



# ANALYSIS OF ILLINOIS POLICE PURSUIT REPORTING: 2014

Kevin McClain, Executive Director

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# **Analysis of Police Pursuit Data 2014**

## **Overview**

This report provides data on Pursuit Driving Reports submitted to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board for the period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. The majority of the data is descriptive in nature providing relative information for the 2014 reporting period. It is notable that some report submissions did not include complete information, therefore, in some instances, reporting is based on a smaller submission size and percentages may not equal 100%.

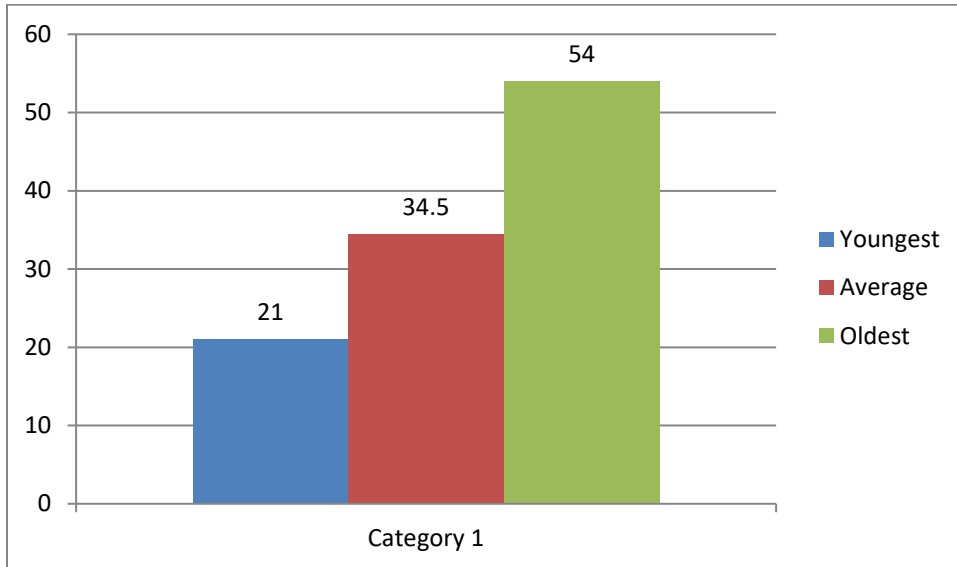
This report is divided into different topical areas for comparison and review purposes. The topical sections include: officer demographics; pursuit demographics; initiating events, crash information and ending events; and suspect/passenger information.

## **Number of Reports Submitted**

In 2014, 117 reports were submitted, compared to an average of 136 the previous four years.

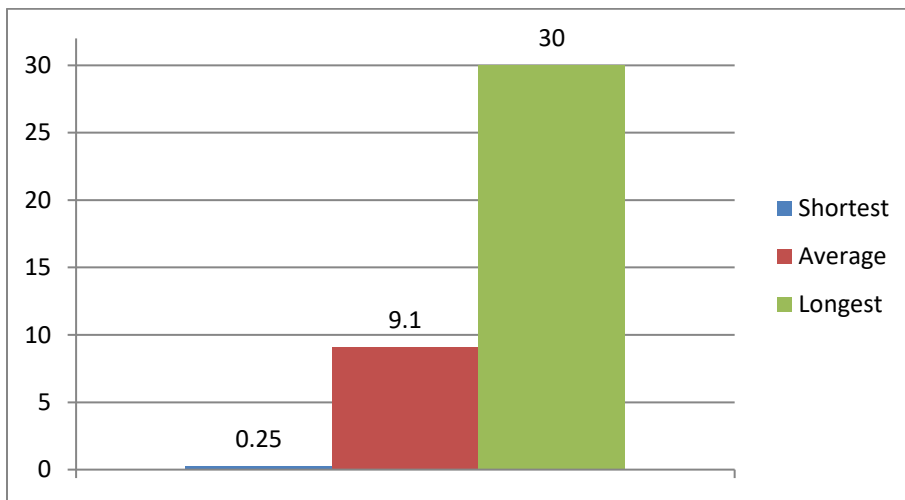
## Officer Demographics

### Age



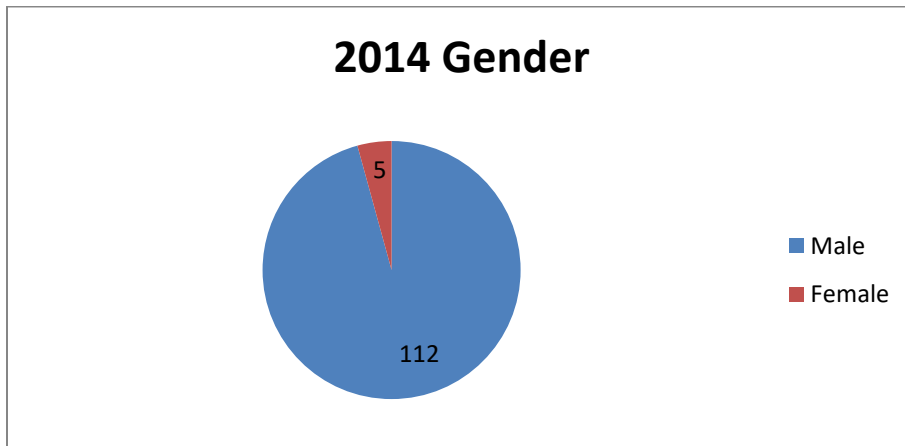
The average age of officers reporting police pursuits for 2014 was 34.5 years of age. The youngest officer reporting a pursuit was 21, while the oldest was 54.

### Years of Service



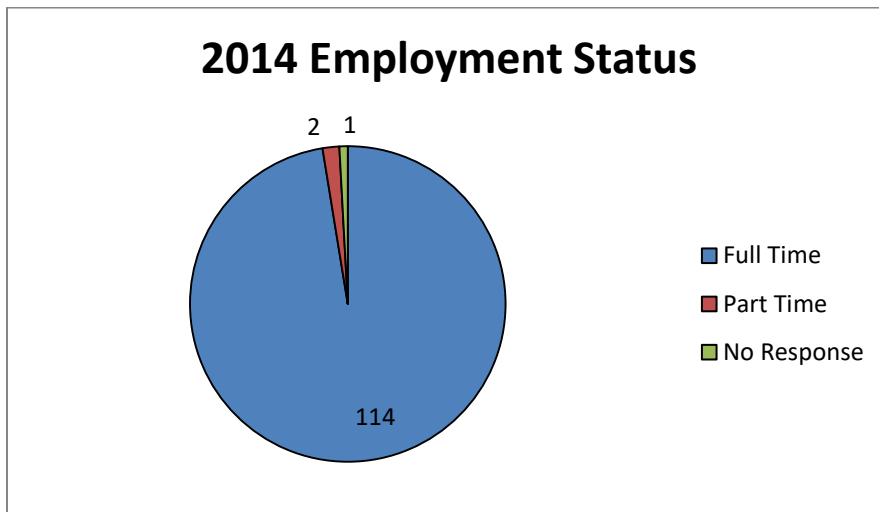
On average, most officers who reported pursuits had slightly over 9 years of service. Some had as few as 3 months and others had as long as 30 years.

### **Officer Gender**



The number of male officers versus the number of female officers reporting pursuits shifted slightly in 2014. On average, 95.73% of officers submitting the Pursuit Driving Report are male while 4.27% are female, whereas in the reporting period 2010-2013 the average of males was 94% and 6% for females.

### **Employment Type**



Nearly all reporting officers (97.4%) indicated full-time duty with their employers. Out of the 117 member sample, only 2 (1.7%) were part-time, while one individual (0.9%) did not list their status.

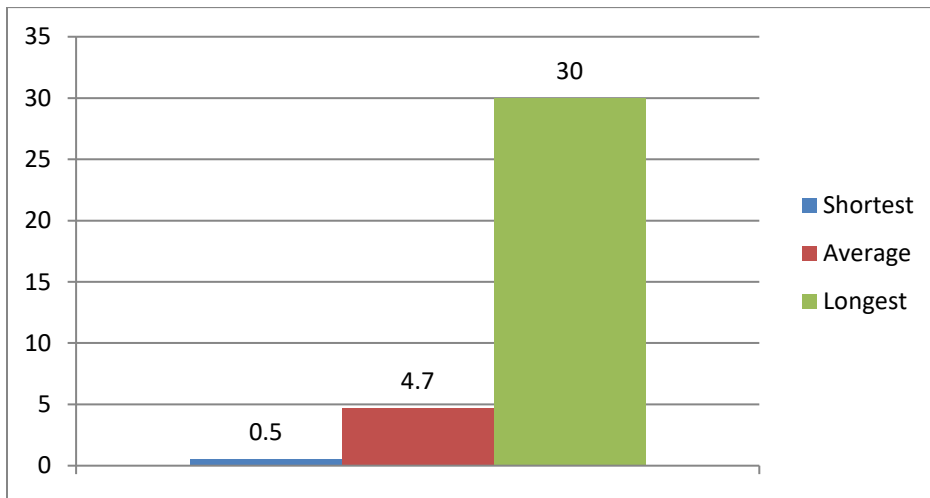
### **Race**

Of the submissions, 8.6% included officer race; all of which were Caucasian. In the time period of 2010-2013 only 4.8% reported their racial background. This is attributed to very few versions of the report form at individual agencies ask for this information.

## Pursuit Demographics

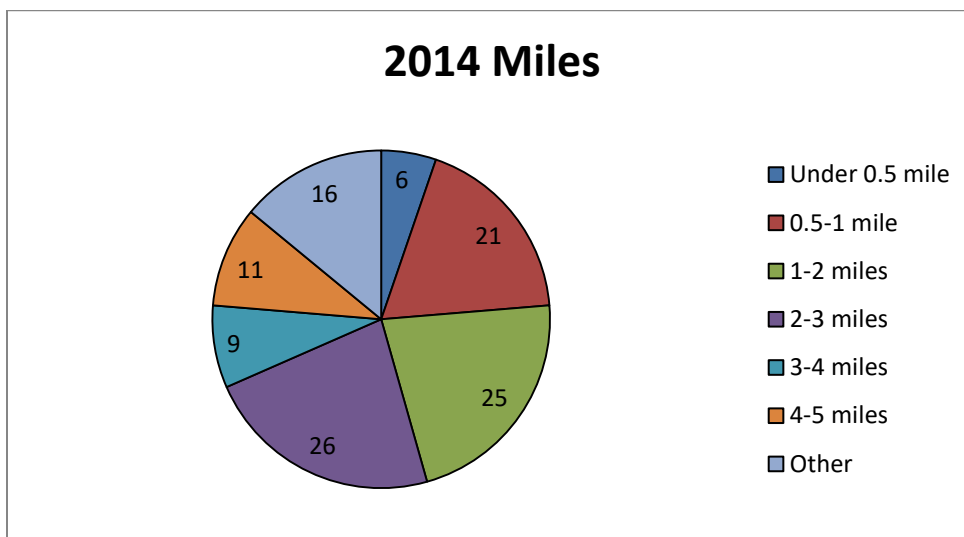
A number of areas can be reported under the pursuit demographics category including duration of pursuit in minutes as well as in distance, locale of the reported pursuit, road types while in pursuit, type of vehicle utilized in the pursuit, and other activities.

### Duration in Minutes



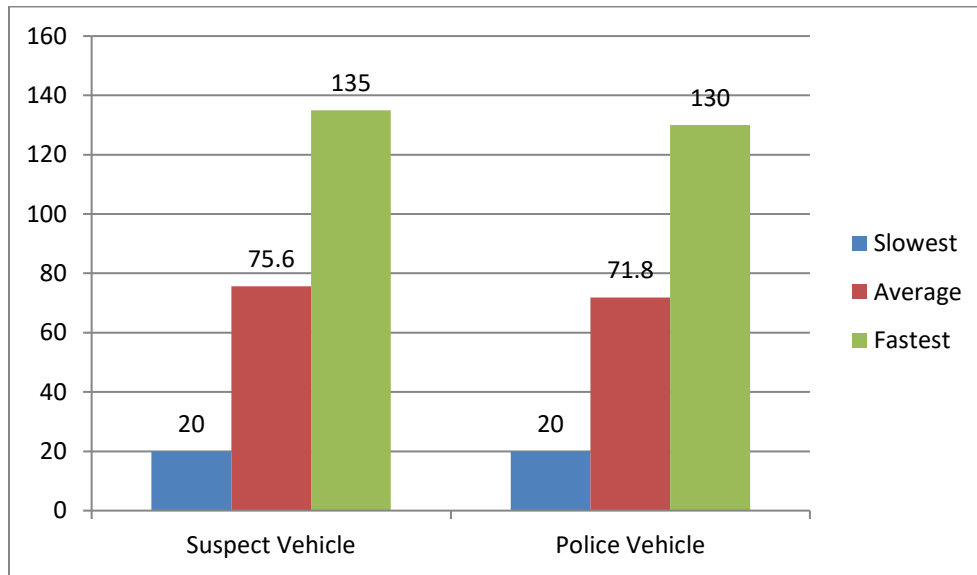
On average, pursuits generally last between four and five minutes. The longest duration lasted a full 30 minutes, while the shortest was reported at only 30 seconds.

### Duration in Miles



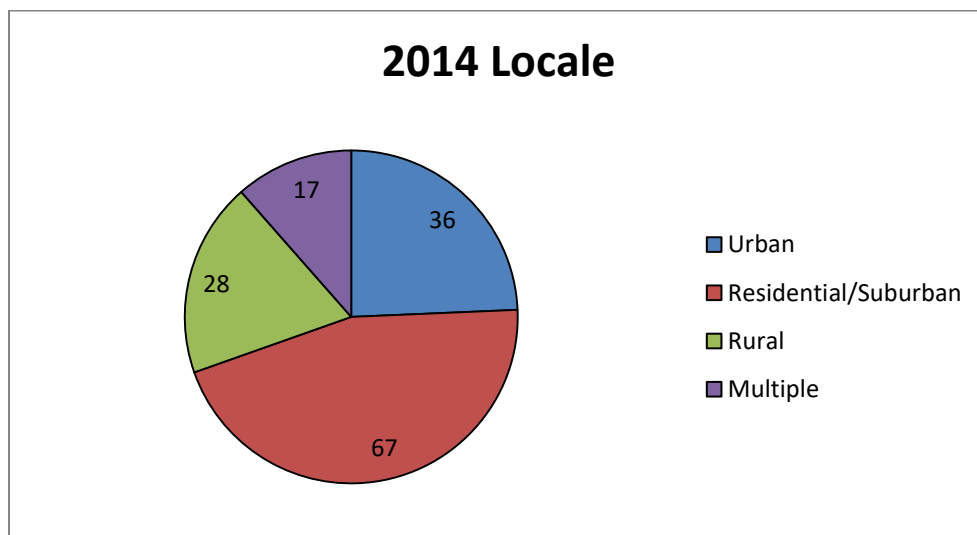
The average length of a pursuit in terms of distance was 10.19 miles. The longest pursuit reported lasted a stretch of 20 miles.

### Speed of Pursuit



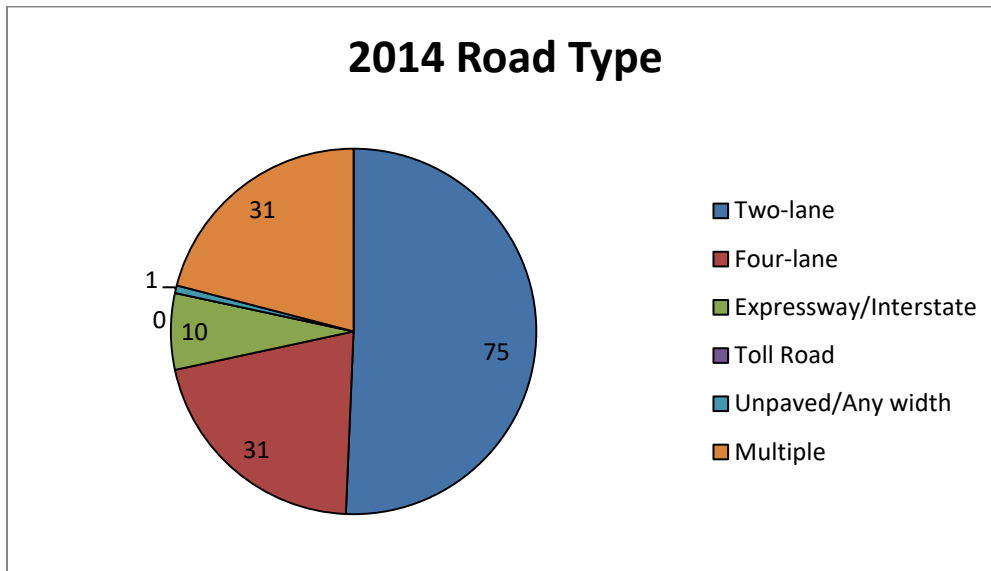
The average speed for suspect vehicles during pursuits was 75.6 mph. The highest speed was reported at being 135 mph, while the lowest was reported as being 20 mph. The average speed for police vehicles during pursuits was 71.8 mph. The highest speed was reported at being 130 mph, while the lowest was reported as being 20 mph.

### Locale of Pursuits



According to the reports, police pursuits were mostly likely to occur in residential/suburban (51.1%) areas followed by urban areas (27.5%). Rural areas (21.4%) were the least likely to have pursuits take place; however, they still occurred in the rural locales on 28 occasions. Furthermore, 13.0% of pursuits took place in more than one locale.

### Road Type during Pursuit



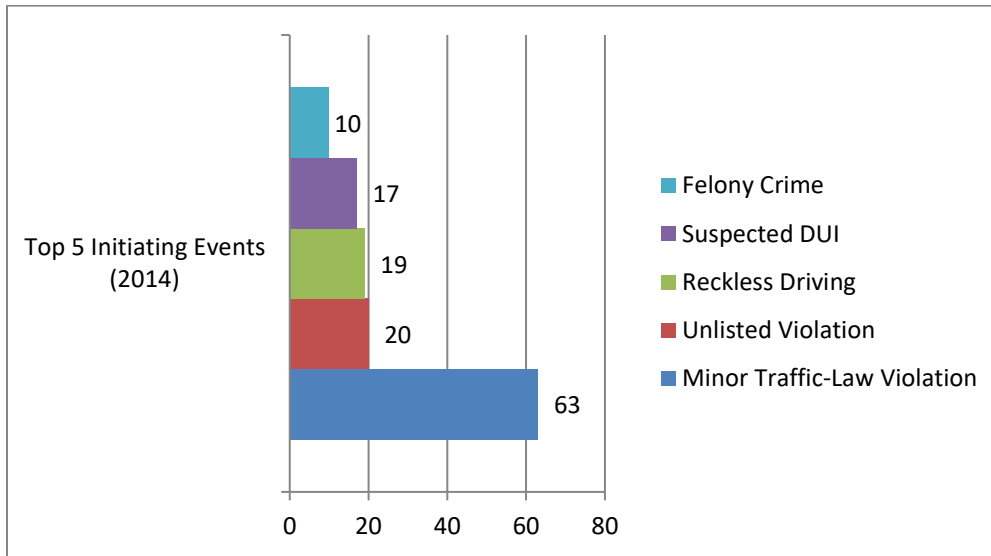
The majority of pursuits took place on a two-lane road (64.1%), followed by those that took place on a four-lane road (26.5%). Expressway/interstate pursuits took place on 10 occasions (8.5%). Tollway road pursuits did not occur in any of the reports, while unpaved road pursuits were reported only once (0.9%). The occurrence of more than one road type was reported 31 times (26.5%) out of the 117 reports.



## Initiating Events, Crash Information, and Ending Events

### *Initiating Events*

There are 13 potential initiating events for police pursuits. The top five events most often reported for 2014 are compared here.

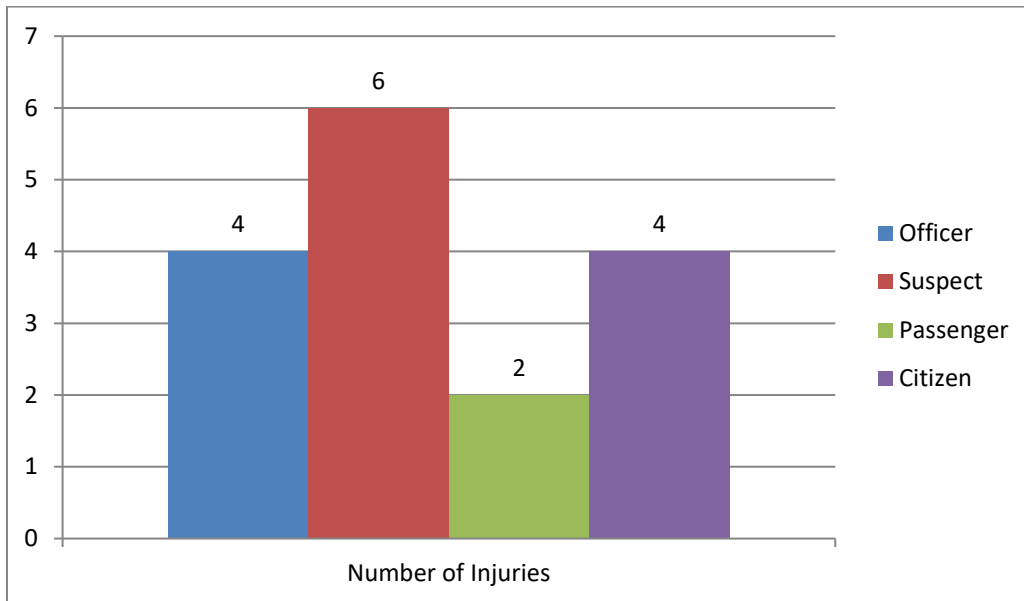


The event that most often initiates the pursuit activity is a minor traffic law violation.

## Crash Reporting

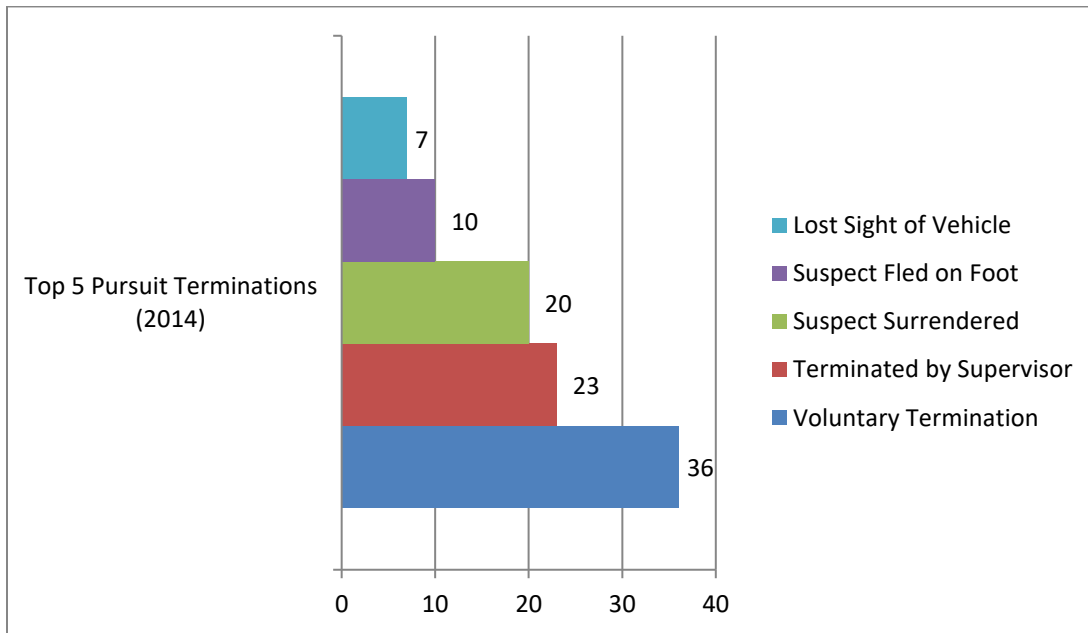
### *Types of Injury*

During 2014, there were 35 crashes reported. Because of the limitations on both crash and property damage, this report does not list the types of property damage; there were also no fatalities reported this year. Therefore, this section of the report discusses, solely, human injury. The data shows that suspects (37.5%) were injured more frequently than officers (25.0%), passengers (12.5%), or citizens (25.0%).



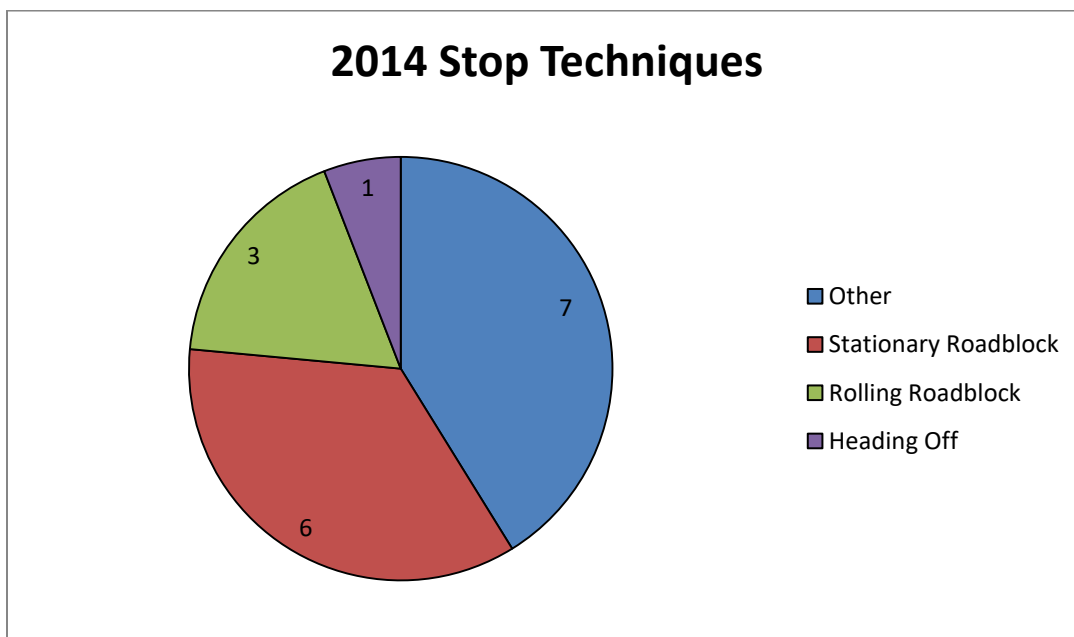
### **Pursuit Terminations**

Thirteen choices are available on the Pursuit Driving Report for the Reason for Pursuit Termination. The top five (n=96) are compared here for 2014.



The majority of pursuits (37.5%) were reportedly terminated due to the officer voluntarily terminating the pursuit.

### **Stop Techniques**



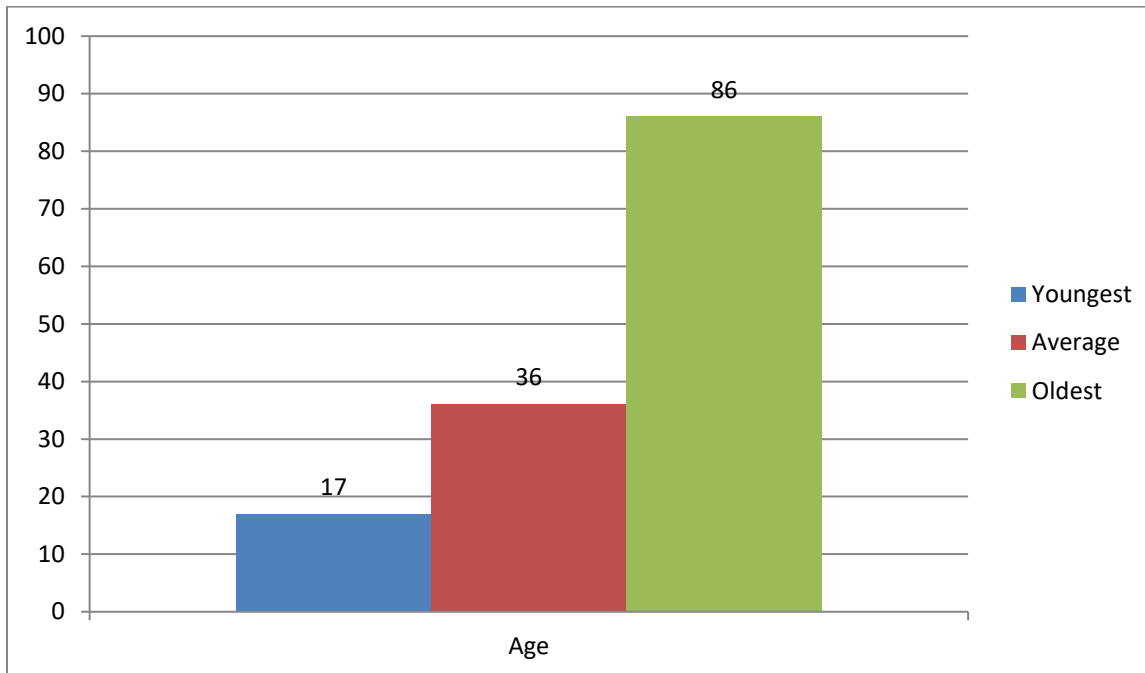
Stop techniques were only utilized 14.5% of the time in pursuits reported from 2014. The most common stop technique (n=17) was listed as “other,” which occurred in 41.2% of the reported stops (the term “other” included information such as “stop stick/spike strip” or “suspect stopped” indicating that officers did not see these as part of the stationary roadblock technique).

## Suspect/Passenger Information

Suspect information is gathered related to information such as vehicle type, drivers fleeing on foot, apprehension of the driver, age of the suspect, if they had a valid driver's license, and if follow up was conducted when the driver was not apprehended. Passenger information is gathered related to number in the suspect vehicle and number apprehended.

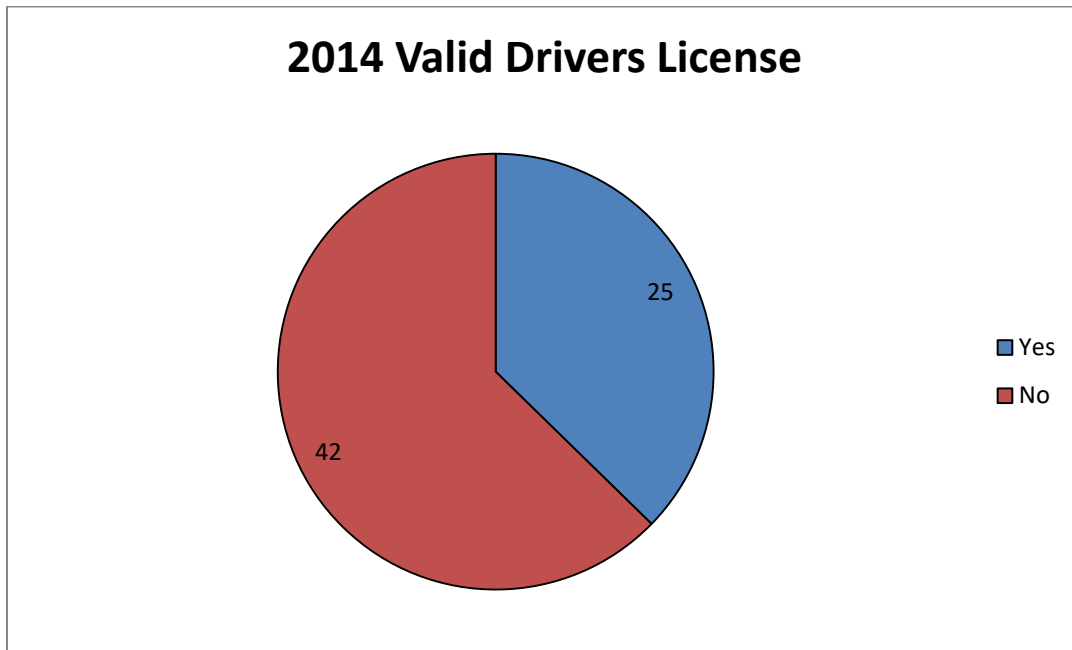
Not all reports contained all information related to suspects and passengers; therefore, some numbers may not equal 100%.

### Age of the Suspect



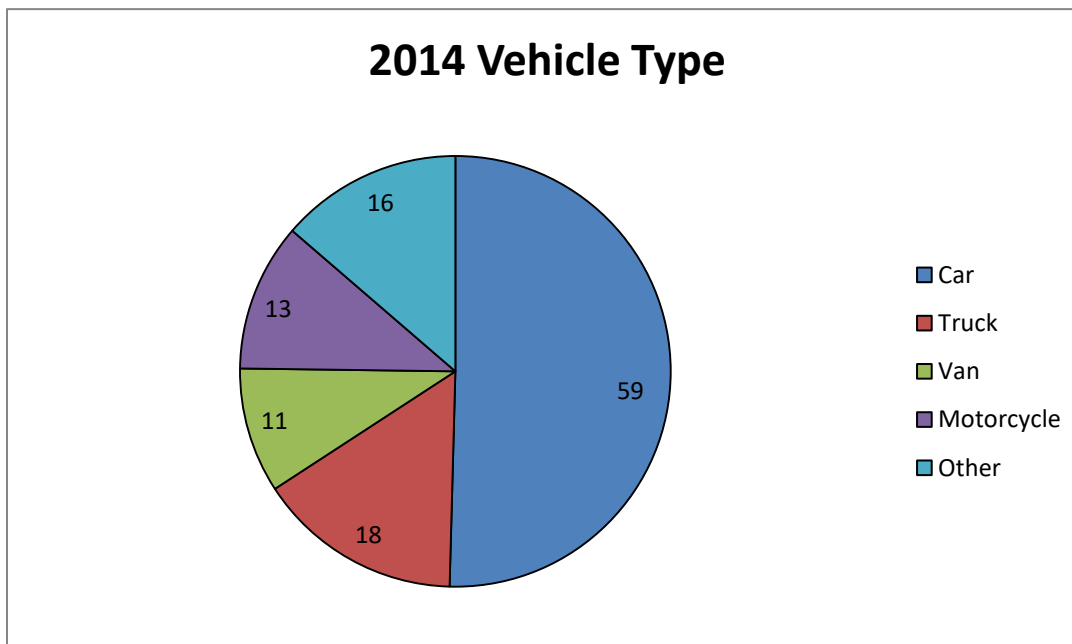
The average age of the suspects involved in reported police pursuits was approximately 36 years of age. The oldest offender was 86 years old while the youngest offender was 17 years old.

### **Valid Driver's License**



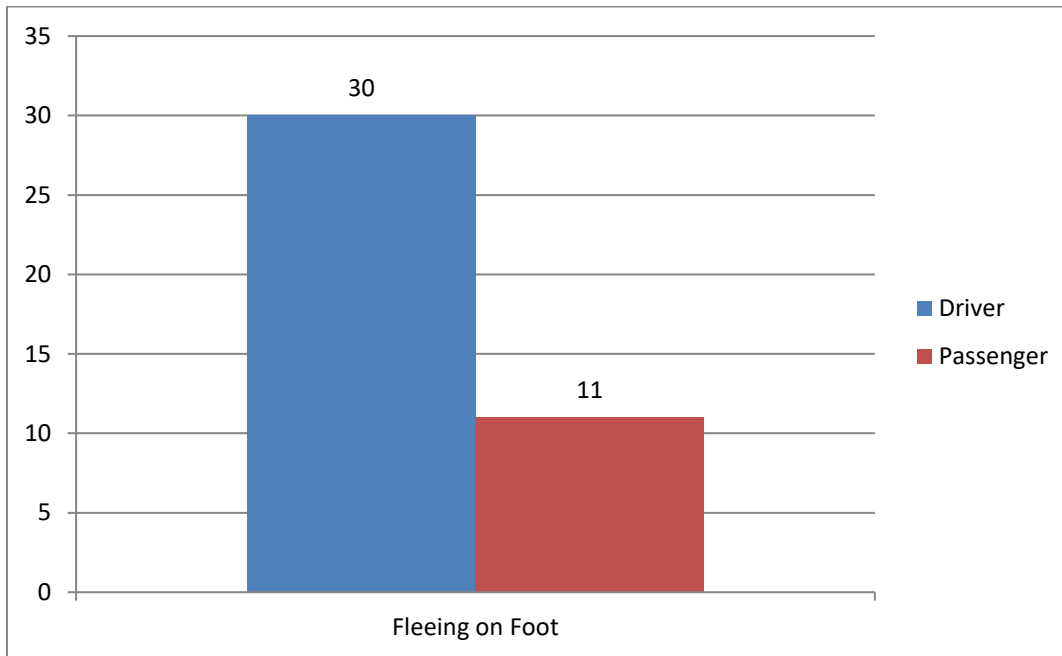
The majority of apprehended suspects (62.7%) did not have a valid driver's license.

### **Suspect Vehicle Type**



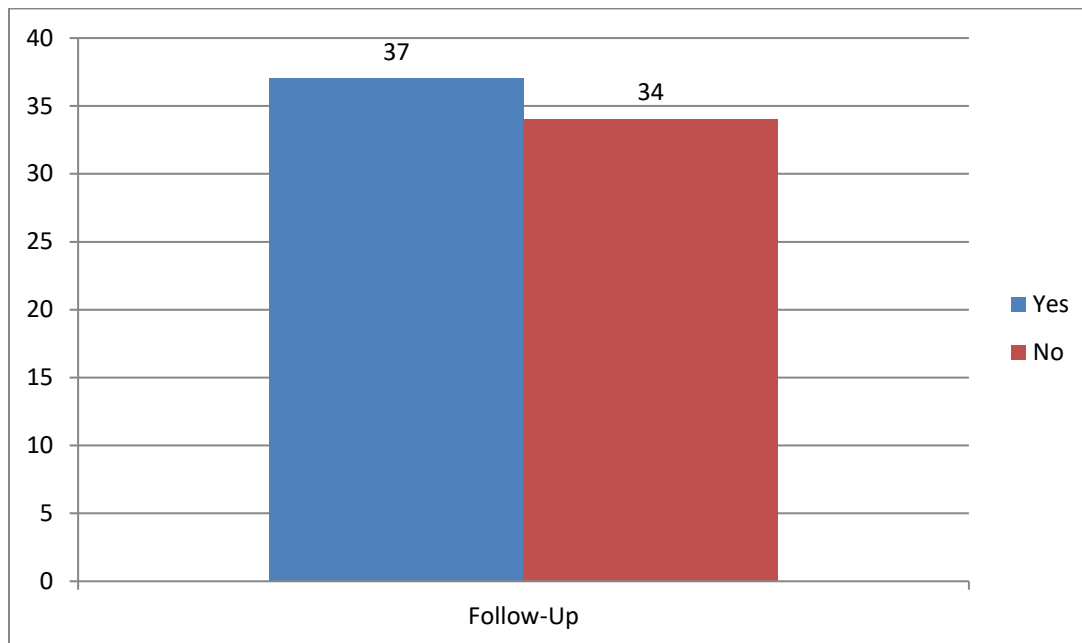
More suspects were pursued in cars (50.4%) than in trucks (15.4%), vans (9.4%), and on motorcycles (11.1%). The "other" category (13.7%) was often an SUV.

### ***Fleeing on Foot***



From all 117 reported pursuits, there were a total of 125 passengers. Although not always reported, the number of passengers present in one vehicle went as high as four. This maximum amount of passengers occurred 4 times out of the 84 instances where passengers were present, (4.8%). In the 33 instances where there was no passenger present (28.2%) it is not surprising that there is such a difference in the amount of drivers fleeing (73.2%) and the amount of passengers fleeing (26.8%).

### ***Follow-Up When Driver Not Apprehended***



Although the frequency of whether a follow-up investigation was conducted or not is almost equal, follow-ups were conducted (52.1%) more often than not (47.9%).