



Department of Public Works

**Mariano A. Schifalacqua**  
Commissioner of Public Works

**James P. Purko**  
Deputy Commissioner of Public Works

January 9, 2002

To the Honorable, the Common Council

Dear Honorable Members:

We have received inquiries from public officials as well as the media regarding the number of parking citations issued and corresponding revenue collected in 2001. The following includes a summary of this information.

Table 1 shows parking citations issued and citation revenue collected for each year from 1999-2001. As shown, over 1.2 million parking citations were issued in 2001, an increase of 58.3% over the prior year. Of this amount parking enforcement issued 1.03 million citations, an increase of nearly 75% from the previous year. Parking enforcement issued over 84% of all parking citations issued in the City of Milwaukee in 2001. The Milwaukee Police Department and the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee issued over 183,000 citations, an increase of 6.7% over the 2000 level. Citations issued by these entities represent 15% of total parking citations issued.

As you know, the Common Council authorized an additional 20 parking checkers in the 2001 budget. Most of these positions became productive in late February and early March after an exam was issued, interviews conducted and extensive training performed. As shown in Table 1, the additional positions had a significant impact on citation issuance in March and thereafter.

Revenues collected from parking citations totaled over \$19.4 million, an increase of 50.3% over 2000. The 2001 budget projected \$21.7 million. We will continue to analyze collection and payment patterns, but there are a few noteworthy trends. The revenue collected per citation in 2001 totaled \$15.88 as compared to \$16.73 in 2000. The 2001 budget was based on an estimate of \$16.76, similar to the 2000 level which also reflected an increase in the cost of a citation as adopted in the 2001 budget. However, preliminary data show that there is an increase in the number of citations paid before late fees are incurred. In addition, as more citations are issued, more citations will go unpaid or go unpaid for longer periods of time. This may have short-term implications on citation collections.

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Another result of an increase in authorized parking checker positions in 2001 is the increase in the number of vehicles towed to the City Tow Lot. Preliminary data show that 31,646 vehicles were towed in 2001, an increase of 3,856 vehicles, or 14%, over 2000, which was a record setting year. Of the vehicles towed, 19,201 vehicles, or 61%, were abandoned and 12,445 vehicles, or 39%, were illegally parked. Of the 31,425 vehicles processed in 2001, 15,834 vehicles, or 50%, were recycled and 13,123 vehicles, or 42%, were returned to the owner. The remaining vehicles (8%) were sold through the J-Bid process.

Although we are still collecting and analyzing 2001 data, we hope that you find this preliminary information helpful. If you have specific questions and would like additional data, please contact Dorinda Floyd at extension 5582.

Sincerely,



Mariano A. Schifalacqua  
Commissioner of Public Works

DRF  
Attachment

Table 1  
City of Milwaukee  
Parking Citations Issued and Parking Citation Revenue Collected on a Monthly  
1999-2001

Month	Parking Checker Citations				Handwritten Citations*				Skeletal Citations**							
	1999	2000	2001	99-00 % Ch	00-01 % Ch	1999	2000	2001	99-00 % Ch	00-01 % Ch	1999	2000	2001	99-00 % Ch	00-01 % Ch	1999
January	35,499	43,126	44,917	21.49%	4.15%	28,298	22,360	23,781	-20.98%	6.36%	828	838	945	1.21%	12.77%	64,623
February	51,026	43,272	73,987	-15.20%	70.98%	18,548	21,911	17,555	18.13%	-19.89%	689	2,227	711	223.22%	-68.07%	70,263
March	54,025	65,477	97,026	21.20%	48.18%	23,536	15,533	17,944	-34.00%	14.89%	470	521	868	10.85%	68.60%	78,031
April	51,147	55,237	98,548	8.00%	78.41%	15,533	12,626	13,034	-18.82%	3.23%	571	648	810	13.49%	25.00%	67,271
May	46,600	53,834	100,101	15.52%	85.94%	14,384	13,010	12,836	-9.55%	-1.34%	377	827	351	119.36%	-57.58%	61,361
June	46,582	50,916	93,122	9.35%	82.89%	13,708	9,028	9,765	-34.14%	8.16%	425	1,090	480	156.47%	-55.96%	60,695
July	49,096	44,737	94,762	-8.88%	111.82%	13,087	8,008	10,713	-38.81%	33.78%	542	1,271	510	134.50%	-59.87%	62,725
August	48,273	45,854	86,277	-5.01%	88.16%	16,307	11,871	14,835	-27.20%	25.81%	538	1,717	993	219.14%	-42.17%	65,118
September	57,537	50,818	79,553	-11.68%	56.54%	18,815	12,183	13,229	-35.25%	8.59%	523	683	644	26.77%	-2.87%	76,875
October	58,991	48,816	103,855	-17.25%	112.75%	18,049	13,877	14,880	-23.11%	7.23%	451	814	1,283	80.49%	55.16%	77,491
November	46,309	54,248	85,927	17.14%	58.40%	16,414	12,026	15,373	-26.73%	27.83%	906	1,495	867	65.01%	-42.01%	63,629
December	46,444	32,441	71,630	-30.15%	120.80%	18,283	19,125	19,163	4.61%	0.20%	701	-37	1,318	-105.28%	-3862.16%	65,428
Annual Total	591,509	588,776	1,029,705	-0.46%	74.89%	214,980	171,558	183,108	-20.20%	6.73%	7,021	12,074	9,760	71.97%	-19.17%	813,510

\* Handwritten citations include both Police Department and HACM issued citations.

\*\* Skeletal citations are those citations paid in advance of being received and processed by the Violations Bureau.

Source: Professional Account Management