



Vallejo Police Department 2023 Vehicle Pursuit Analysis





Pursuit Analysis 2023



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Police pursuits are a complex issue that requires a balance between the need to stop and apprehend criminals in Vallejo versus the risks they pose to officers, suspects, and the public. In 2023, the Chief of Police ordered an analysis of that year's 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.

In an effort to reduce the number of collisions related to vehicle pursuits, the analysis in this report has identified several risk factors for supervisors and managers to consider when weighing the benefit of continuing a pursuit. Supervisors/Managers should strongly reflect on these factors when deciding to cancel a pursuit to mitigate the number of collisions in 2024.

OVERVIEW:

- There were 197 vehicle pursuits in 2023. This is a record high and represents a 33% increase from 2022. Vehicle pursuits have shown a steady increase of 131% since 2018.
- A significant spike in vehicle pursuits happened in 2020. This spike is likely attributed to several reasons. Most notably, the installation of ALPR camera technology in Vallejo as well as the proliferation of large side show street takeovers.
- The top two reasons the Vallejo Police Department initiated a pursuit during 2023 were stolen vehicles at 37% and 34 % due to reckless driving.
- Vehicle pursuits were called off 49% of the time in 2023. Those instances are when officers aborted the pursuit for public safety reasons or when officers lost sight of the suspect and stopped pursuing.
- Furthermore, this year, we found that 66% of the vehicle pursuits occurred between 1801 hours and 0600. The most common day of the week was Saturdays.



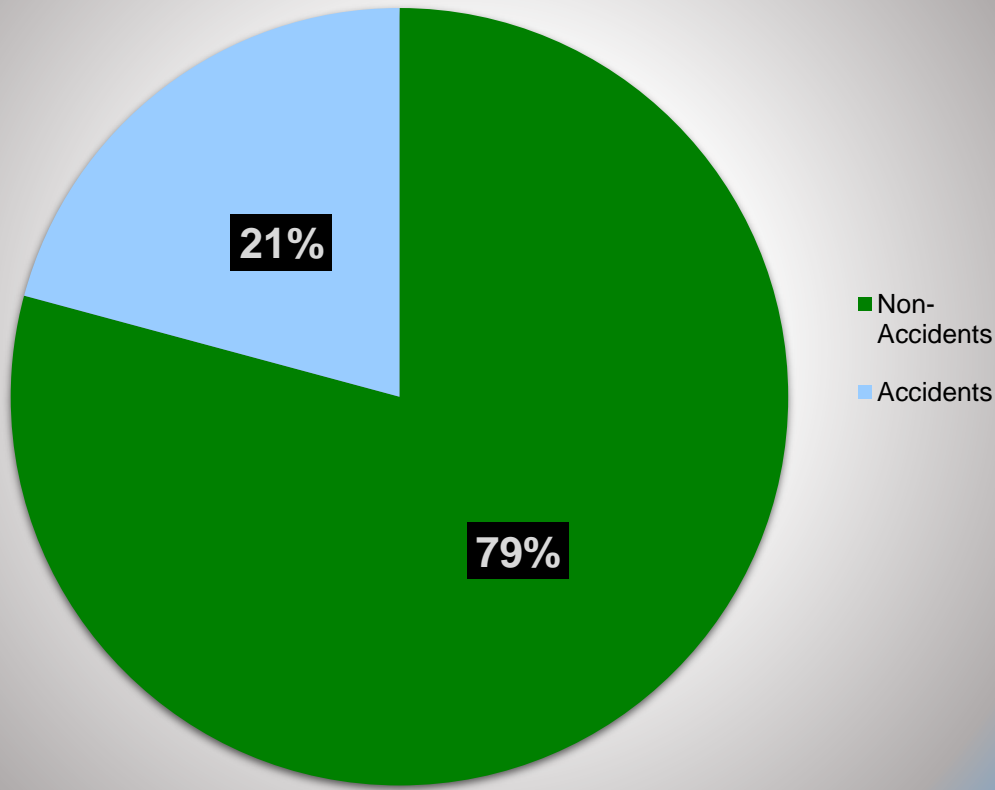
Pursuit Analysis 2023

Overview

Pursuit Data Overview	Totals
Total Pursuits	197
Total Pursuits Ending in Collision	41
Ended in Collision (Property Damage Only)	27
Ended in Collision w/Injury	13
Fatal Injury	1
Pursuits Aborted by VPD for Public Safety Concerns (38) or Terminated-Officer Lost Sight of the Suspect (59)	97

All injured parties evaluated at the scene or transported and medically cleared by hospital staff.

How often did a collision occur during a pursuit in 2023?





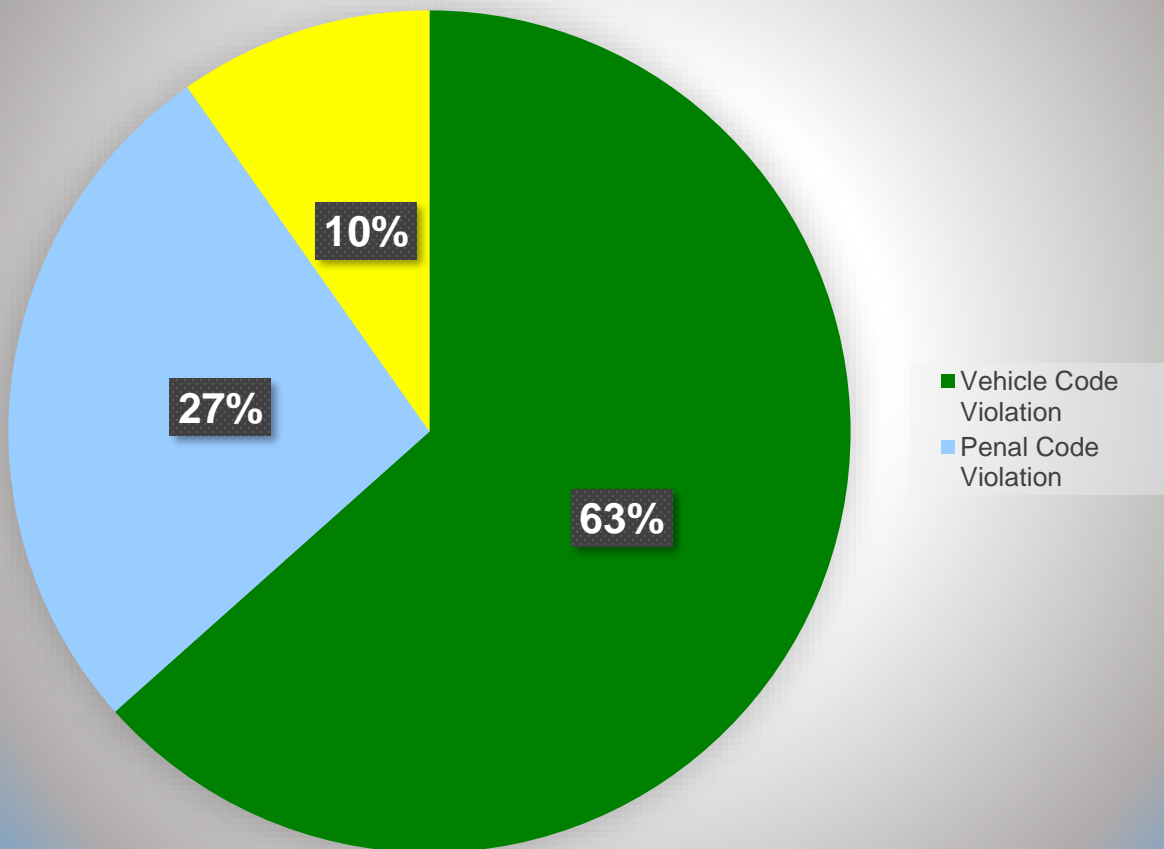
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Vehicle Pursuit and Collision Analysis

Initial Want	Totals
Vehicle Code Violation	26
Penal Code Violation	11
Felony Warrant	4

What was the initial want for pursuits ending in a collision?



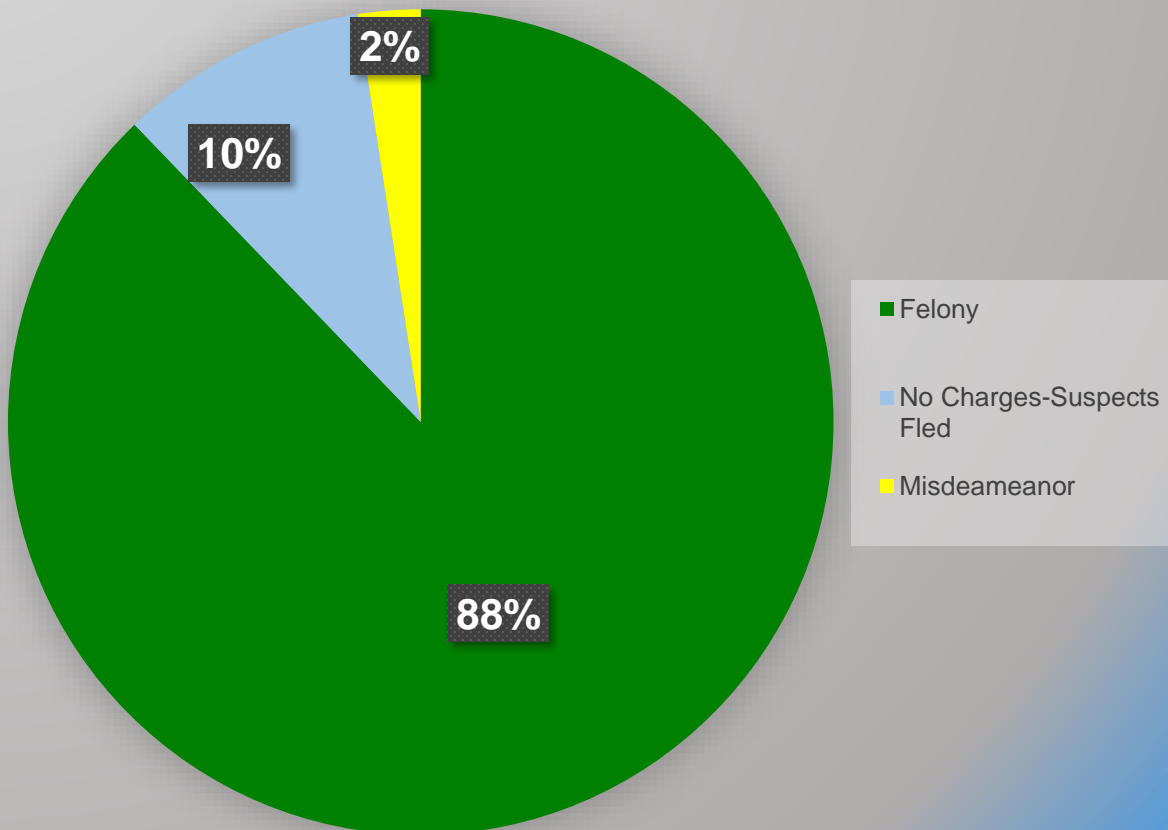


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Vehicle Pursuit and Collision Analysis

Final Charges	Total
Felony	36
No Charges/Suspects Fled	4
Misdemeanor	1

What were the final charges for pursuits ending in a collision?

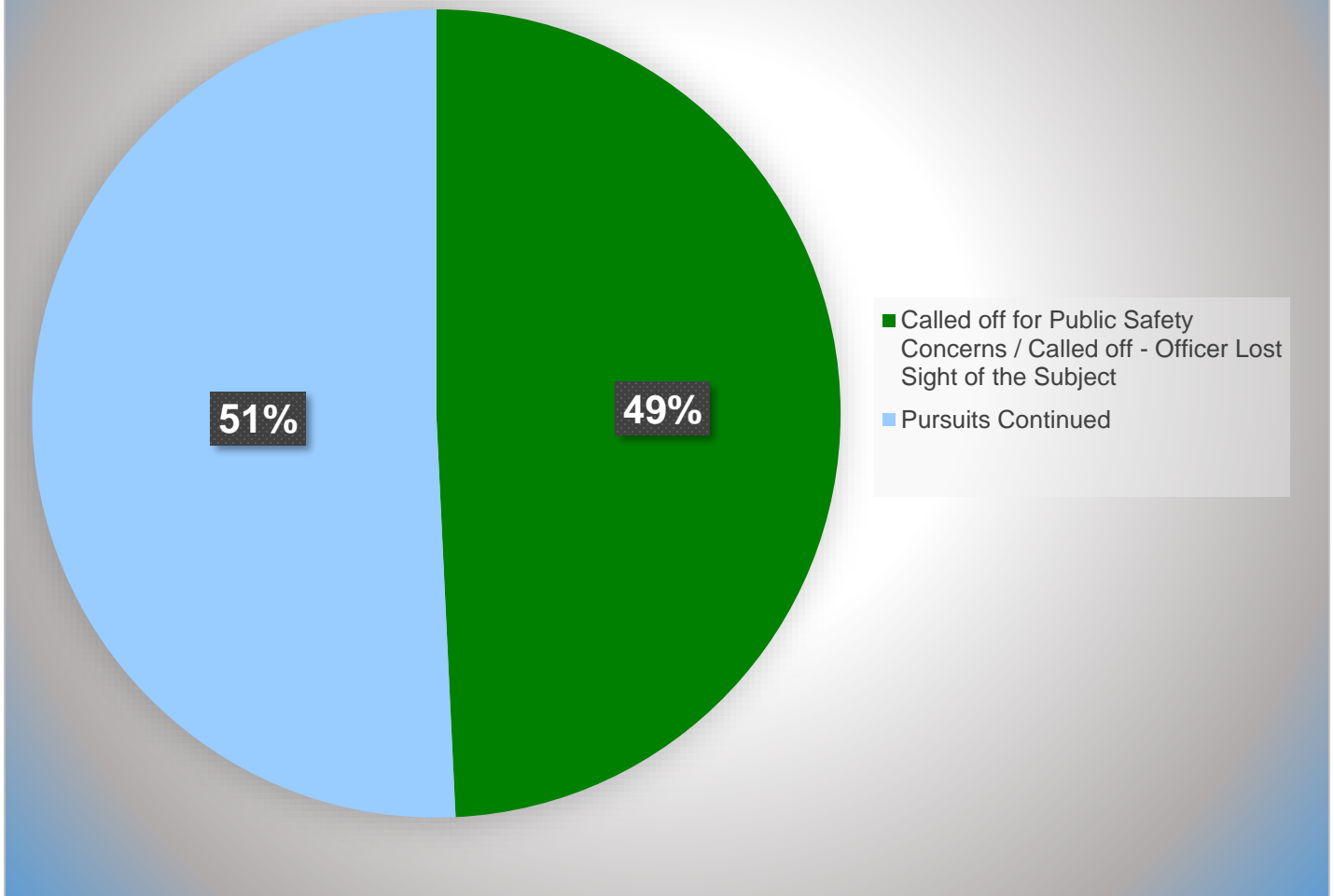




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How often did VPD Call-off a Vehicle Pursuit in 2023?



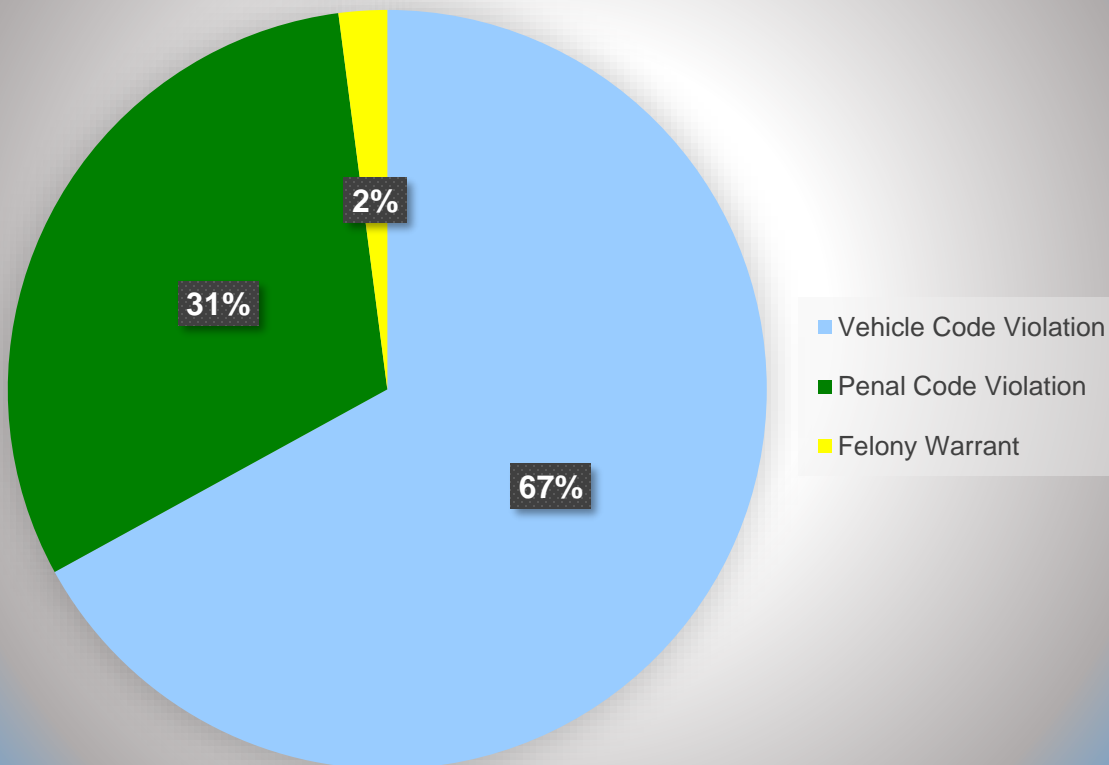


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Terminated Pursuits Analysis

Initial Want of Terminated Pursuits	Total
Vehicle Code Violation	65
Penal Code Violation	30
Felony Warrant	2

What was the initial want on terminated pursuits in 2023?

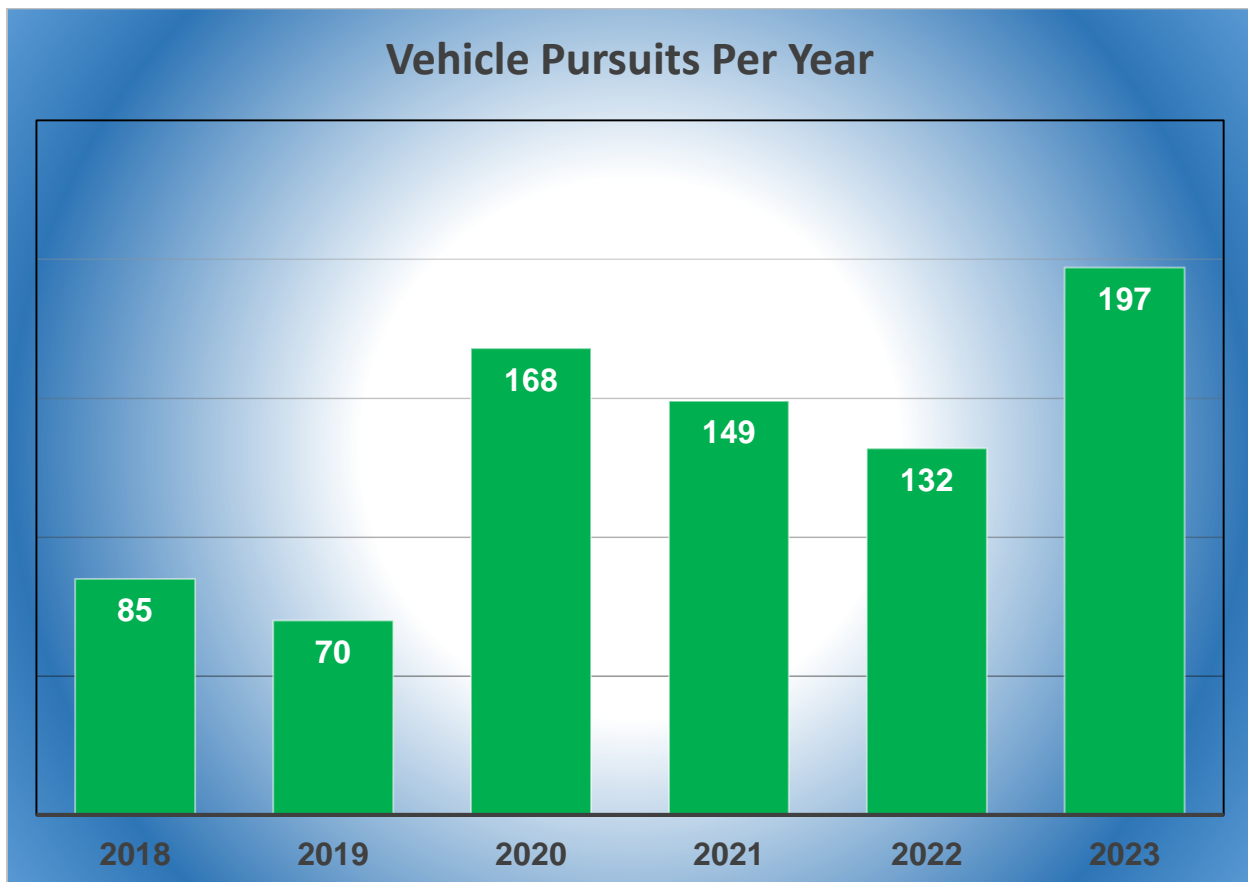




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Five Year Analysis

Vehicle Pursuits by Year	Total Pursuits	Sworn Officers
2018	85	106
2019	70	103
2020	168	110
2021	149	89
2022	132	88
2023	197	72



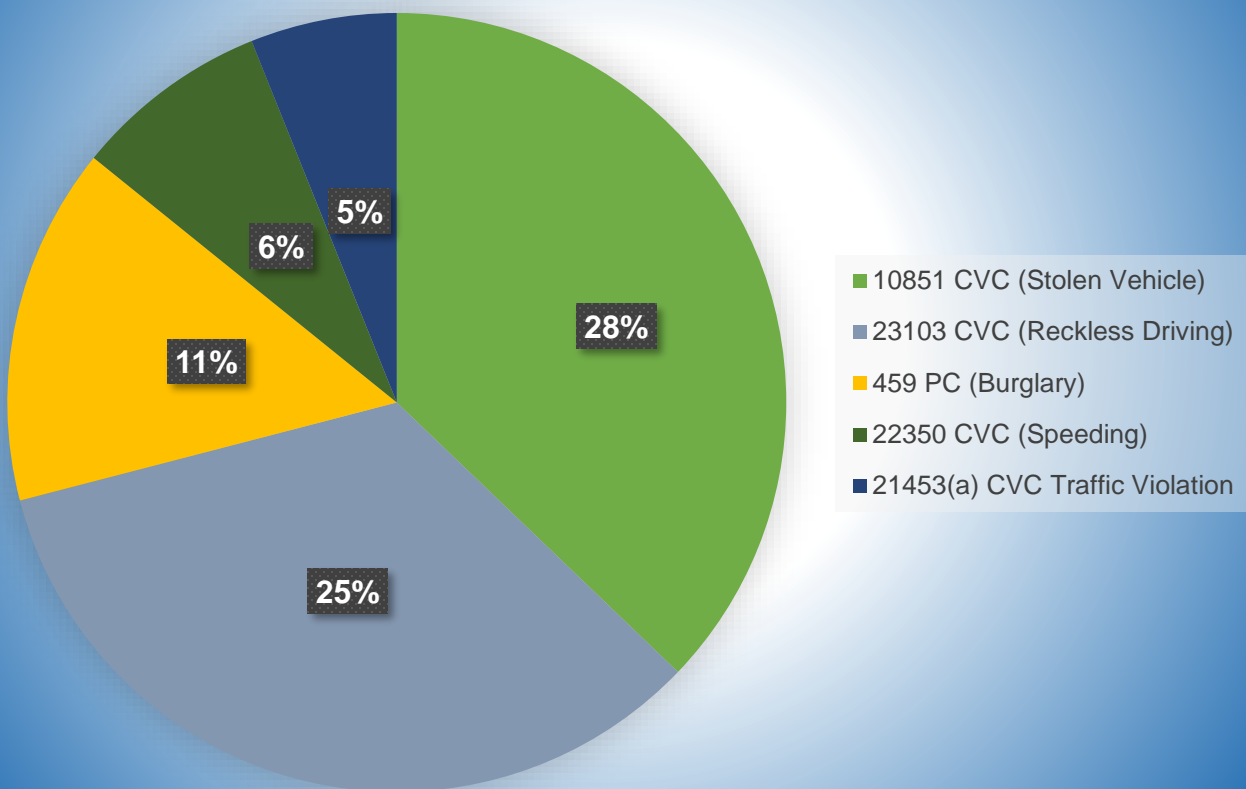


Pursuit Analysis 2023

Top 5 Initial Want for Pursuit

10851 CVC (Stolen Vehicle)	55
23103 CVC (Reckless Driving)	50
459 PC (Burglary)	22
22350 CVC (Speeding)	12
21453(a) CVC Traffic Violation	9

What were the top 5 violations for vehicle pursuits?



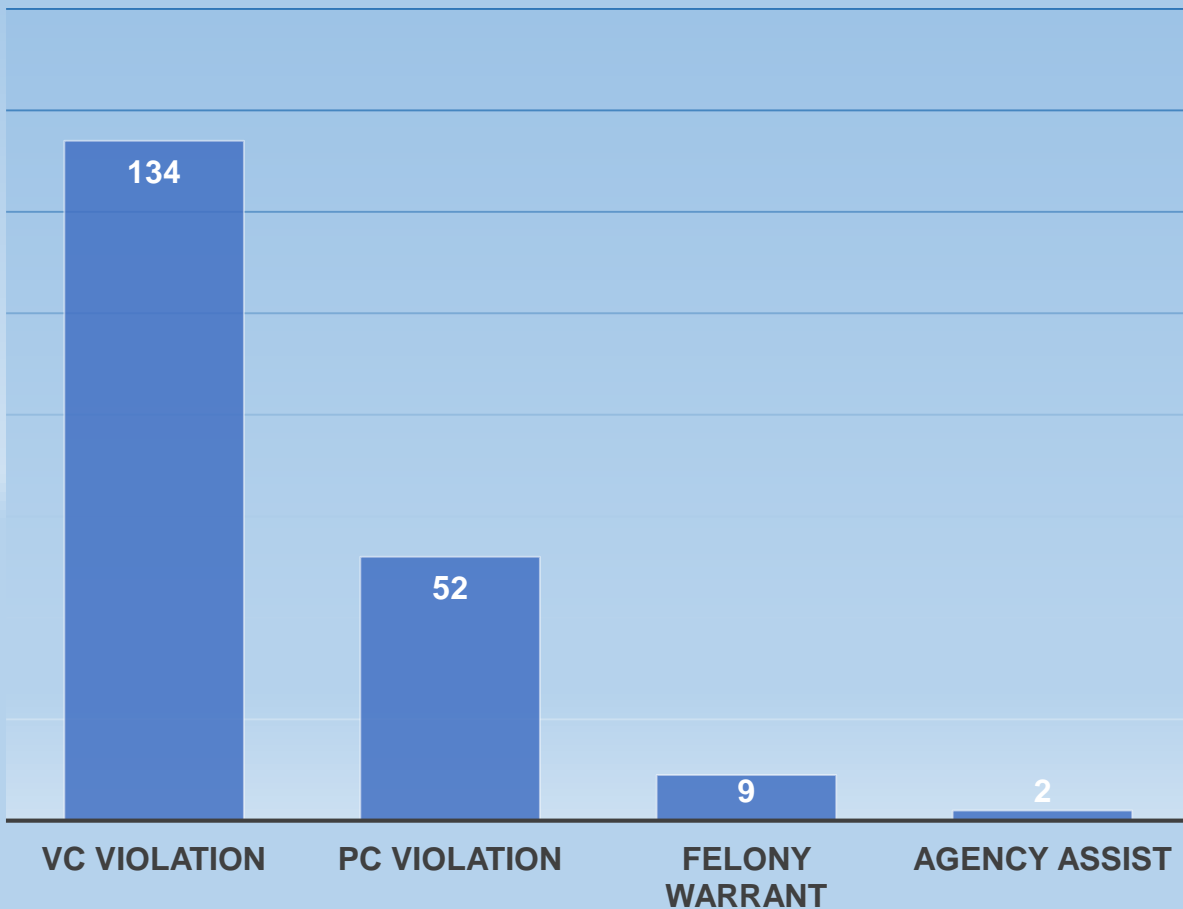


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Pursuit Initiation	
VC Violation	134
PC Violation	52
Felony Warrant	9
Agency Assist	2

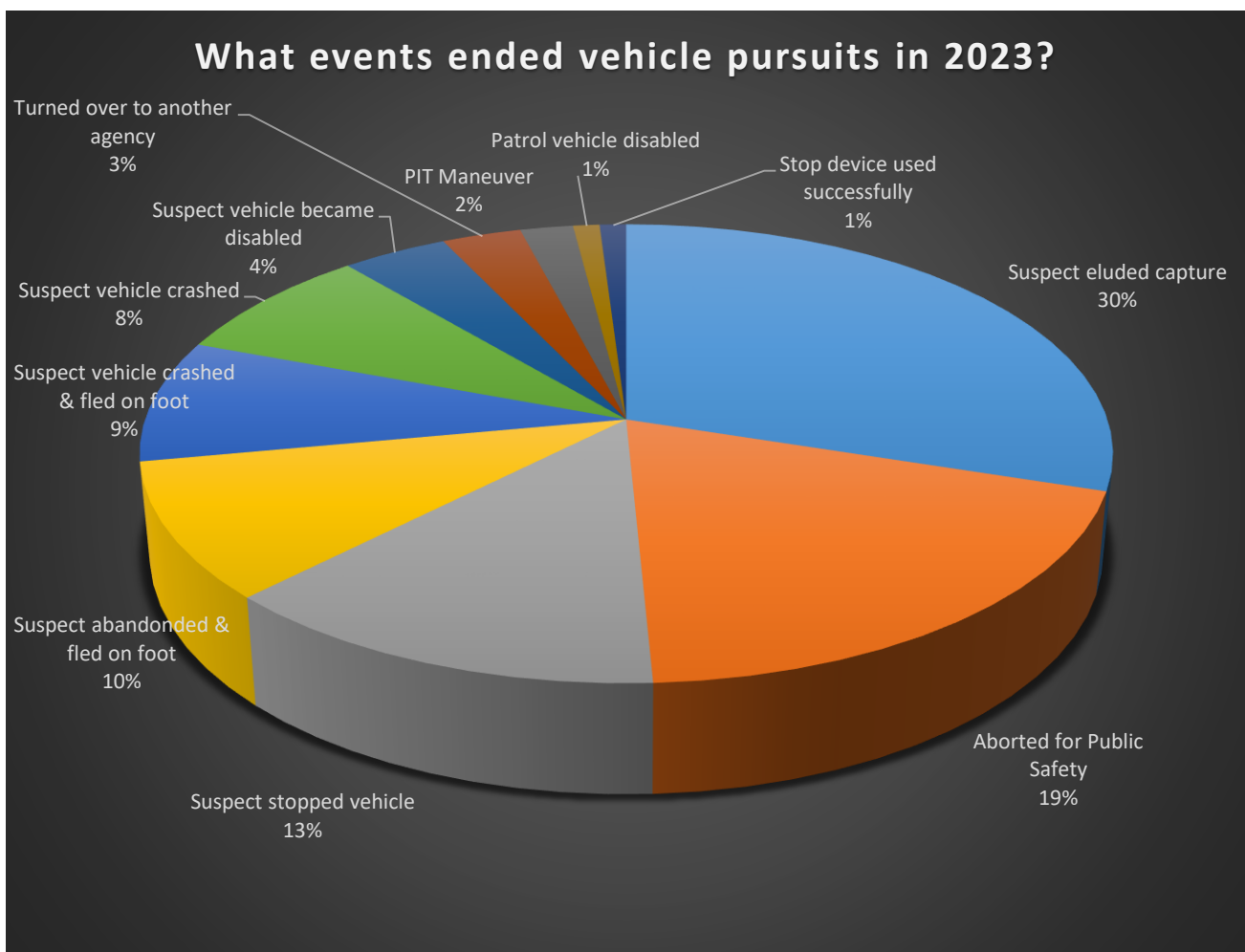
What were the top reasons VPD initiated a vehicle pursuit?





Pursuit Analysis 2023

Events Concluding Pursuit	Total
Suspect eluded capture	59
Aborted for Public Safety	38
Suspect stopped vehicle	26
Suspect abandoned & fled on foot	19
Suspect vehicle crashed & fled on foot	17
Suspect vehicle crashed	16
Suspect vehicle became disabled	8
Turned over to another agency	6
PIT Maneuver	4
Patrol vehicle disabled	2
Stop device used successfully	2





Pursuit Analysis 2023



2024 PURSUIT COLLISION REDUCTION INITIATIVE

CONCLUSIONS:

- Overwhelmingly, 34 of the 41 vehicle accidents reflected speed as the primary collision factor, with unsafe turning as the second most noted primary collision factor in 4 of the collisions.
- Of the 41 vehicle pursuits resulting in a vehicle accident, 36 were during clear weather conditions, four were during cloudy weather conditions, and one pursuit was during wet or rainy weather conditions.
- Of the 41 vehicle pursuits resulting in vehicle accidents, 24 reflected the initial want as a felony crime, 11 were for a misdemeanor crime, and 6 reflected a vehicle code infraction.
- 36 of the 41 vehicle accidents following a vehicle pursuit resulted in a felony arrest.
- Vehicle pursuits resulting in accidents most commonly occurred on Saturdays and Sundays between 1800 and 2400 hours. One contributing factor to this increase is side-show activities, which typically occur on these days of the week and during these times. These days and times also have a higher level of vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

COLLISION REDUCTION - ACTION ITEM:

In an effort to reduce the number of collisions related to vehicle pursuits, the analysis in this report has identified several risk factors for supervisors and managers to consider when weighing the benefit of continuing a pursuit. Supervisors/Managers should strongly reflect on these factors when deciding to cancel a pursuit to mitigate the number of collisions in 2024. The following are the highest risk factors that result in pursuit collisions:

- **Pursuits on Saturdays/Sundays**
- **Tenure of officer (not a data point, but should be known to the supervisor)**
- **Violator speeding and erratic driving**
- **Night time hours (between 1800-2400)**
- **Pursuits involving felony suspects**