

Vallejo Police Department

2024 Vehicle Pursuit Analysis





Pursuit Analysis 2024



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Police pursuits are inherently dangerous, requiring a continuous balance between apprehension versus danger to uninvolved motorists and pedestrians. In 2023, the Chief of Police ordered an annual analysis of vehicle pursuit data. This report entails an in-depth analysis of the vehicle pursuit data collected and tracked by the Vallejo Police Department's Professional Standards Division to increase transparency and improve pursuit-related decision making for officers, supervisors and managers.

Collision avoidance, public safety, and sound decision-making are key priorities in this analysis. The report highlights several risk factors for supervisors and managers to weigh when determining whether to continue or cancel a pursuit. Careful consideration of these factors is essential to reducing collisions in the years ahead.

Analysis of pursuit activity in 2024 revealed several key patterns:

- In 2024, there were 143 vehicle pursuits, down 27% from 197 in 2023. This decline highlights progress toward our initiative to minimize risks to the community and officers, as we work toward our goal of zero pursuits.
- Vehicle Pursuits account for 0.24% of all incidents recorded in 2024.
- 56% of vehicle pursuits (81 out of 143) were called off. The majority were terminated for public safety reasons, while 18 pursuits ended because officers lost sight of the suspect.
- Most vehicle pursuits (70%) took place during nighttime hours between 6 pm and 6 am, with Mondays showing the highest frequency.
- The leading reasons pursuits were initiated in 2024, were the identification of a stolen vehicle (20%) and observance of reckless driving (16%)
- Compared with [previous years](#), pursuits show a downward trend across all categories.



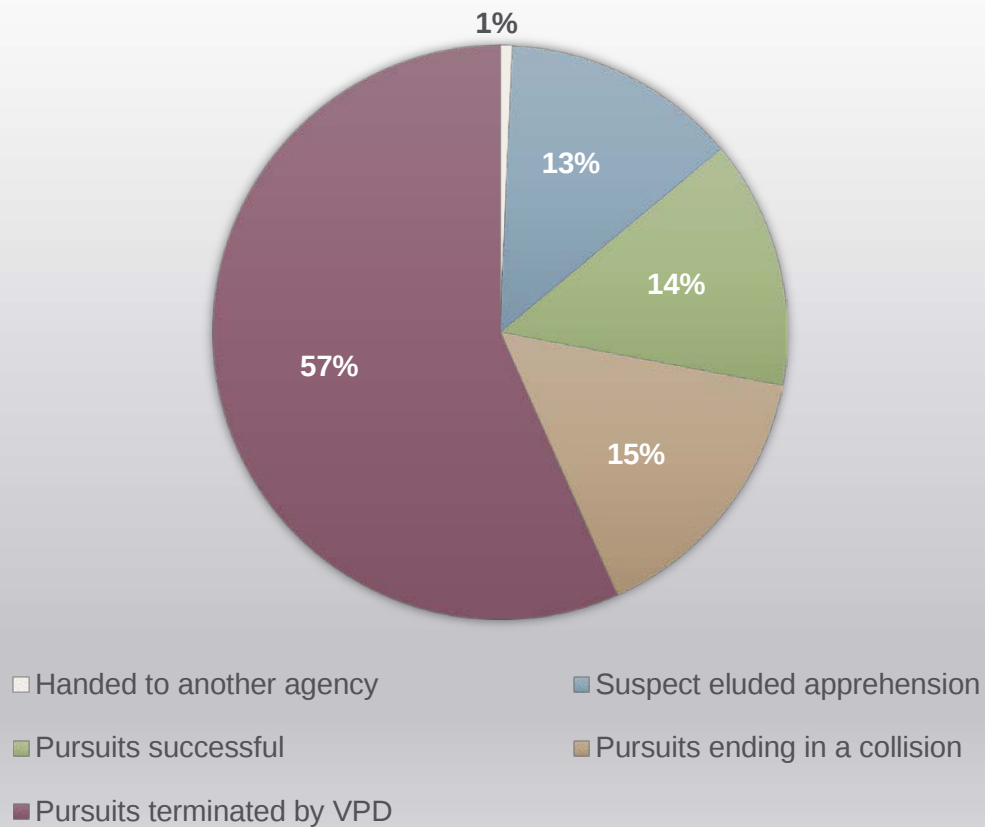
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2024 Vehicle Pursuit Overview

Pursuits Terminated by VPD	81
Pursuits ending in a Collision	22
Pursuits ending in Apprehension	20
Suspect eluded Apprehension	19
Handed over to another agency	1
2024 Total Pursuits	143

2024 Vehicle Pursuits Overview



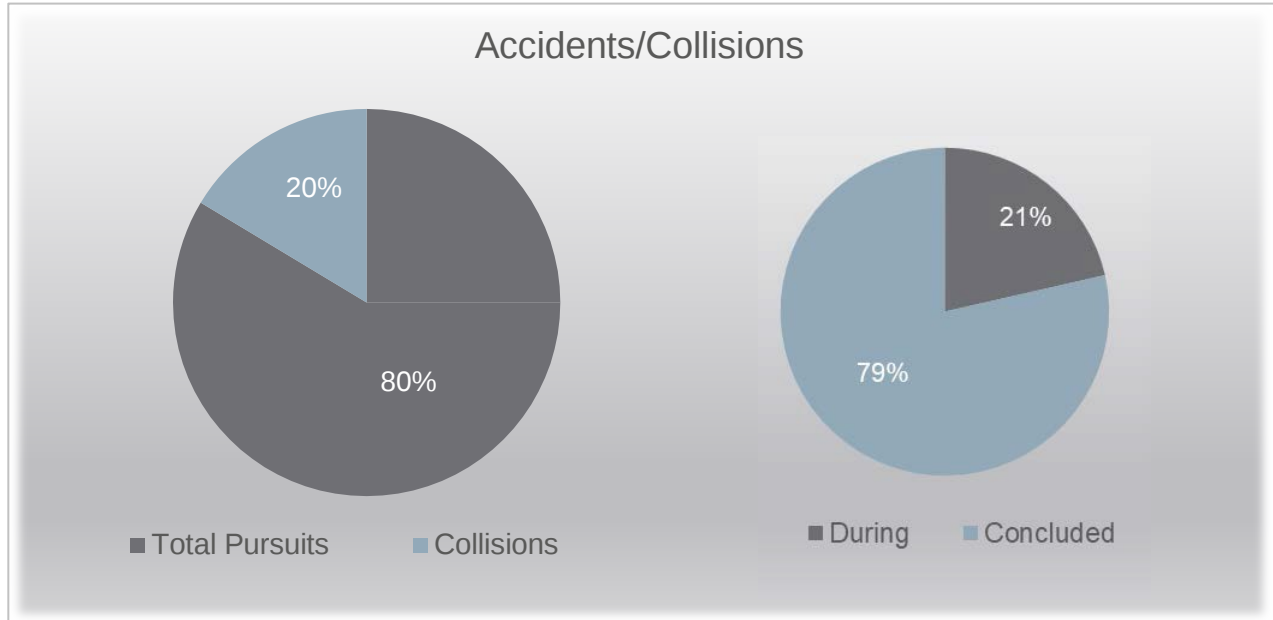


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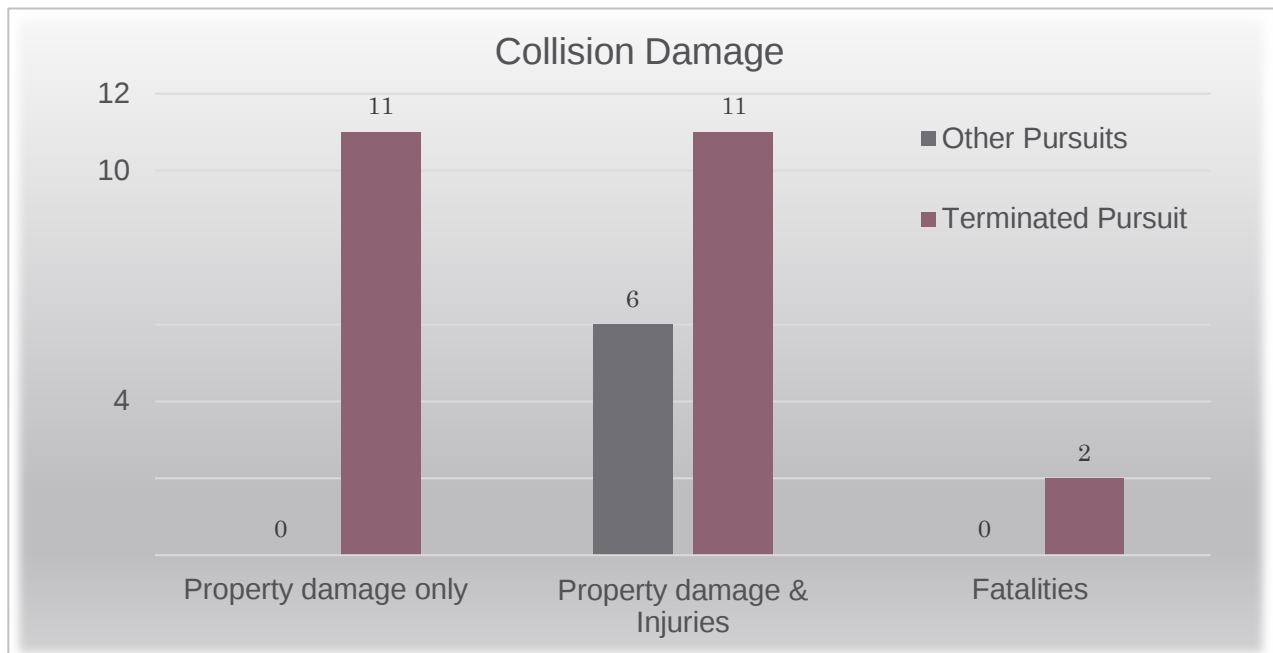
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Vehicle Pursuit Collision Analysis

Collisions can happen at any point in a pursuit—sometimes ending the chase—and they often cause property damage, injuries, or fatalities. In 2024, one in five pursuits resulted in a collision.



While pursuits can be dangerous, 43% of the collisions reported in 2024 involved only property damage, such as fences, retaining walls, or parked cars, with no injuries.

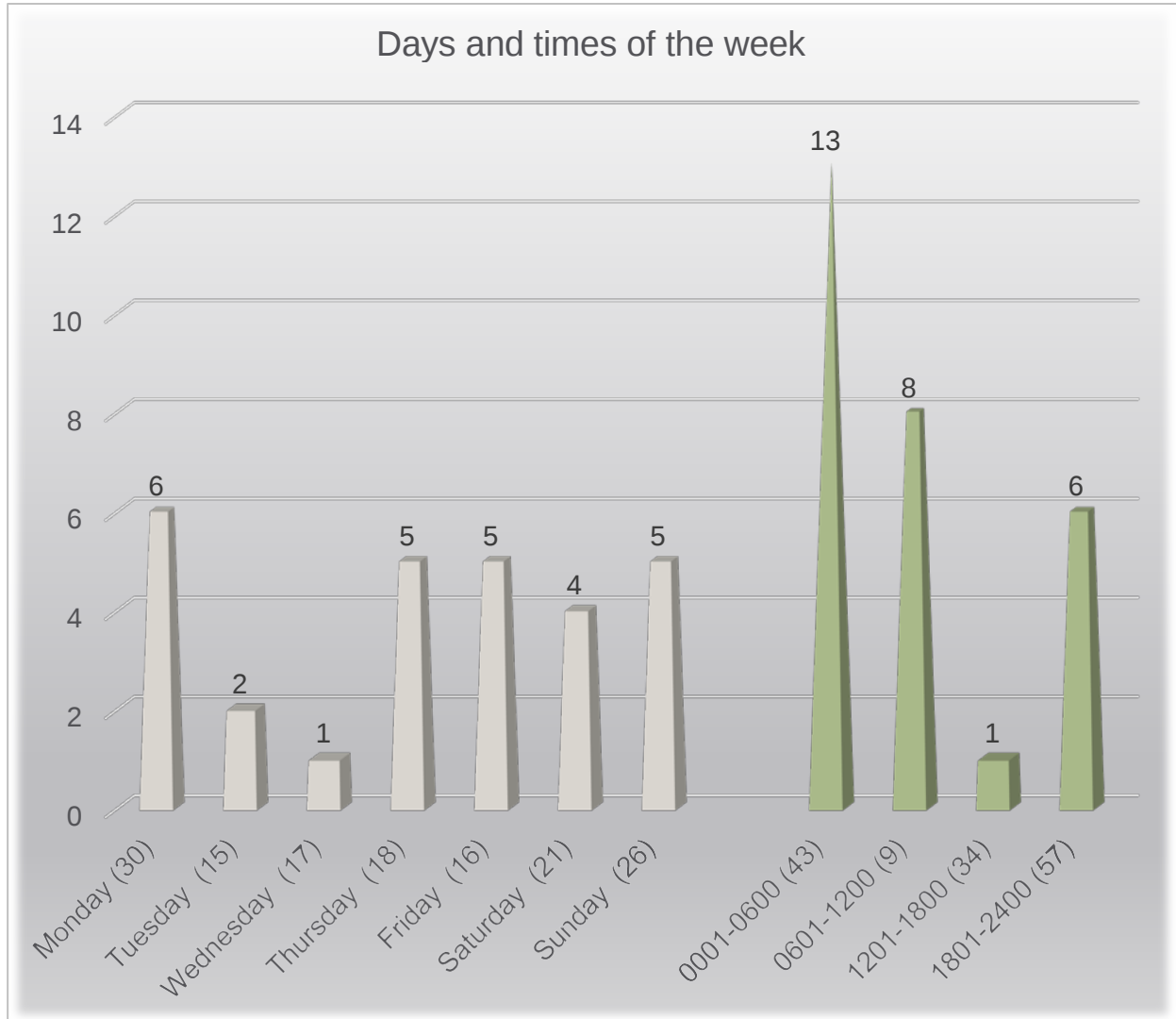




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Vehicle Pursuit Collision Analysis cont.

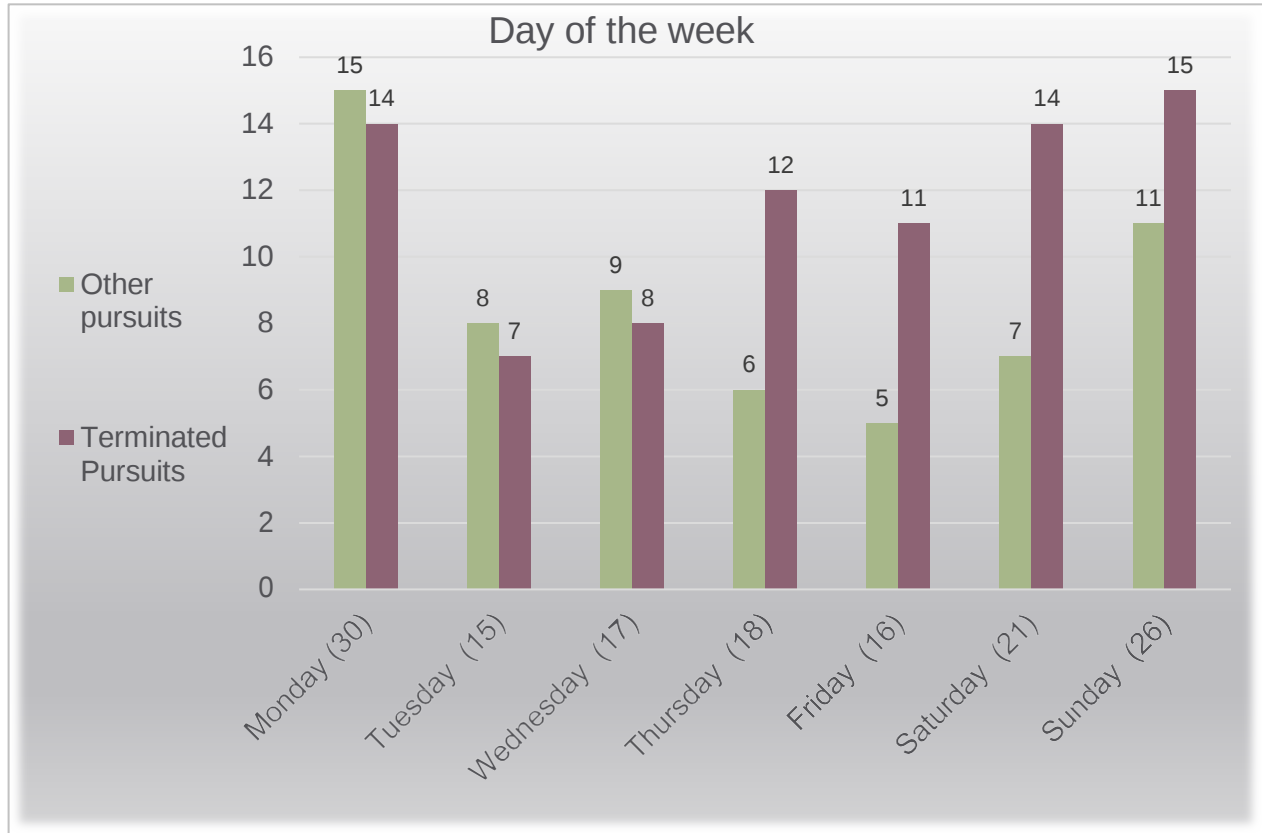




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2024 Vehicle Pursuit Demographics



Days of the week	# of Pursuits	% of pursuits
Monday	30	21%
Tuesday	15	10%
Wednesday	17	12%
Thursday	18	13%
Friday	16	11%
Saturday	21	15%
Sunday	26	18%



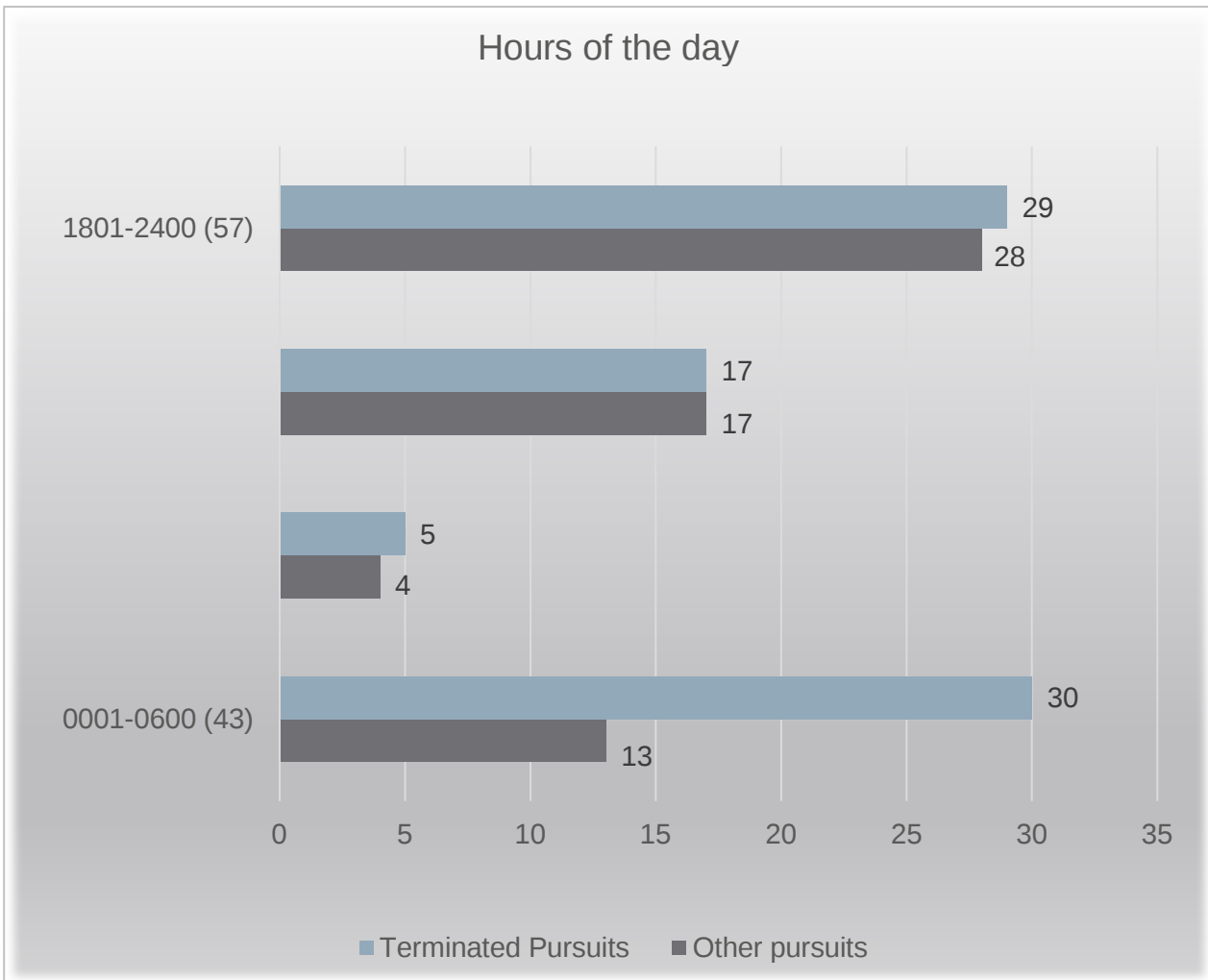
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2024 Vehicle Pursuit Demographics cont.

Hours of the day	# of pursuits	% of pursuits
0001-0600	43	30%
0601-1200	9	6%
1201-1800	34	24%
1801-2400	57	40%



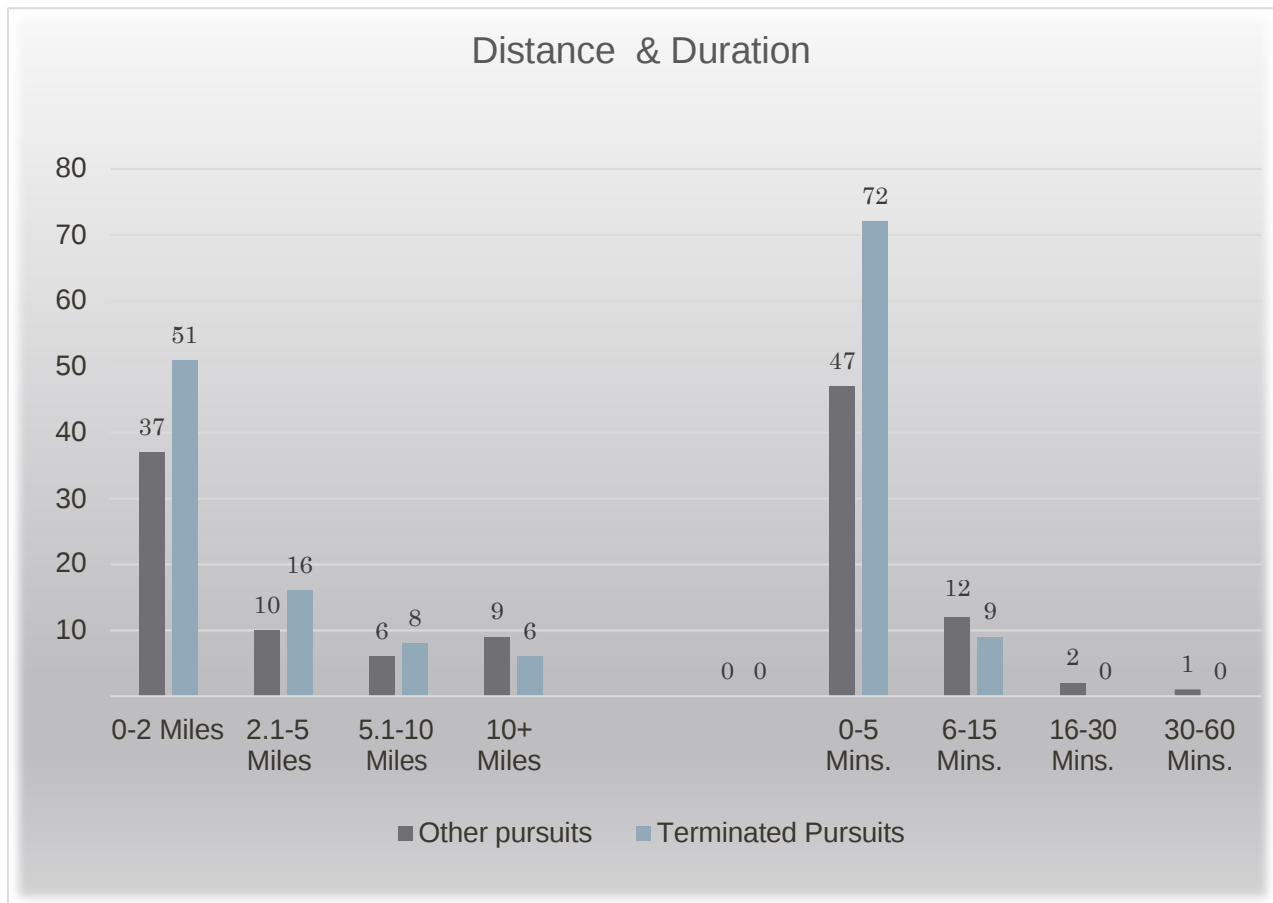


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2024 Vehicle Pursuit Demographics cont.

Duration	# of pursuits	% of pursuits
<1 – 5 mins.	119	83%
6 – 15 mins.	21	15%
16 - 30 mins.	2	1%
31 - 60	1	1%



Distance	# of pursuits	% of pursuits
< 2 miles	88	61%
2.1 – 5 miles	26	18%
5.1 – 10 miles	14	10%
10< miles	15	11%

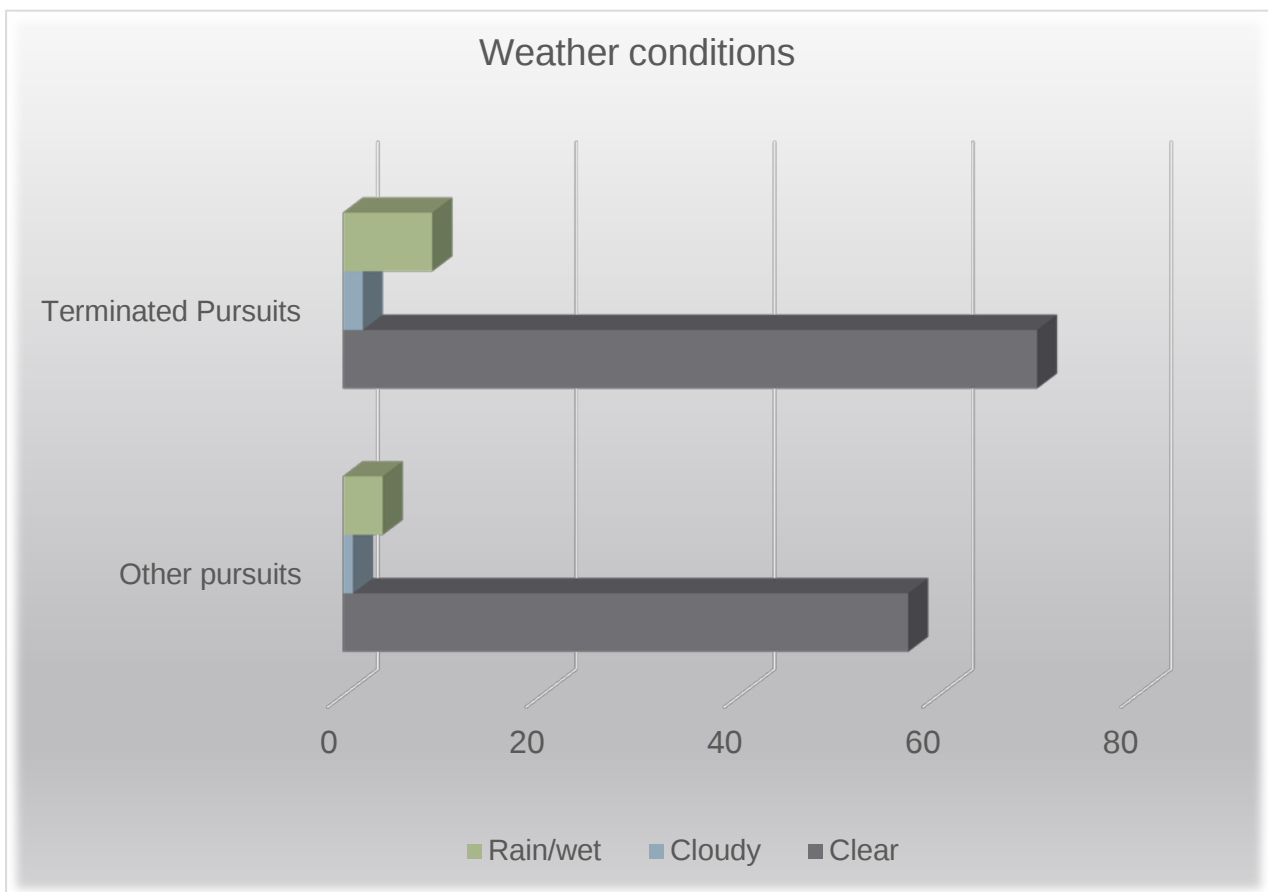


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2024 Vehicle Pursuit Demographics cont.

Speed	# of pursuits	% of pursuits
<50	20	14%
51 – 79	56	40%
80 – 99	30	20%
100<	37	26%



Top 5 violations for vehicle pursuit ;		Total
10851 CVC	Stolen Vehicle	28
23103 CVC	Reckless Driving	23
459 PC	Burglary	15
5200 VC	License plate violation	14
22350 CVC	Speeding	13



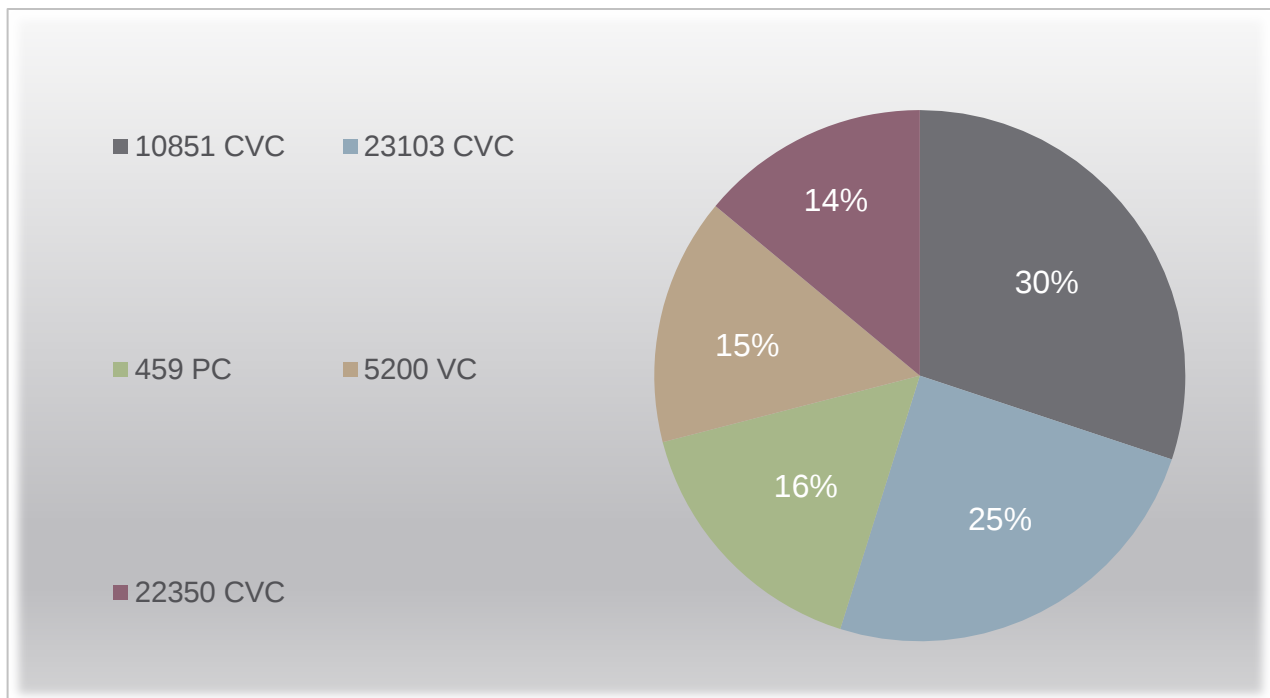
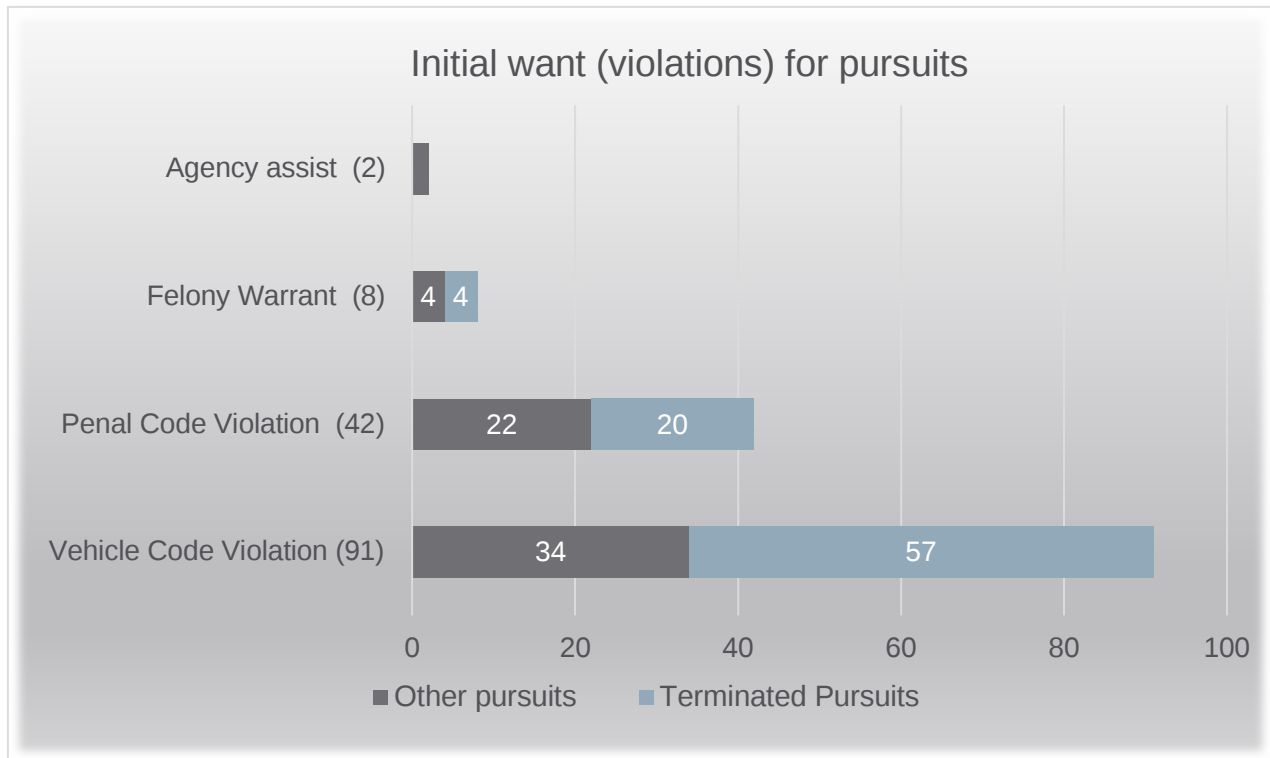
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2024 Vehicle Pursuit Demographics cont.

The initial violation for most vehicle pursuits was a vehicle code violation at 63%.

With 31% being the observance of a stolen vehicle.



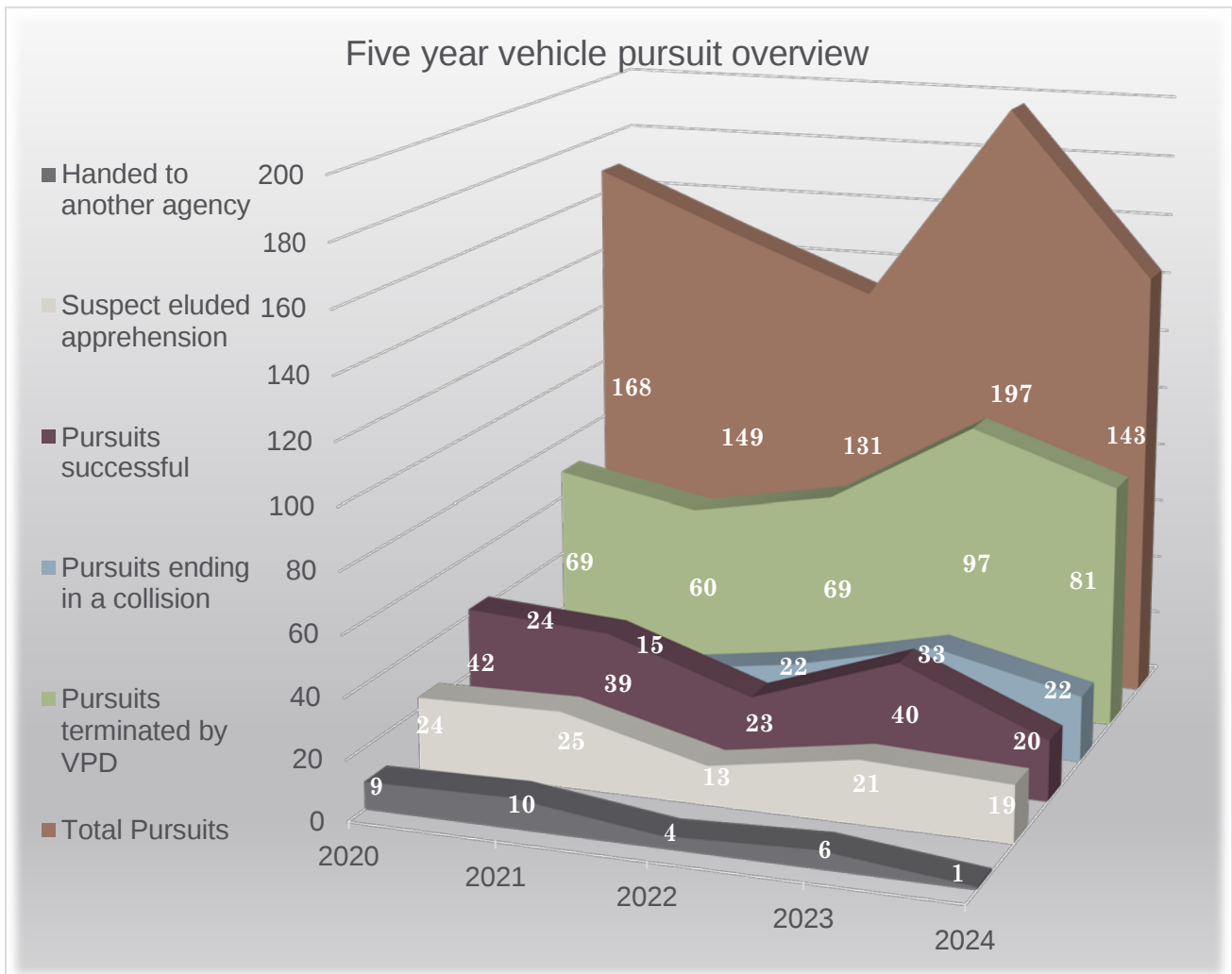


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Five Year Overview

Pursuit Conclusions	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Handed to another agency	9	10	4	6	1
% of Total	5.35%	6.71%	3.05%	3.04%	0.70%
Suspect eluded apprehension	24	25	13	21	19
% of Total	14.28%	16.77%	9.92%	10.65%	13.28%
Pursuits successful	42	39	23	40	20
% of Total	25.00%	26.17%	17.55%	20.30%	14%
Pursuits ending in a collision	24	15	22	33	22
% of Total	14.28%	10.07%	16.79%	16.75%	15.38%
Pursuits terminated by VPD	69	60	69	97	81
% of Total	41.07%	40.27%	52.67%	49.24%	56.64%
Total Pursuits	168	149	131	197	143





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2024 PURSUIT COLLISION REDUCTION INITIATIVE

Following the implementation of the annual Vehicle Pursuit Report in 2023, the department launched the Pursuit Collision Reduction Initiative with the goal of reducing the number of pursuit-related collisions by 20%. However, through the analysis of pursuit data and the development of effective strategies, the initiative not only achieved, but surpassed this objective, resulting in a remarkable 33% reduction in pursuit-related collisions.

Analysis of Pursuits Resulting in 22 Collisions

- Speeding and reckless driving remained the leading causes, contributing to 19 of the 22 collisions, with unsafe turning identified as the second leading factor.
- 18 of the 22 pursuits involving collisions resulted in felony arrests, maintaining a high apprehension rate.
- 10 pursuits were initiated for felony offenses, 4 for misdemeanors, 8 for vehicle code infractions.
- 18 of the 22 pursuits involving collisions resulted in felony arrests, maintaining a high apprehension rate.
- The highest-risk days have shifted to Thursdays and Fridays.
- Nighttime hours (1800–2400) continue to be the most collision-prone period, consistent with past trends.

To further support ongoing accountability and improvement, Vallejo Police Department is conducting monthly reviews of all vehicle pursuits. These reviews are shared with both command staff and officers, providing timely feedback and identifying trends or areas for improvement.



Pursuit Analysis 2024



The department remains dedicated to reducing pursuit-related risks, with the long-term goal of achieving zero pursuit-related collisions. By prioritizing sound decision-making and strategic oversight, we aim to enhance the safety of both the public and law enforcement personnel.

As we look forward, the department has identified the following key focus areas:

- Continue targeted training emphasizing safe pursuit techniques and speed management.
- Review and update pursuit protocols to address the rise in pursuits for vehicle code infractions and misdemeanors.
- Consider stricter evaluation criteria for initiating pursuits in lower-level offenses to minimize risk.
- Maintain and enhance the monthly review of vehicle pursuits incorporating data analytics to identify emerging patterns quickly.
- Adjust resources to increase patrol and supervisory presence on Thursdays and Fridays during peak hours (1800–2400), as the highest-risk periods have shifted.
- Use predictive analytics to anticipate high-risk situations and proactively deploy resources.
- Collaborate with community groups to raise awareness about the dangers of reckless driving and sideshows.
- Promote safe driving campaigns, especially targeting weekends and peak evening hours.

By aligning training, policy, analytics, and community engagement, Vallejo Police Department can significantly reduce risks and move closer toward the vision of collision-free vehicle pursuits.