



# Chattanooga Police Department

Lieutenant Anthony Easter

Director of Training

3200 Amnicola Highway  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37406



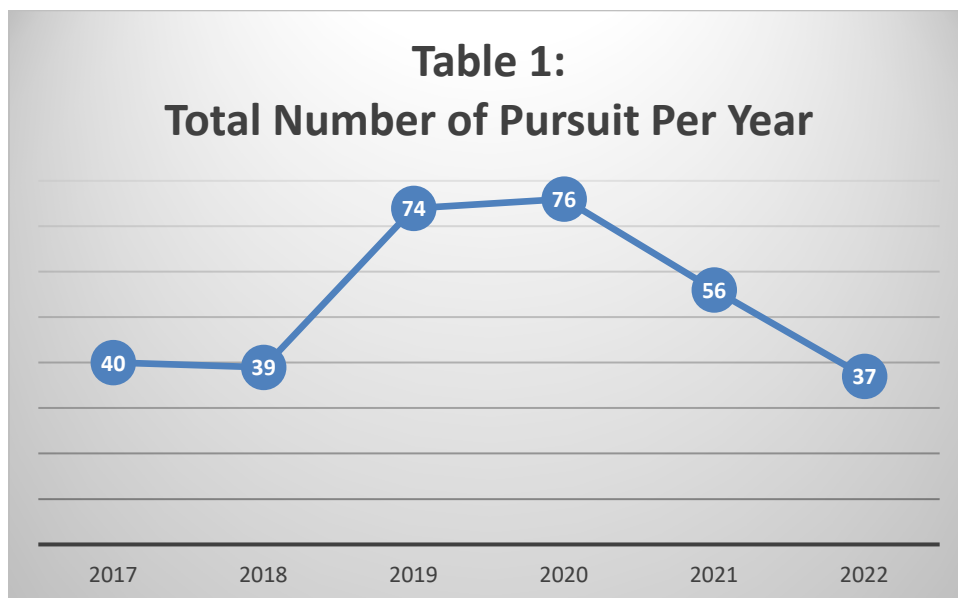
February 6, 2023

Chief of Police Celeste Murphy  
Chattanooga Police Department  
3410 Amnicola Highway  
Chattanooga, TN 37406

## Vehicle Pursuit Report Analysis (2022)

In 2022, the Chattanooga Police Department had 37 reported vehicle pursuits compared to the 56 reported vehicle pursuits in 2021. This is a 33.92% decrease from the previous calendar year. Chattanooga Police Department Policy OPS-02 (Pursuit Driving) governs the pursuit of motor vehicle practice in this agency. The Policy Review Committee reviews the policy at least once every year and makes recommendations for change if needed. Every sworn personnel member of this agency signs off electronically on the policy and any updates on an annual basis. This is done via the PowerDMS system.

**Table 1:  
Total Number of Pursuit Per Year**





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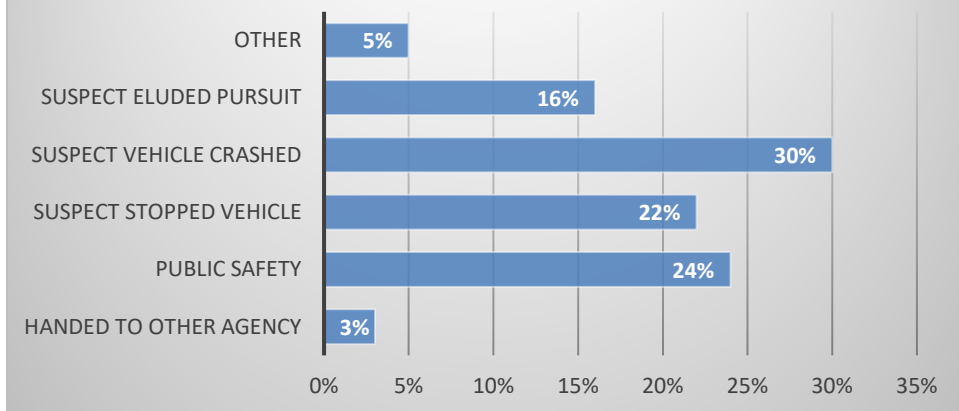
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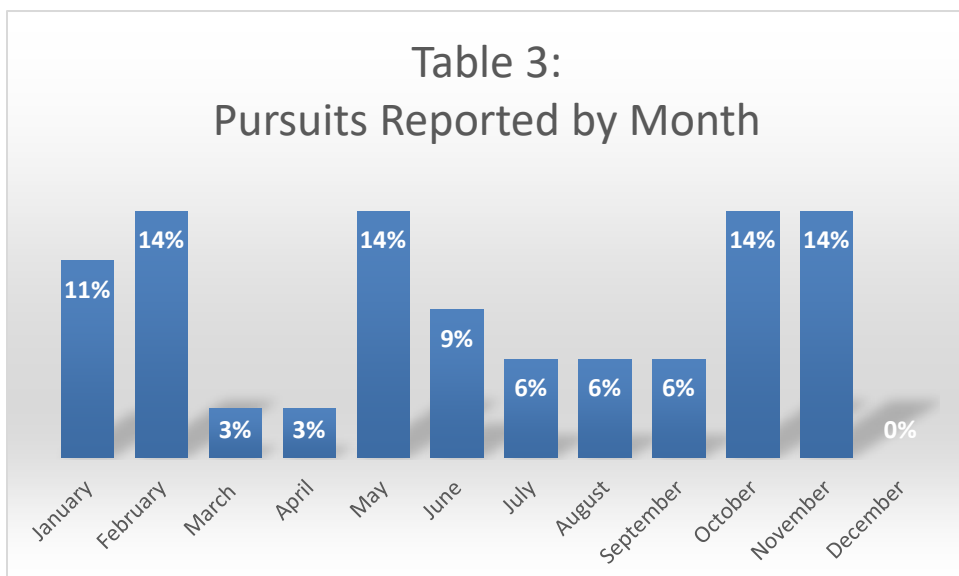
Of the 37 reported pursuits in which CPD was involved, 100% were initiated by this agency (37). For the pursuits that happened in 2022, 30% ended due to the suspect vehicle crash (11). Twenty four percent (or 9) pursuits were concluded due to public safety in 2022 (see Table 2). Data also indicate that a total of 14 pursuits were aborted by officers/supervisors—38%.

**Table 2: Events that Concluded the Pursuit**



The reported months with the highest number of pursuits was in the months of February, May, October and November (14%) but December was the month with the fewest number of reported pursuits (0) in 2022. September and November had the highest numbers in 2021.

**Table 3:  
Pursuits Reported by Month**





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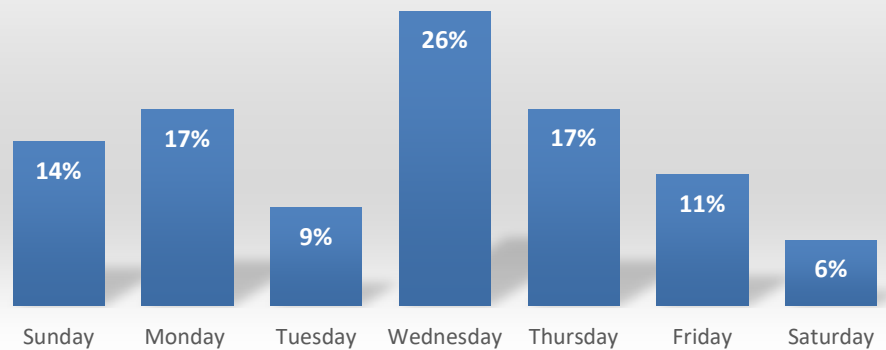
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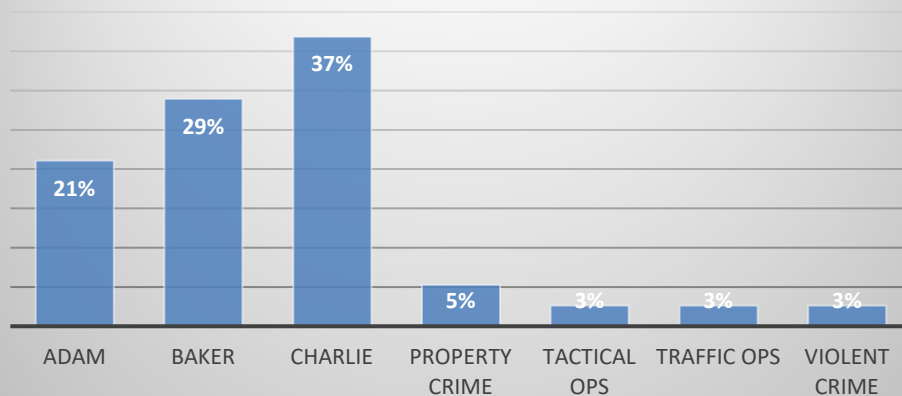
Wednesday was the day of the week with the highest number of reported vehicle pursuits at 26%, and Tuesday and Saturday the lowest with 9% and 6% respectively. Wednesday was the highest in 2021.

Table 4: Vehicle Puruit by Days of the Week



Geographically, Charlie sector had the highest number of initiated pursuits in 2022 with 14 (37%) cases. Adam sector had the highest number in 2021 at 37%.

Table 5: Pursuit Reported by Sector/Zone





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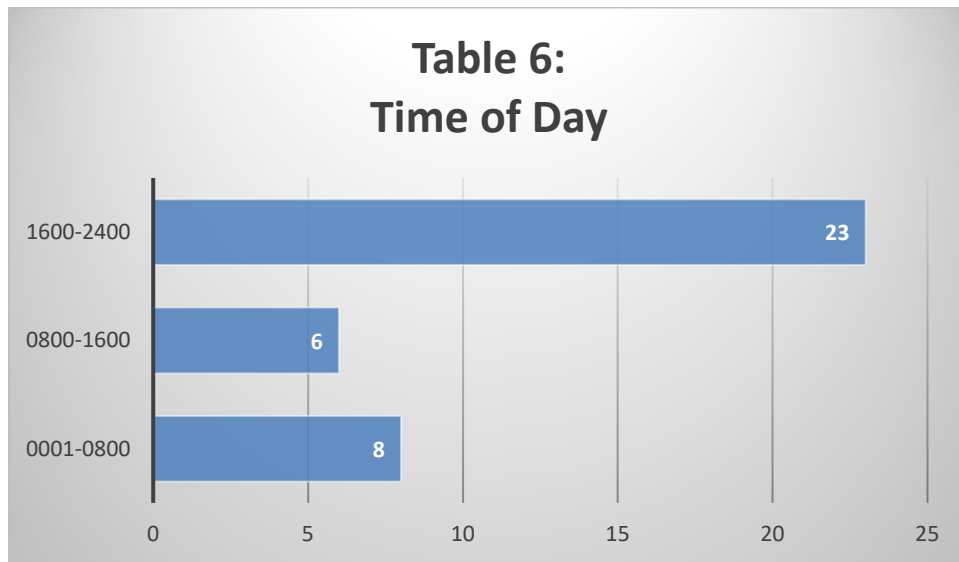
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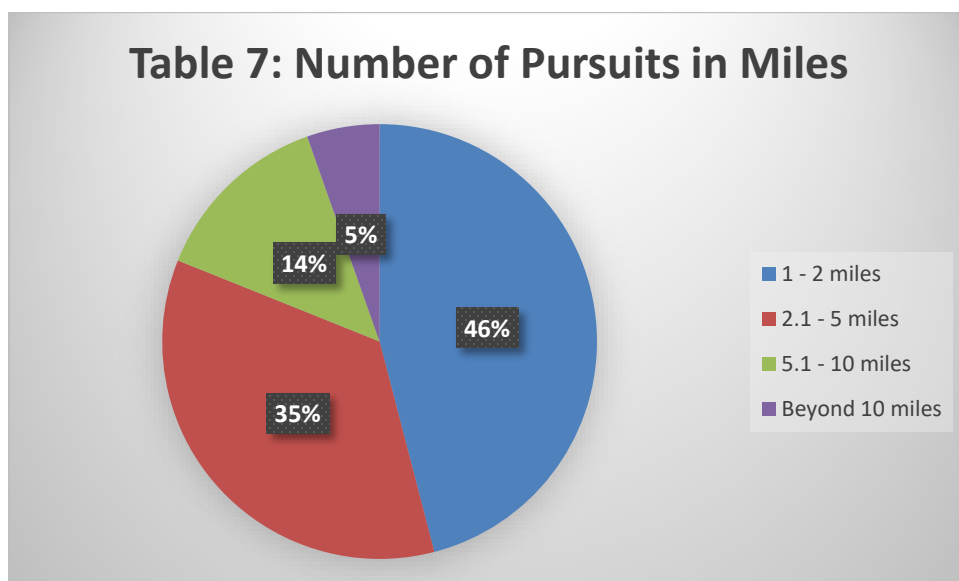
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Sixty two percent of the pursuits happened between the hours of 1600-2400 (23). In 2021, 52% of the initiated pursuits at the Chattanooga Police Department were also during the same time of day.



Most of the pursuits in 2022 were between 1 and 2 miles (17). This accounted for 46% of the 37 reported vehicle pursuits in that year. That reported distance decreased from 2021 where the majority went from 2.1 to 5 miles.





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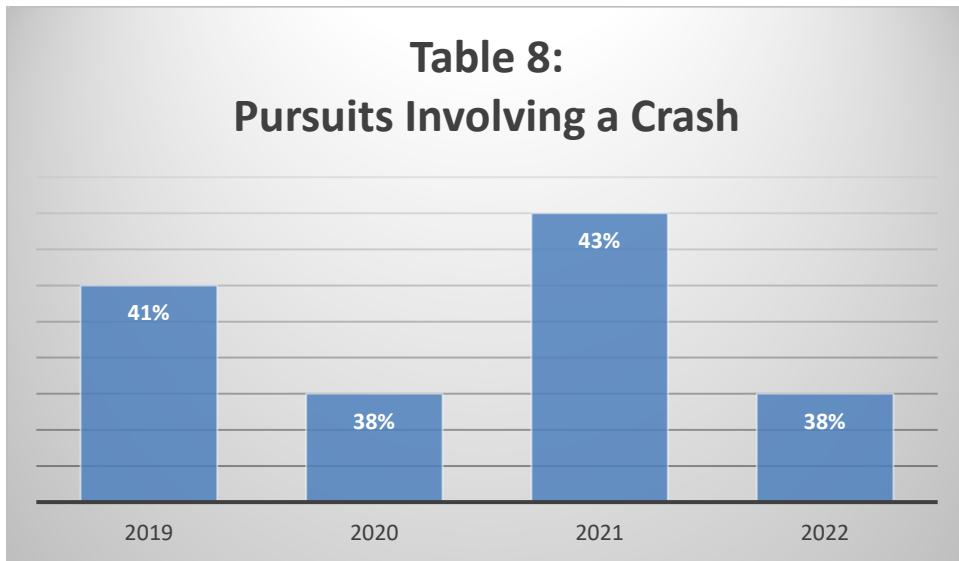
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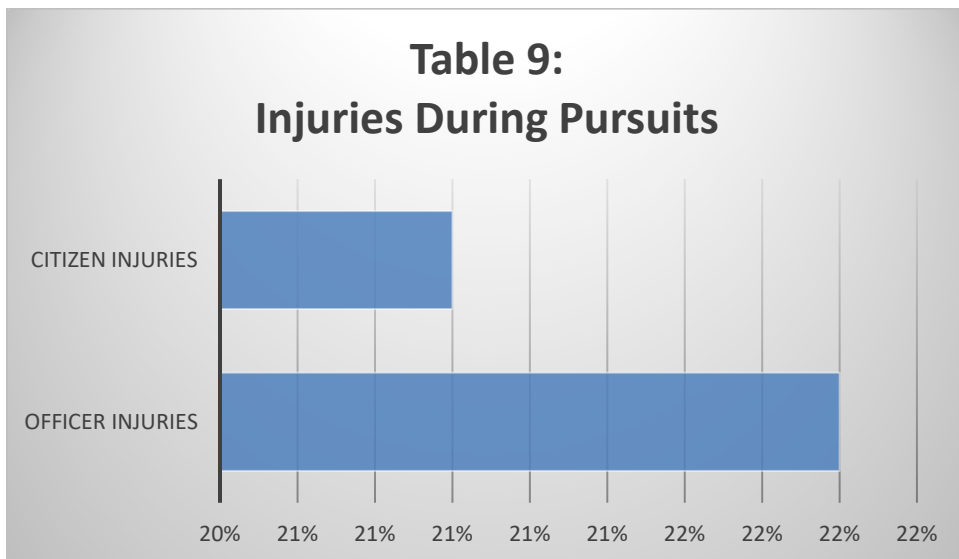
In 2022, 38% of the reported pursuits involved some type of vehicle crash (14). This is a moderate percentage decrease from 2021 with 43%.

**Table 8:  
Pursuits Involving a Crash**



In 2022, officers reported 18 or 78% of no injuries, and among citizens, 11 or 79% received no injury. Officers and citizens sustaining an injury (scrapes, abrasions, sprains, scratches, or bruises) were minor (Officers = 5 and Citizens = 3). The overall rate of injury is low.

**Table 9:  
Injuries During Pursuits**





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Each cadet becomes a certified Emergency Vehicle Operator during our police academy training. They undergo 40 hours of classroom and practical training to achieve this. It is a TN POST Commission mandate. The EVOC instructor covers the pursuit policy (OPS-02) in great detail during this driving course.

Annual EVOC training is conducted every year at the Chattanooga Police Department during In-Service Training for our sworn personnel. Each officer attends two hours of instruction and completes a practical application of the training on a driving course. At this time, the training staff also reviews the Pursuit Driving Policy (OPS-02) with each class. In said policy under *V. Stopping Techniques*, B. it states, "Roadblocks are not an authorized technique for stopping vehicles and shall not be employed to end a pursuit **[41.2.3a]**. Every officer electronically signs for the newest revision of said policy in the PowerDMS system on an annual basis.

Upon being involved in a vehicle pursuit, the initiating officer completes the vehicle pursuit report. This report is submitted, documented and archived in our BlueTeam system and must be finalized before the end of their shift. The supervisor has 24 hours to review and approve these reports. Each supervisor is required to review in-car camera and body worn camera (BWC) footage of each pursuit as a means of maintaining integrity, accountability and consistency with the policy and practice of pursuit driving along with accurate documentation. If the pursuit is found to be out of policy, the Chain of Command (COC) conducts an administrative investigation, review and recommendation for disciplinary action as a result of the violation.

In past years, we have had issues with some officers not submitting complete information for all reportable fields in their reporting of pursuits thereby restricting the accuracy of the overall analysis and access to data. This has remained consistent from 2021 as our data analyst was able to capture all data points related to this analysis from 2022. Supervisors need to continue to reject reports that are not complete and have the officers amend their reports to include the missing data. It is incumbent upon the supervisors to continue the monitoring and reviewing of all pursuit reports for thoroughness and accuracy.

Finally, this analysis has shown that there are no current trends or patterns as it relates to major policy violations or abuses in vehicle pursuits or vehicle pursuit reporting at the Chattanooga Police Department.

*Please be advised that the data numbers revealed within the report are not consistent with mathematical standards as they do not equate 100%. They round up to 101%. This may be an issue with the tallying system per IAPRO or inconsistencies that went unnoticed within the reporting system.*