



# ANALYSIS OF ILLINOIS POLICE PURSUIT REPORTING: 2021

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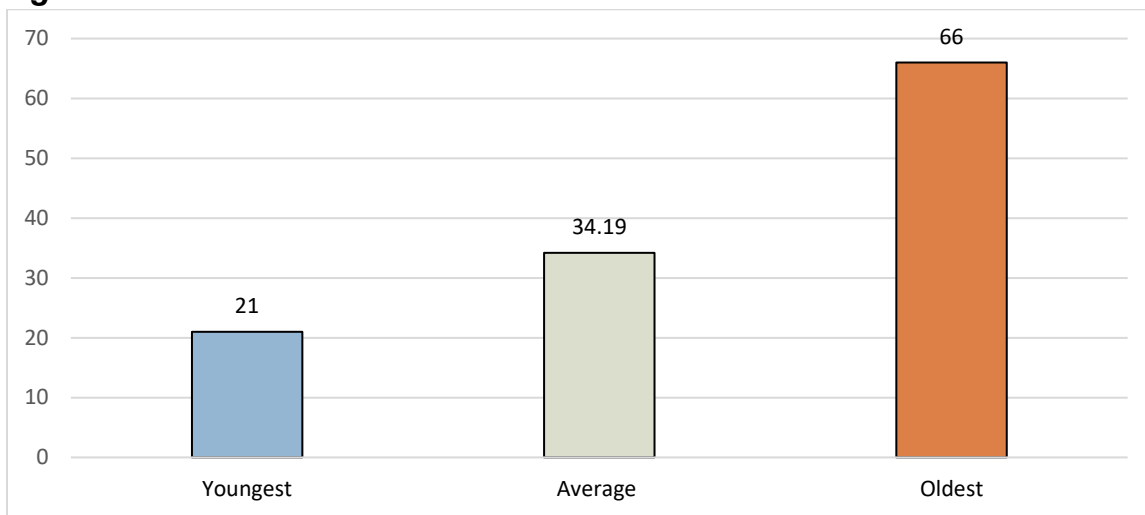
## Report Overview

This report provides data on pursuit driving reports submitted to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. The majority of the data is descriptive in nature, providing relative information for the 2021 reporting period. It is notable that some report submissions did not include complete information, so in some instances, reporting is based on a smaller submission size.

In 2021, 866 reports were submitted, compared to 583 last year. This is a 48.54% increase from 2020.

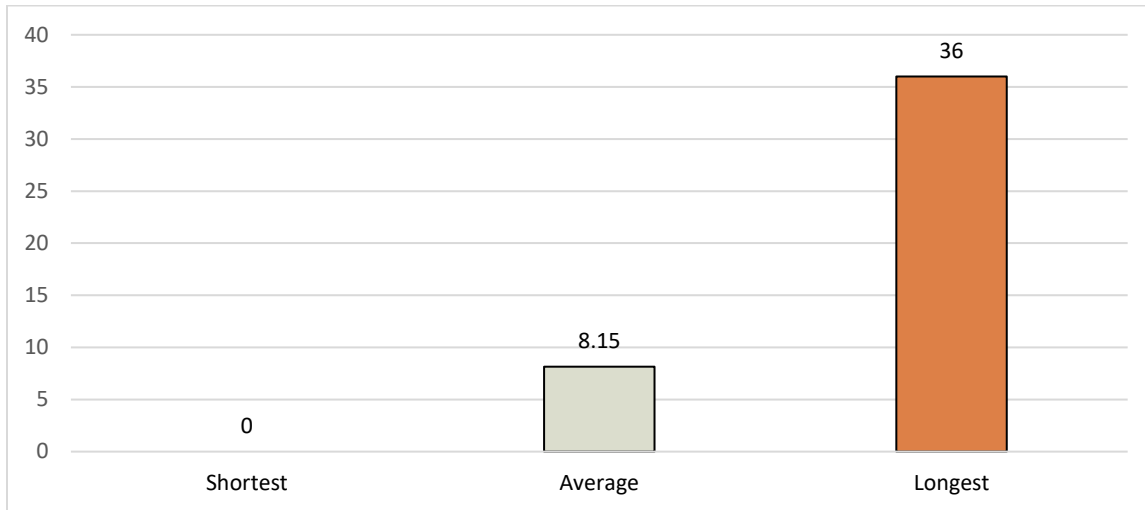
## Officer Demographics

### Age



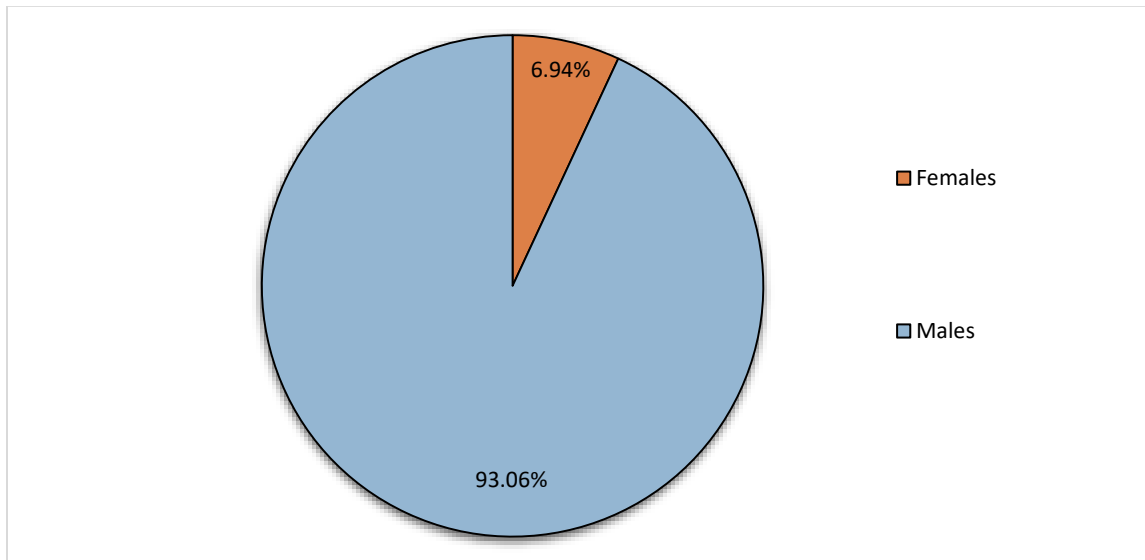
The average age of officers reporting police pursuits for 2021 was 34.19, with a standard deviation of 8.342 years. The youngest officer reporting a pursuit was 21, while the oldest was 66.

### Years of Service



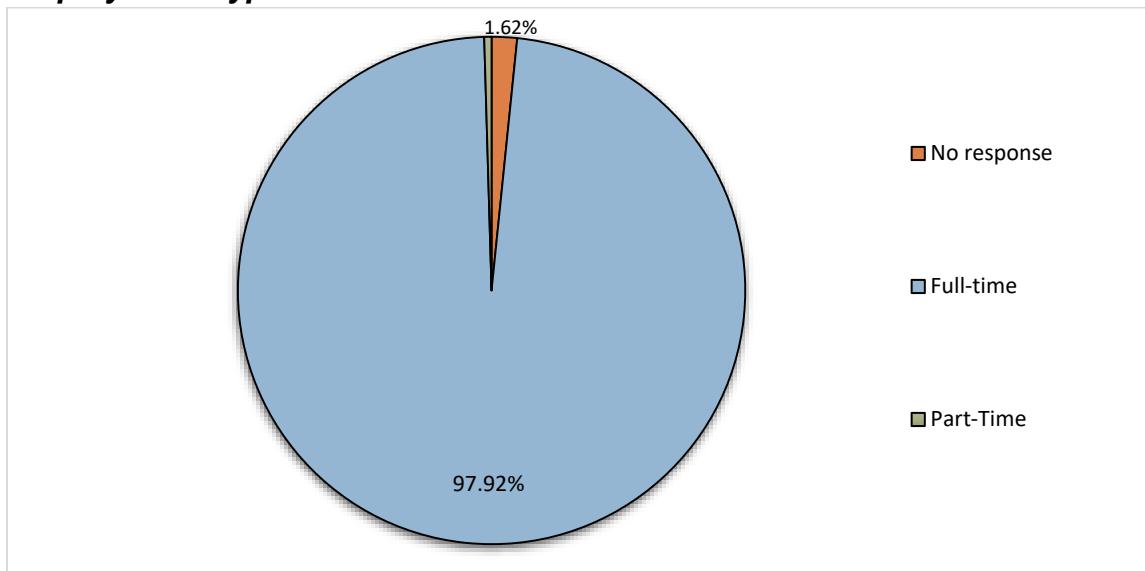
On average, officers who reported pursuits had approximately 8.15 years of service, with a standard deviation of 7.36 years. The officer with the shortest time of service had zero months on duty while the longest term of service was 36 years.

### Gender



Of the reports that provided gender, 805 officers (93.06%) submitting the pursuit driving report were male and 60 (6.94%) were female. One report failed to identify gender.

### **Employment Type**



Nearly all reporting officers, 848 (97.92%), indicated full-time duty with their employers. Out of the 866-member sample, only four (0.46%) indicated part-time work, while fourteen individuals (1.62%) did not list a status.

### **Race**

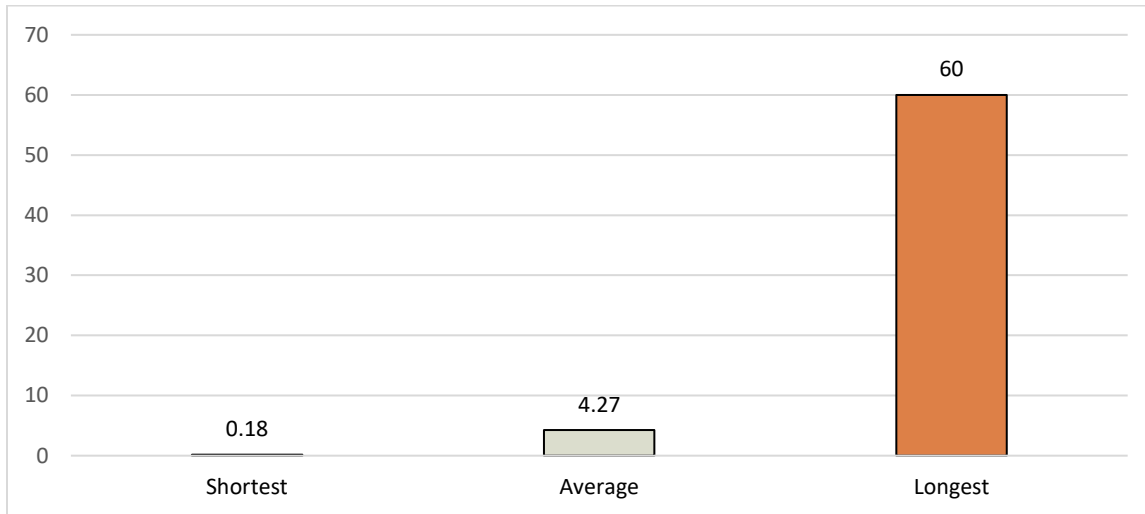
Of the submissions, ten (1.15%) included officer race; nine (90%) identified as Caucasian and one (10%) identified as Black. The low response rate can be attributed to different agencies using different forms for submission and agencies not including this demographic.

## Pursuit Demographics

A number of areas can be reported under the pursuit demographics category including:

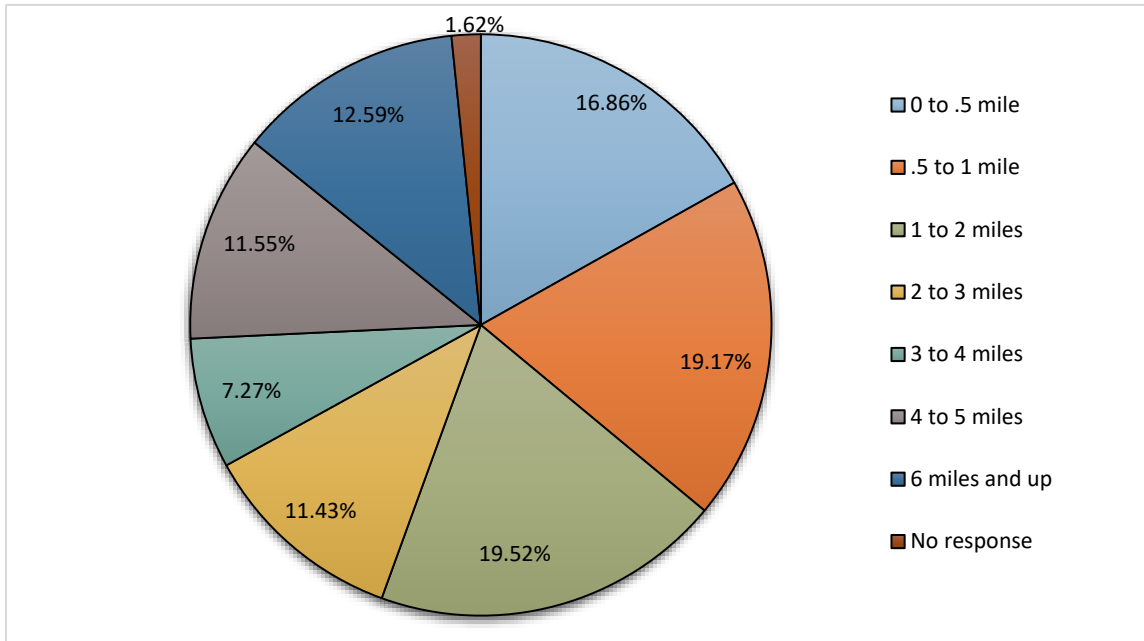
- Duration in minutes
- Duration in miles
- Speed of pursuit
- Locale of pursuit
- Road types while in pursuit

### ***Duration in Minutes***



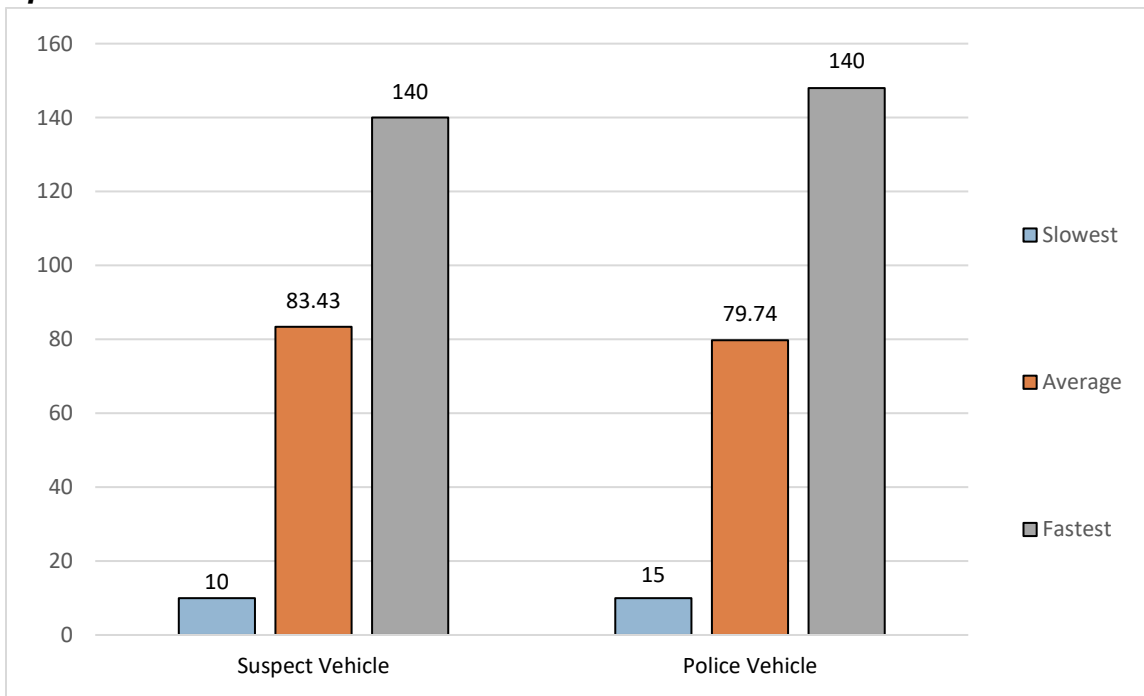
On average, pursuits generally lasted under five minutes (4.27). The longest pursuit reported lasted 60 minutes, while the shortest was reported at 0.18 minutes (10.8 seconds). There were 50 reports that did not provide a duration of the pursuit.

### Distance in Miles



The average distance of a pursuit was 3.59 miles, with a standard deviation of 5.69 miles. The longest pursuit reported lasted a stretch of 80 miles. The shortest pursuit reported was 0 miles. There were fourteen reports that did not provide a distance.

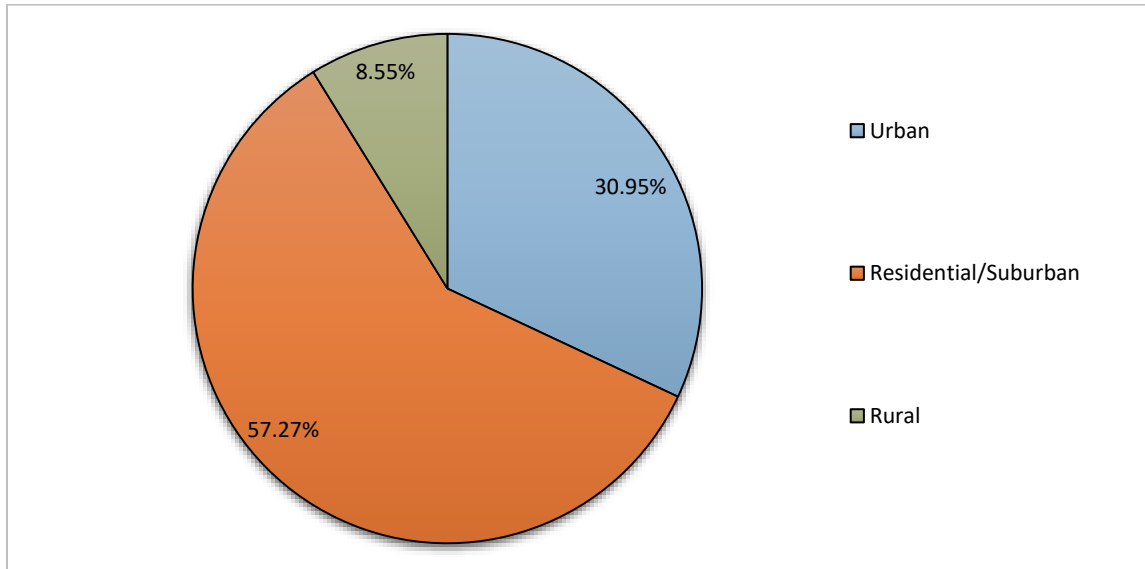
### Speed of Pursuit



The average reported speed for suspect vehicles during pursuits was 83.43 mph. The fastest speed for a suspect vehicle was reported at 140 mph, while the slowest was reported at 10 mph.

The average reported speed for police vehicles during pursuits was 79.74 mph. The fastest speed for police was reported at 140 mph, while the slowest was reported as 15 mph. There were 113 responses not given for suspect's speed and 29 responses not given for the officer's speed.

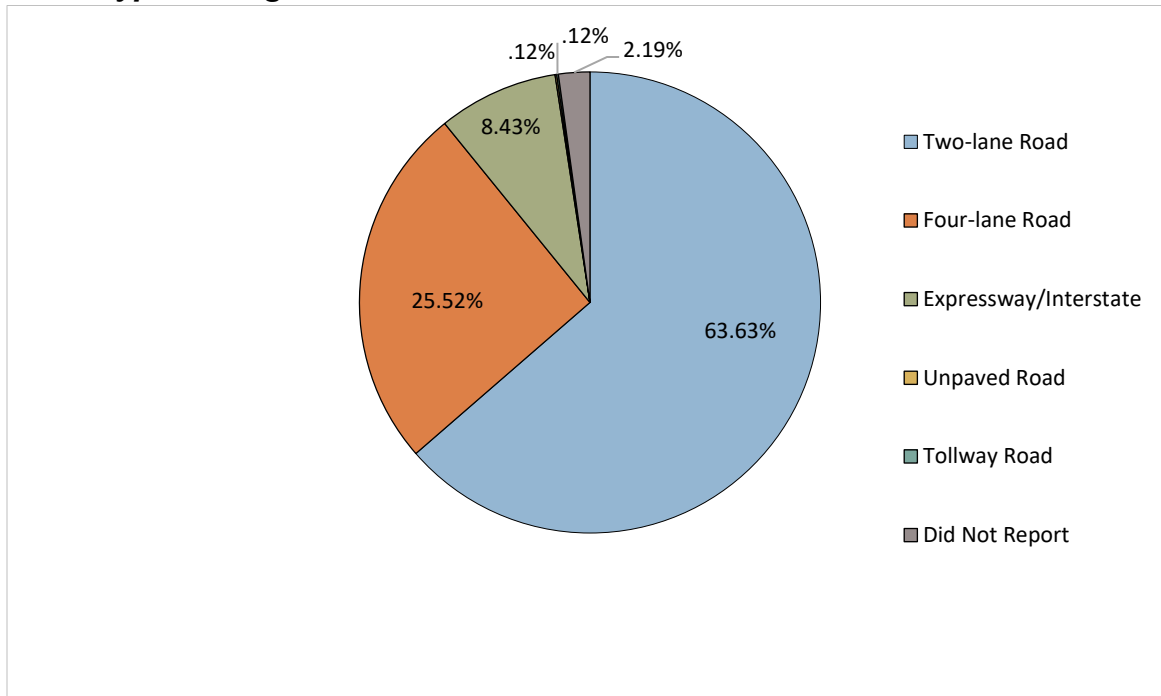
***Locale of Pursuit***



Police pursuits were most likely to occur in residential/suburban areas with a total number of 496 incidents, nearly double the second highest locale, which is urban areas at 268 pursuits. Rural areas were the least likely to have pursuits take place; however, they still occurred in the rural locales on 74 occasions. Of the locales recorded, (11.31%) of pursuits took place in more than one locale; A total of 28 reports did not identify a locale.



### Road Type During Pursuit

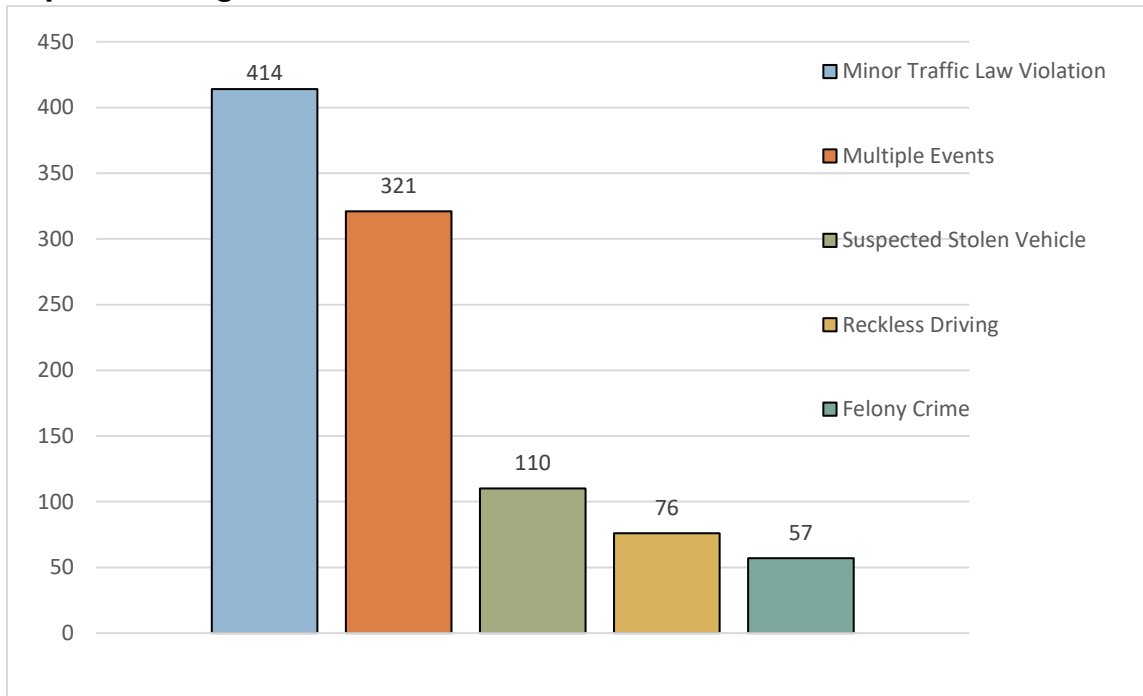


The majority of pursuits took place on a two-lane road, with 551 occasions for a rate of (63.63%). Four-lane pursuits took place on 221 occasions (25.52%), expressway/interstate pursuits took place on 73 occasions (8.43%), and one pursuit (0.12%) took place on an unpaved road. One pursuit was reported on tollway roads (0.12%), and 19 reports (2.19%) did not report a road type. About one in four pursuits took place on multiple road types with 233 occasions for a rate of (26.91%).

## Initiating Events

There are 13 potential initiating events for police pursuits. On the report, officers may choose from the following initiating events: minor traffic law violation, suspected DUI, reckless driving, suspected stolen vehicle, outstanding misdemeanor warrant, felony violent crime warrant, felony property crime warrant, suspected criminal activity, wanted by another agency, felony crime, misdemeanor crime, firearm use by offender in crime of escape, or other events. If the initiating event was not for the reasons listed, they were included in the “other events” category. The top five initiating events in 2021 are compared below.

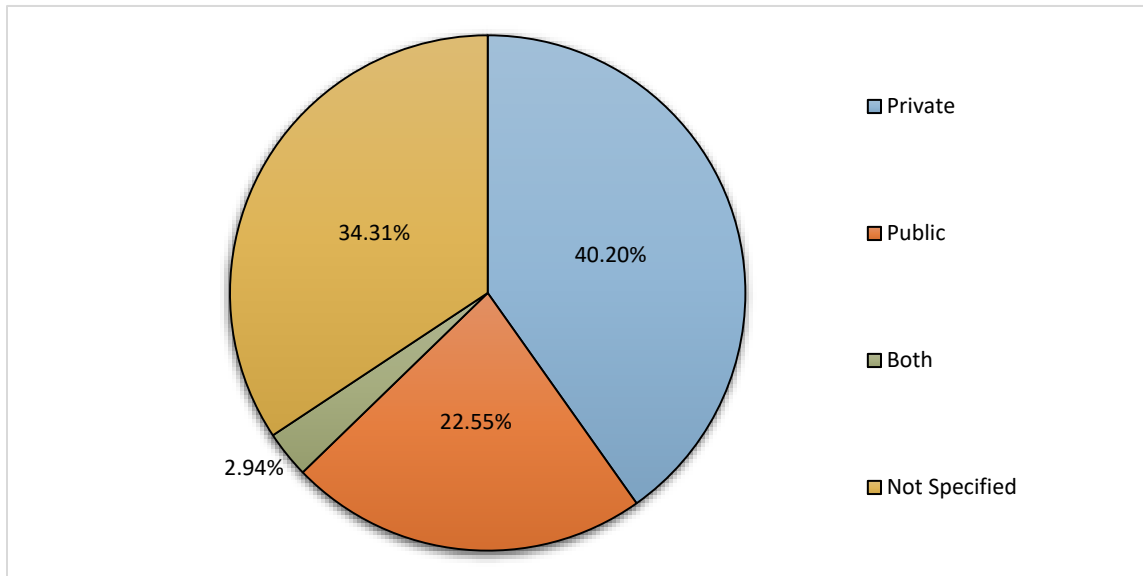
### Top 5 Initiating Events



The event that most often initiated the pursuit activity was a combination of minor traffic law violations with 414 times. The top five initiating factors, which account for (81.29%) of total pursuits, are: minor traffic violation, multiple events, suspected stolen vehicle, reckless driving, and felony crime. Seven reports did not include the initiating event.

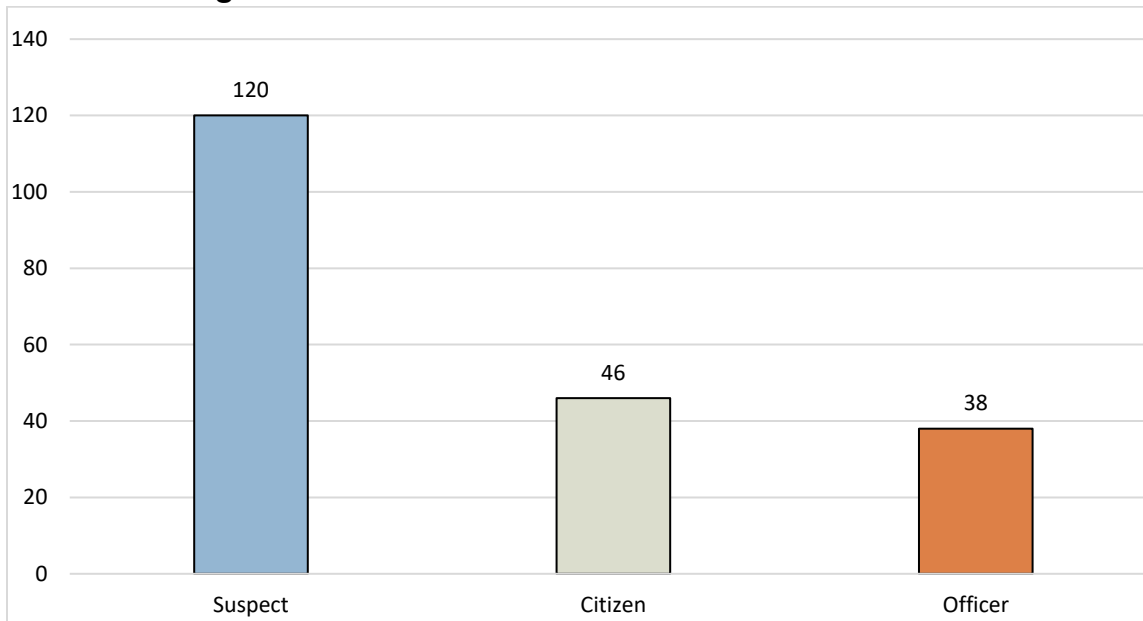
## Crash Information

### Property Damage



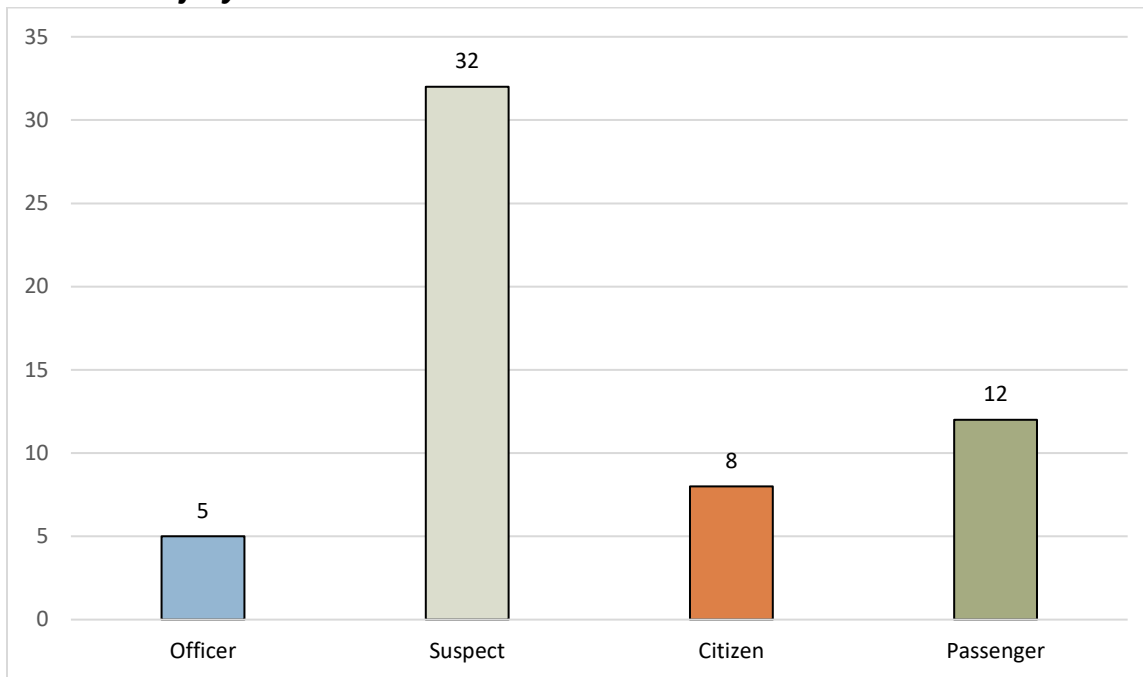
During 2021, 143 (16.51%) pursuits ended in crashes. Of those crashes that provided data, 102 (71.33%) resulted in property damage: 41 (40.20%) affected private property, 23 (22.55%) affected public property, 3 (2.94%) affected both private property and public property, and 35 (34.31%) reports did not specify property damage type.

### Vehicle Damage



Of the 143 incidents involving crashes, the suspect's vehicle was damaged 120 times (83.92%), while citizen vehicles were damaged 46 times (32.17%). Pursuing officer vehicles were damaged 38 times (26.57%).

### **Personal Injury**

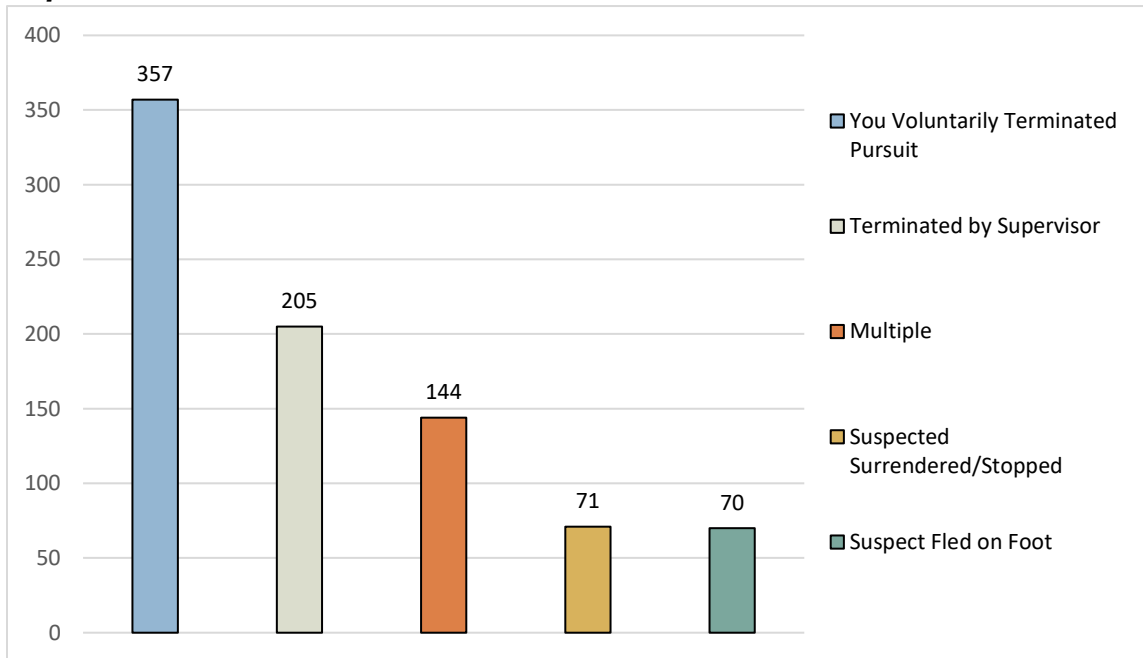


Reports indicated a total of 57 total injuries in which the officer, the suspect, the citizen, and/or passenger was involved. The data shows suspects (56.14%) were injured more frequently than passengers (21.05%), citizens (14.04%), or officers (8.77%). There were two suspect fatalities and four passenger fatalities reported in the data received for 2021.

## Pursuit Terminations

Thirteen choices are available on the pursuit driving report for pursuit termination. These choices include: suspect surrendered/stopped, suspect fled on foot, suspect's vehicle was disabled, officer's vehicle was disabled, officer voluntarily terminated pursuit, crash involving suspect vehicle and citizen, crash involving suspect vehicle, crash involving police vehicle, crash involving suspect vehicle only, forcible stop technique, terminated by supervisor, lost sight of vehicle, or other. If more than one cause terminated the pursuit, they are included under the "multiple causes" category. The top five are compared here for 2021.

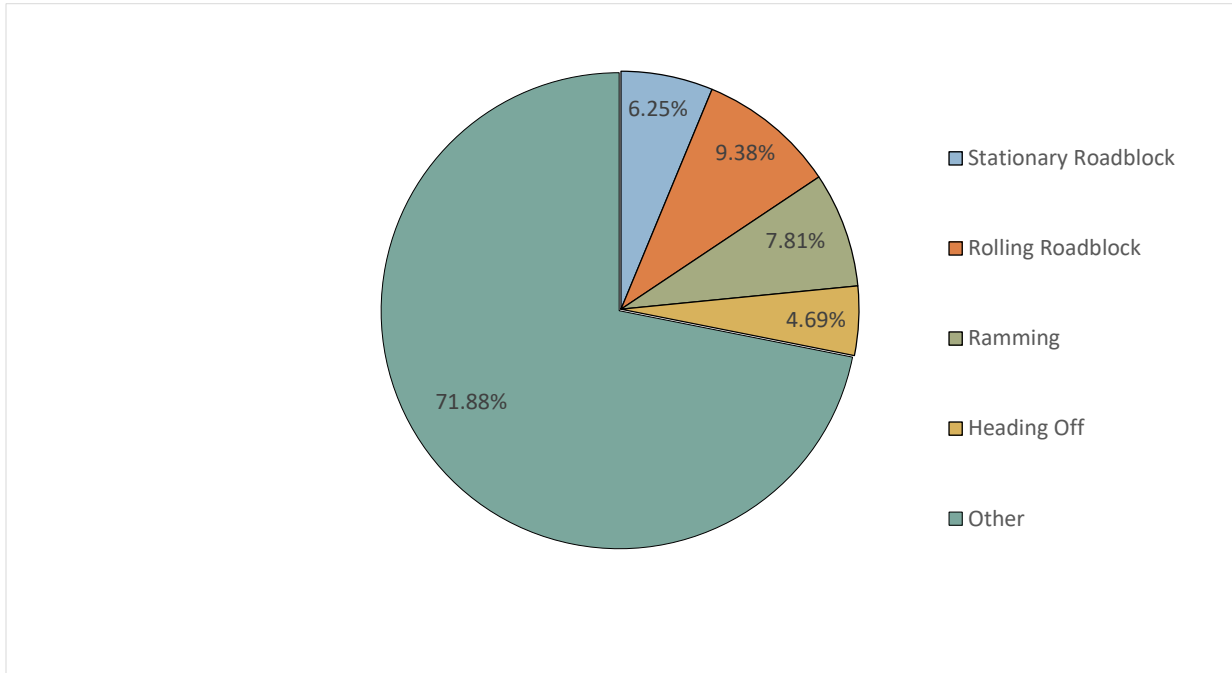
### Top Five Pursuit Terminations



Of the 866 reports submitted, 844 provided reasons for pursuit termination. Over one-third of pursuit terminations (42.30%) occurred due to the officer voluntarily terminating the pursuit, while another 24.29% were terminated by a supervisor.

## Ending Events

### Stop Techniques

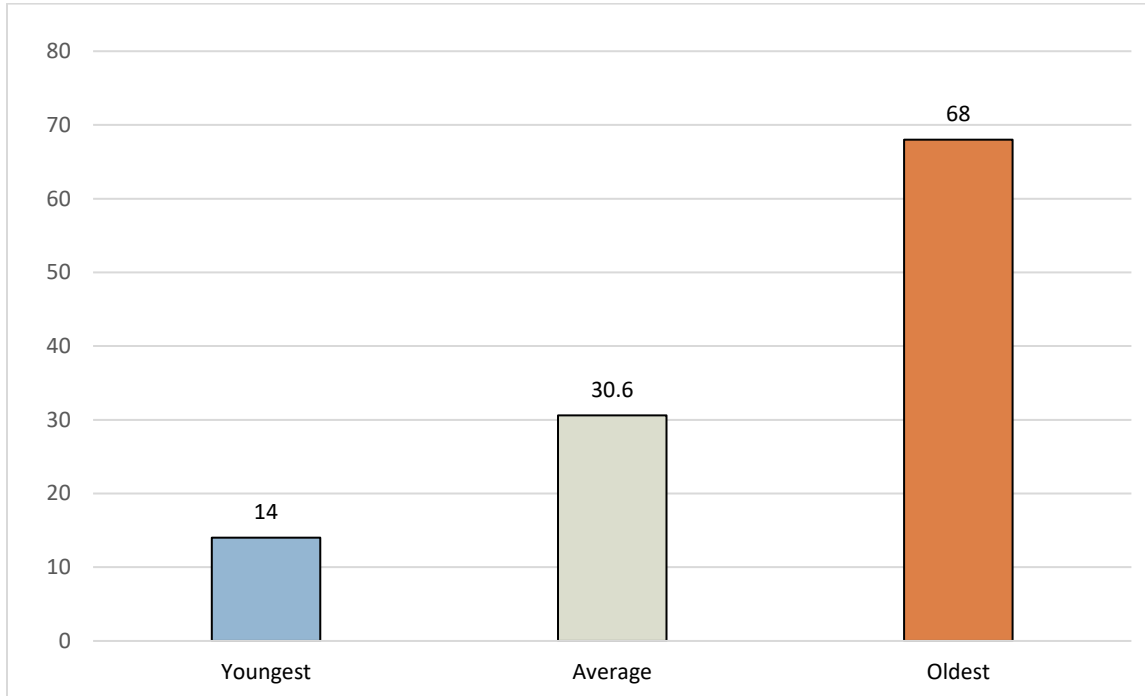


Stop techniques were utilized 64 times (7.39%) in pursuits reported in 2021. The most common stop technique “Other” was listed in 46 instances, or (71.88%) of reported stops. Heading off was used three times, or (4.69%) of the reported stops, while ramming was utilized five time (7.81%). Rolling roadblocks were only used six times (9.38%), and stationary roadblocks were used four times (6.25%). Multiple stop techniques were used in four instances (6.25%).

## Suspect/Passenger Information

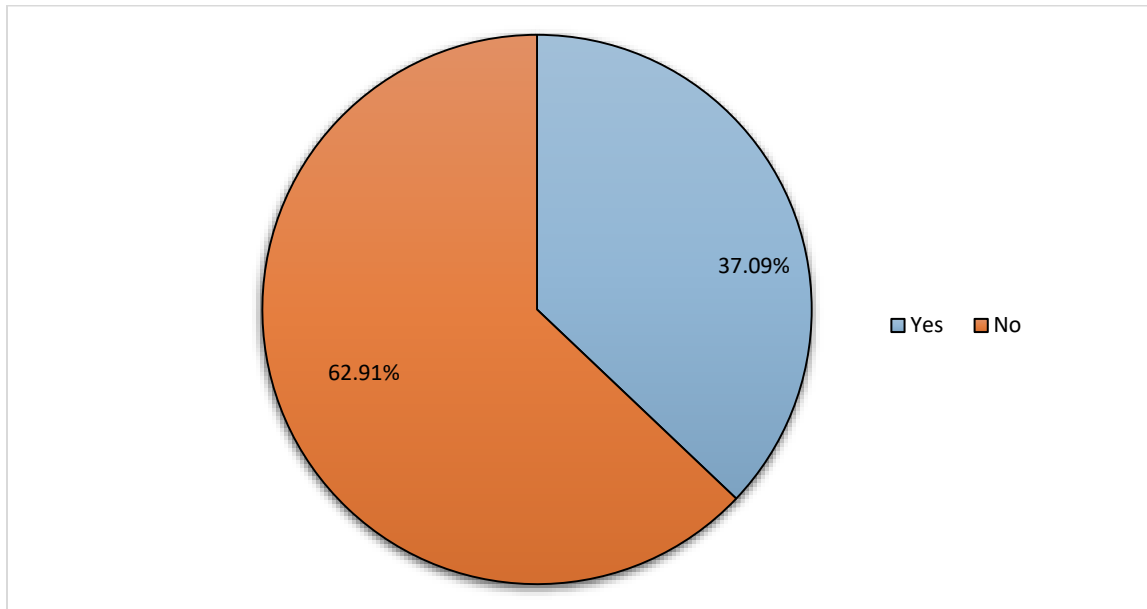
Suspect information gathered includes: age of the suspect, valid driver's license, suspect vehicle type, drivers fleeing on foot, and follow-up conducted when the driver was not apprehended. Passenger information is gathered related to number in the suspect vehicle and number apprehended.

### *Age of the Suspect*



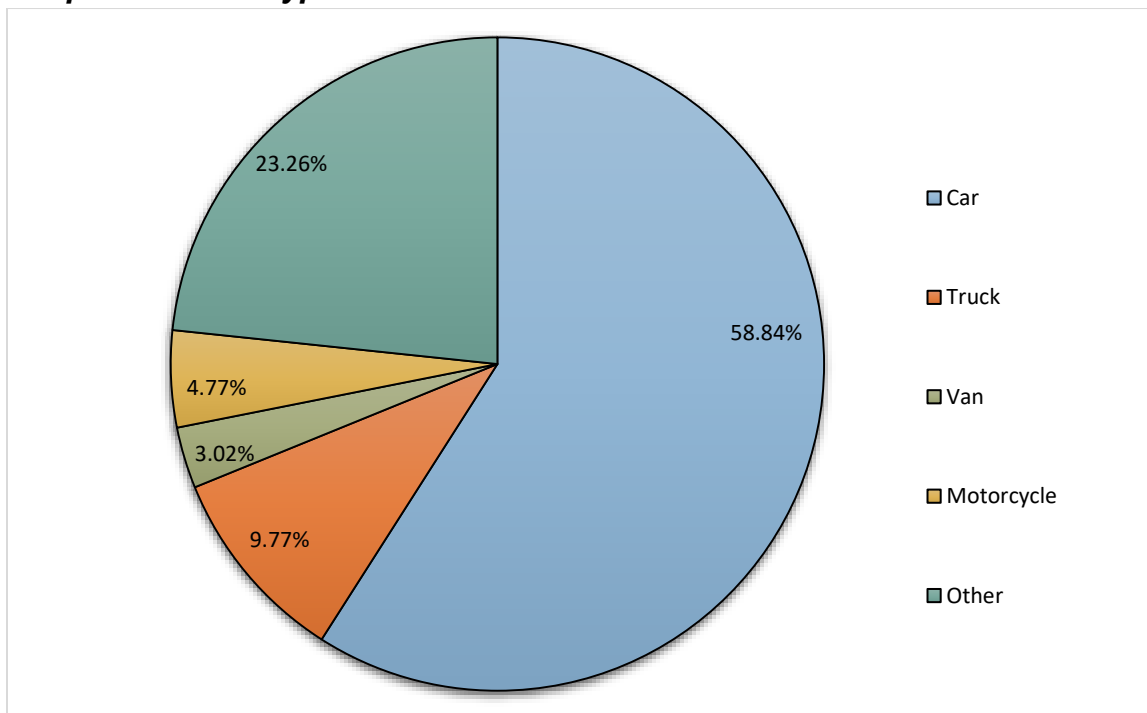
The average age of the suspects involved in reported police pursuits was 30.60, with a standard deviation of 9.91 years. The oldest offender was 68 years old, while the youngest offender was 14 years old. There were 312 apprehensions out of the 866 reports (36.03%). All of this information is based on these 312 apprehensions.

### Valid Driver's License



Out of the 302 reports that had apprehended the suspect, the chance of apprehending a suspect with a valid driver's license (37.09%) is less than the chance of apprehending them without a valid driver's license (62.91%).

### Suspect Vehicle Type

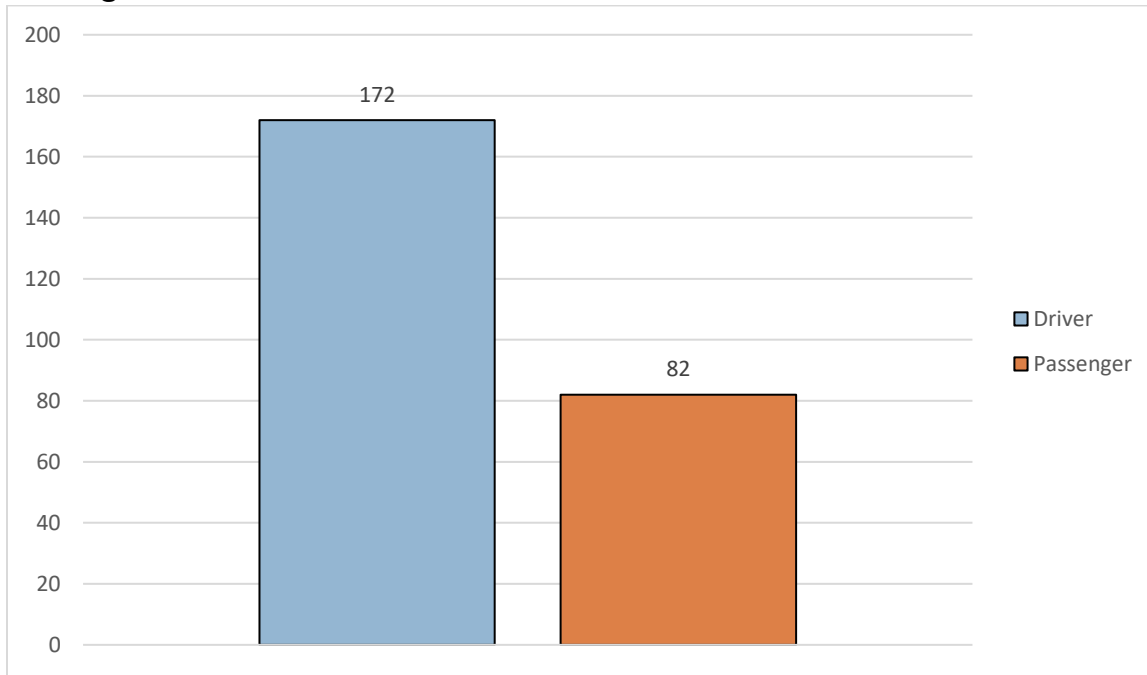


Excluding those reports who did not report vehicle type, an analysis of the data reflects that more suspects were pursued while driving cars (58.84%) than in trucks (9.77%), motorcycles (4.77%),



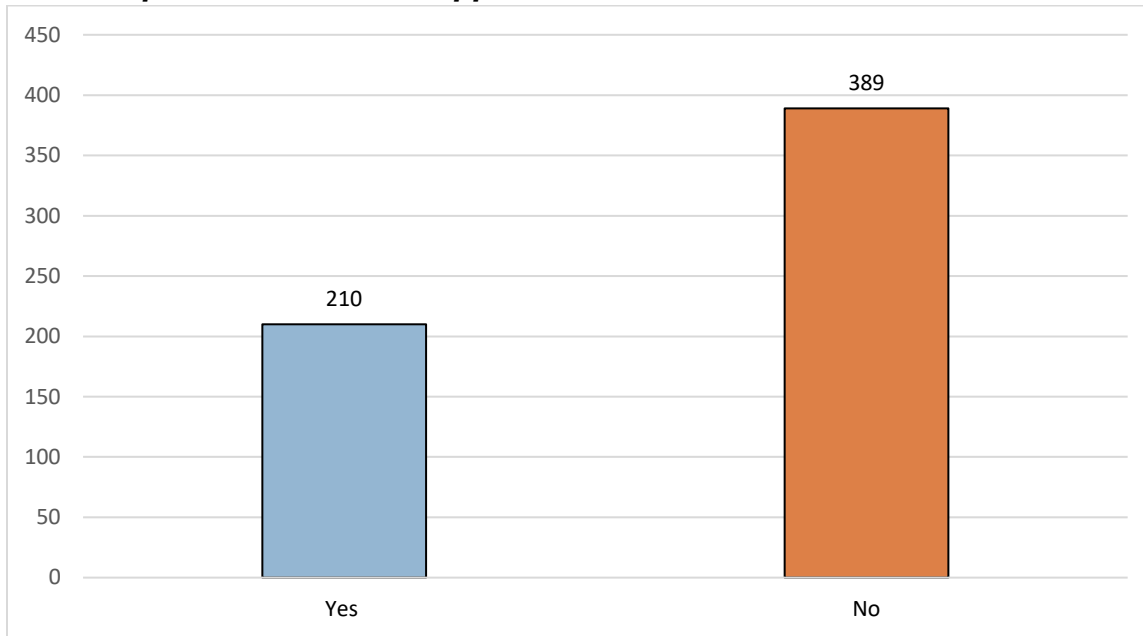
and vans (3.02%). The “other” category (23.26%) was often reported as an SUV. Multiple vehicles were used in three instances (0.35%).

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



From all 866 reported pursuits, there were a total of 780 passengers. Passengers were recorded as present in 631 instances and the highest passenger count in a pursued vehicle was six. There were 142 (16.4%) instances where the pursued vehicle had no passengers, and in 235 (27.13%) instances no passenger count was recorded. The pursued drivers attempted to flee on foot 27.2% of the time (172 occurrences), while passengers attempted to flee on foot 13% of the time (82 occurrences).

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



Of the reports that stated that the driver was not apprehended (599 incidents), follow-ups were conducted 35.06% of the time, while 64.94% of the time a follow-up was not conducted. There were 267 reports that did not submit a response.

## Conclusions

With the submission of a forty-nine percent (49%) higher number of reports during calendar year 2021 as compared to 2020, this analysis begins to present a clearer picture of the pursuits in Illinois; however, this is likely only a small percentage of what occurs throughout the state. Agencies have their own documents and many do not submit documents through the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.

The average pursuit distance in miles in 2021 was longer (mean distance of 3.59 miles) than the 2020 data (mean distance of 3.52 miles), but shorter than 2014-2019 data (mean distance of 4.7 miles). The average pursuit duration in 2021 (mean time of 4.27 minutes) was shorter than in years past (2014-2020 mean duration of 4.62 minutes). The longest pursuit in the past ten years was in 2019 and the pursuit lasted three hours.

The average speed for suspect vehicles during pursuits in 2021 (mean speed of 83.43 miles per hour) was 1.31 miles per hour slower than the average for 2020 (mean speed of 84.74 miles per hour). When compared to previous data (2014-2019 data), the average speed for suspect vehicles was 77.51 miles per hour. The average reported speed for police vehicles during pursuits in 2021 was 79.74 miles per hour, down slightly from 2020 average rates (79.94 miles per hour). When compared to the 2014-2019 data (mean speed of 73.7 miles per hour), police vehicle speeds in 2021 were up eight percent.

The number of pursuits ending in crashes has increased from last year (2020 total was 108 crashes, while 2021 total was 143), but the percentage of pursuits that end in crashes has fallen (2020 number was 18.52%, while the 2021 number was 16.51%). The data from 2014-2019 reflects that average percentage of pursuits that end in crashes was 20.426%. The number of stop techniques used has increased (in 2021 stop techniques were utilized 64 times versus the 2020 total of 43 times), which reflects a 48.84% increase in stop techniques being used.

# Number of Reports Submitted by Agencies

1 Report	1 Report	2 Reports	3 Reports	4 Reports	5 Reports	6 Reports	7 + Reports
Bridgeview PD	Mattoon PD	Canton PD	No Agency	Carpentersville PD	DeKalb PD	CCPD	Aurora PD (43)
Bureau CO. SO.	Melrose PD	Carol Stream PD	CCSO	Elmhurst PD	Effingham PD	Freeport PD	Bensenville PD (7)
Cary PD	Morgan CO. SO.	Charleston PD	Chenoa PD	Madison PD	Hartford PD	Lisle PD	Berkley PD (12)
Claredon Hills PD	MPD	Fairfield PD	Countryside PD	Minooka PD	Plano PD	West Chicago PD	Calumet City PD (88)
Clinton PD	Normal PD	GPD	Elwood PD	Oak Forest PD	Stegar PD		Champaign CO. SO. (8)
Crystal Lake Park District PD	Northlake PD	Hodgkins PD	EPPD	Pekin PD			Collinsville PD (16)
Darien PD	Pingree Grove PD	Huntley PD	Glen Ellyn PD	Roxana PD			Columbia PD (12)
Dixon PD	RIPD	Lake Villa PD	LaSalle PD	Waukegan PD			Crest Hill PD (9)
Douglas CO. SO.	Riverwoods PD	Lee CO. SO.	Metropolis PD				Crete PD (33)
FPD	Robinson PD	Melrose Park PD	Oak Brook PD				Des Plaines PD (15)
FPPD	Rochelle PD	Mount Carmel PD	Westmont PD				East Peoria PD (14)
Galena PD	Rock Island PD	Mount Prospect PD					Fox Lake PD (17)
Geneseo PD	Round Lake PD	Naperville PD					Franklin Park PD (35)
Glen Carbon PD	SCSO	Plainfield PD					Galesburg PD (17)
GPD	SPD	Posen PD					GCPD (36)
Hometown PD	Shelby CO. SO.	Richton Park PD					Granite City PD (76)
Homewood PD	Streamwood PD	Riverside PD					Hillside PD (21)
Kane CO. SO.	SVPD	Sangamon CO. SO.					LaSalle CO. SO. (8)
Kendall CO. SO.	Tolono PD	Warrenville PD					Midlothian PD (9)
Kenilworth PD	Waterloo PD	Watskea PD					Montgomery PD (15)
La Grange Park PD	Woodstock PD	West Dundee PD					Park Forest PD (19)
Macon CO. SO.	Worth PD						Peru PD (7)
Mantino PD	Yates City PD						Pontoon Beach PD (40)
							Riverdale PD (39)
							Rockton PD (19)
							Sauk Village PD (23)
							Springfield PD (10)
							Swansea PD (7)
							University Park PD (9)