



City of Fond du Lac Police Department

2017 Crime Stats and Related Data



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For Immediate Release

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On Wednesday, July 25, 2018, we had the opportunity to share a few key notes regarding 2017 crime and related statistics with the City Council, and we would like to take this opportunity to expand on some of this important data for our entire community. As you will see, as with any year, there is both some good and bad news. In summary, the crime rate in our City has been decreasing for the past 3 years and 2017 marked the lowest crime rate that we have experienced in the past 10 years. Please read below for details about some trends that people in our community should know. *(Please note that these statistics are for the following categories that are collected by the Wisconsin Department of Justice – Bureau of Justice Information and Analysis.)*

Violent Crime

- Murder & Non-negligent Manslaughter
- Forcible Rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault

Property Crime

- Burglary
- Larceny – Theft
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson

Combined Property and Violent Crime Rate Key Notes

- 2017 marked the lowest crime rate in the City in the past 10 years
- The overall crime rate in the City has been dropping for 3 consecutive years

Property Crime Summary and Key Notes

- 2017 is the lowest property crime rate year we have had in the City in the past 10 year period
- The Property Crime rate in the City has been dropping substantially since 2014 – dropping more than 25% in the past 3 years
 - 2014 = 1,206 index property crimes
 - 2015 = 1,018 index property crimes – a 15% drop
 - 2016 = 959 index property crimes – a 6% drop
 - 2017 = 903 index property crimes – a 6% drop
- Theft incidents remain as the most common type of all criminal acts that occur in our City; comprising of 79% of all crimes
- The reported incidents of burglary in our City in 2017 and 2016 were the 2 lowest rates we have had in the past 10 years

Violent Crime Summary and Key Notes

- The Violent Crime rate dropped approximately 15% from 2016 to 2017
- The biggest drops were:
 - Aggravated Assaults – down 26%
 - 62% of all violent crimes in the City are aggravated assaults
 - The majority of which involve incidents of domestic violence
 - Domestic abuse remains the leading cause of all violent crime in our community
 - Forcible Rapes – down 18%
 - In 2017 reported incidents of forcible rape marked the lowest number we have seen in the City in the past 10 years
- We saw an increase in Robberies in 2017
 - There were 19 robberies in 2017
 - We usually experience 11 or 12 robberies in the City in a calendar year
 - That is the highest number we have seen in the past 10 years
 - The majority of these robberies each year are drug related
- There was 1 homicide in the City in 2017
 - That was the first homicide in the City since July of 2015 – a span of approximately 26 months

Other Important Information That You Should Know

Drug Enforcement

The drug epidemic facing our nation continues to be one of our top enforcement priorities. Just how high of a priority has drug enforcement been? Well, over the course of the past 5 years we have arrested an astonishing number of people for felony drug related criminal activity in and around our City – *we have arrested more than 400 people for felony drug related criminal activity in the past 5 years!* Many of those cases have included arrests for major drug trafficking operations – and there are more to come. Our message to the drug traffickers that still operate in our area – “*stand by, we’ll be knocking at, or perhaps knocking in, your door soon.*”

Of course, no agency fights the drug epidemic solo and we have been very fortunate to have some great law enforcement partners who continue to play a vital role in partnering with us in these successful investigations, arrests and prosecutions; in particular, those partners have included:

- Fond du Lac County Sheriff’s Office
- Fond du Lac County District Attorney’s Office
- Lake Winnebago Area MEG – Drug Unit
- Wisconsin Department of Justice – Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI)
- United States Attorney’s Office – Eastern District Wisconsin
- United States Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Agency (ATF)
- United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
- Wisconsin State Patrol
- North Fond du Lac Police Department

Teamwork has been critical to our success and without their help we would not be having the successes that we have had.

Gun Related Criminal Activity

Although the overall crime rate has trended very positively for 3 consecutive years, we did experience a rash of gun related crimes between September 2017 and June 2018. More specifically, there were 14 substantiated or verified acts of criminal activity that involved a gun; with shots being fired in 6 of these incidents. Included amongst these incidents were:

- 1 Homicide
- 1 individual being shot during an altercation
- 1 individual firing a handgun as he was trying to outrun Police Officers that were chasing him

In the interests of protecting the integrity of ongoing investigations or pending prosecutions, we are not at liberty to publicly discuss all of the enforcement methods and activity that we have been using in response to this activity. However, we can share that we have made arrests in 11 of these 14 incidents. Additionally, we can share that we believe that our response has been very aggressive and continues to be extremely effective. As mentioned with drug enforcement activity, teamwork has been critical to our response and effectiveness with arrests and prosecutions; in particular, by the following law enforcement partner agencies:

- Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office
- Fond du Lac County District Attorney's Office
- Lake Winnebago Area MEG – Drug Unit
- Wisconsin Department of Justice – Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI)
- United States Attorney's Office – Eastern District of Wisconsin
- United States Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Agency (ATF)

We anticipate publicly speaking about some of these investigations, arrests, and prosecutions soon.

Violent criminals illegally possessing or using firearms is a serious problem in our nation, and we are clearly not immune from it here in east-central or northeast Wisconsin. Again, our law enforcement response has been, and remains, very proactive and continues to produce arrests that help us get these violent offenders off our streets. We look forward to publicly sharing more details about these efforts soon.

In Summary

The members of our community have been, and continue to be, very helpful and supportive of our efforts to protect and serve this City. As is shown by the overall crime rate reductions, together, we continue to have some great success in maintaining an overall excellent quality of life in the greater Fond du Lac area. Of course, we need to be mindful of some of the problems that continue to challenge our nation and that we have experienced locally and throughout our part of the State. As the arrest data shows, your Police Department, along with our local, state and federal law enforcement partners, continue to work aggressively and very effectively to protect our community. Please continue to stay informed – remember, an informed community is a better-protected one.

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