

2023 Vehicle Pursuits Analysis

Milwaukee Police Department

Updated March 7, 2024



Summary of the Findings

- In 2023, vehicle pursuits increased 5% (1,078) from 2022 (1,029)
- Distance and duration increased in 2023 compared to 2022
- Pursuits associated with reckless driving (8%) or violent felonies (4%) increased slightly in 2023 compared to 2022
- Pursuits associated with drug related offenses (-6%), other traffic offenses (-27%), or refusal to stop (-54%) decreased in 2023
- 30% (327) of vehicle pursuits involved a crash compared to 26% (268) in 2022
- 32% (340) of pursuits were terminated by law enforcement
- Vehicle pursuits occur most frequently on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays between the hours of 7:00PM-9:59PM

Pursuits by Work Location

Work Location	2022	2023	2022-2023 % Change
District 1	18	33	83%
District 2	203	253	25%
District 3	160	246	54%
District 4	125	114	-9%
District 5	197	165	-16%
District 6	102	29	-72%
District 7	221	262	19%
CIB	53	54	2%
SPD	47	42	-11%
Other	5	4	-20%
Total	1,029	1,078	5%

Reason for Pursuit

Reason	2022	2023	2022-2023 % Change
Traffic Offense – Reckless Vehicle	648	701	8%
Violent Felony	267	279	4%
Drug Related Offense	65	61	-6%
Other/Unknown	8	9	13%
Non-Violent Felony	8	8	0%
Traffic Offense – Other	11	8	-27%
Refusal to Stop	13	6	-54%
Misdemeanor Offense	3	4	33%
Warrant	6	2	-67%
Total	1,029	1,078	5%

Pursuit Outcome

Outcome	2022	2023	2022-2023 % Change
Terminated - By LEO	407	340	-16%
Violator Escape	212	198	-7%
Other/Unknown	124	172	39%
Terminated – Crash	149	170	14%
Terminated – By Violator	102	159	56%
Violator Vehicle Failure	35	39	11%
Total	1,029	1,078	5%

2023 - 32% (340) of pursuits were terminated by law enforcement.

Pursuit Distance & Duration

- In 2023, the average pursuit distance was 3.94 miles, compared to 3.60 miles during the same time period in 2022.
- The average pursuit lasted 4 minutes and 57 seconds in 2023—an increase from 4 minutes and 39 seconds in 2022.

2023 Top 5 Longest Pursuits

Distance (miles)	Duration (hh:mm)	Reason for Pursuit	Outcome of Pursuit
71.61	1:03	Violent Felony	Terminated – Violator Stopped; Driver arrested; Recovered meth 2.49g
49.9	00:55	Drug Related Offense	Terminated – Violator Stopped; Vehicle struck outside agency squads; Recovered cocaine/fentanyl .42g
44.77	00:34	Traffic Offense – Reckless Vehicle	Violator Vehicle Failure; Recovered crack 2.35g, meth 2.38g, marij. 7.56g
44	00:39	Traffic Offense – Reckless Vehicle	Other; Recovered marij. 6,444g
43.45	00:40	Violent Felony	Violator Vehicle Failure; Subject identified and arrested at a later date

