short-term	Med
m. Reduce overcrowding in Property and Evidence	4,6	Mid-term	High
n. Create Mental Health Peace Officers Unit	1,3,5,7,8	Short-term	High
o. Evaluate Law Enforcement Center for structural integrity and space to ensure it can meet demands in 5 and 10 years	4,5,8	Long-term	High

