

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The 2020 Annual Report shows a significant decrease in many categories, which can be directly attributed to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The pandemic caused many businesses and retail establishments to close for a significant period, which greatly reduced the number of employees, patrons and visitors to these establishments. Vehicular traffic was also greatly reduced during this time period.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Upper Merion Township Police Department is pledged to engage in a cooperative effort with our citizens to achieve and maintain a superior quality of life within our community. To the greatest extent possible, our actions will reflect the priorities of our citizens. Remaining committed to the principles of honesty, integrity, and professional ethics, we will work diligently to reduce the incidence and fear of crime and promote an atmosphere of well being. Our efforts are aimed at helping Upper Merion Township continue to be a good place to live, visit, work and worship.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Upper Merion Township Police Department provides a full range of police services on a 24-hour-a-day basis. The Department services a geographical area of 16.7 square miles and is located in Montgomery County which is approximately 20 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

The Township is bordered by a 4.4 mile section of Route 76 (Schuylkill Expressway); a 5.2 mile section of the Pennsylvania Turnpike; and a 2.2 mile section of the County Line Expressway (Route 422), which are all patrolled by the Pennsylvania State Police.

Historic Valley Forge National Park, being mainly in Upper Merion Township, brings prestige and national recognition to the area. Also located in the Township is a large industrial area, the King of Prussia Town Center, and the expanded King of Prussia Mall, which is one of the largest shopping complexes in the country. In addition to the industrial and business aspect of our community, we also host four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. Although the resident population is 28,395 (2010 census), the commercial/transit/industrial composition invites an estimated daytime population of over 200,000 people.

The Upper Merion Police Department continually seeks to partner with our culturally diverse community to maintain a safe environment for our residents and the Township's many visitors.

On the Township's web-site (www.umtownship.org) various types of information can be accessed concerning the department's activities; including Crime Alerts, Weekly Crime Bulletins, Safety Tips, Community Response Unit, the Lock for Life Program and a Special Needs Registry. Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @UMerionPD.

**2020
POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION**

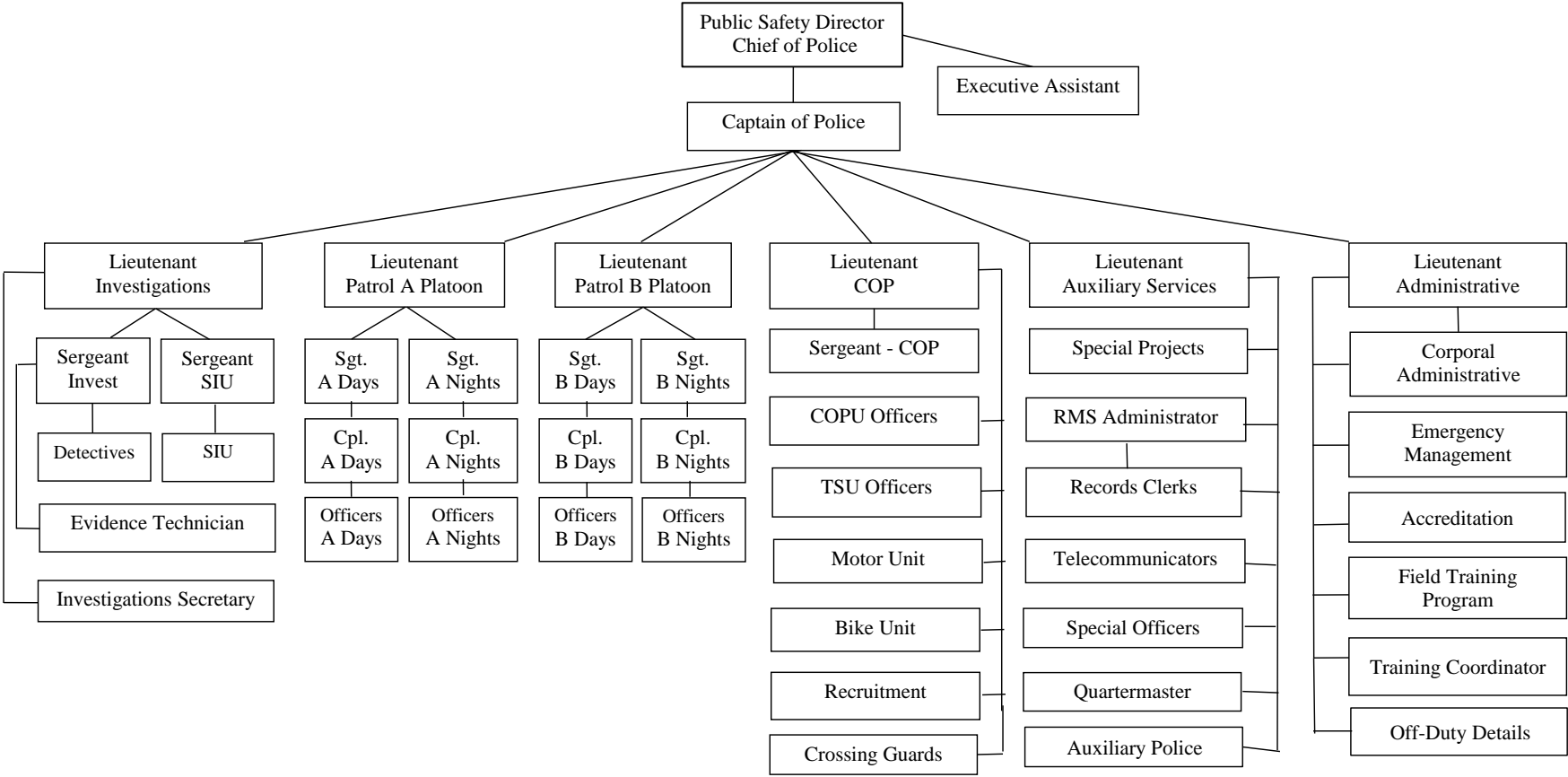
SWORN OFFICERS:

CHIEF OF POLICE	1
CAPTAIN OF POLICE	1
LIEUTENANTS	6
SERGEANTS	7
CORPORALS	5
PATROL OFFICERS	35
DETECTIVES	13
JUVENILE DETECTIVES	2
TOTAL:	70

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES:

RMS ADMINISTRATOR	1
RECORDS DIVISION PERSONNEL	2
SECRETARIES	2
QUARTERMASTER	1
SPECIAL OFFICERS	2
EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN	1
TELECOMMUNICATORS: FULL-TIME	7
TELECOMMUNICATORS: PART-TIME	2
CROSSING GUARDS	7
CROSSING GUARDS: SUBSTITUTE	2
TOTAL:	27

**Upper Merion Township Police Department
Organizational Chart
2020**



2020 COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING

In March of 1997 the Upper Merion Police Department established a full-time Community Relations Unit which has established a variety of programs to educate our residents and business community. In January of 2013 the Police Department changed the name to the Community Response Unit, along with the structure, to better respond to the needs of the Community, while keeping the integrity of the programs that were started and to add new programs with the intent of expanding services to the community. The change was also intended to highlight the fact that the entire department is community relations oriented and that community policing will remain very active throughout the Township. In 2018, the Police Department's Community Response Unit and Traffic Safety Unit combined resources to better serve our residents. This new unit is now a part of the recently created Community Oriented Policing Division in the Police Department.

2020 POLICE CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The Police Department established a Police Chaplain Program in an effort to aid the Department in its efforts to advance the Community Policing Concept. The program is a voluntary partnership between the Clergy and the Police Department to help improve the quality of life for residents and the Police Department. The partnership will endeavor to help maintain strong community relations through the exchange of vital information that will help residents better understand police activity and procedures. The Chaplain Program will make counseling and pastoral services available to our Community, and the members and families of the Police Department, whenever such services are requested. The Police Chaplain, who has training in pastoral care in the the world of law enforcement, will offer counseling and spiritual care during emergencies and times of crisis and turmoil, and the aftermath. There are currently five clergy from different denominations who volunteered for this program, and are "on call" whenever their services are requested.

2020 COP CAMP

In 2019, the Police Department again sponsored the Annual Cop Camp in cooperation with the Upper Merion Park and Recreation Department. Since it's establishment in 2013, the objective of the camp has been to forge positive relationships between the police and area youth. The Cop Camp "Cadets" are taught teamwork, lessons in personal safety, and respect for themselves and for others as they participate in thought-provoking police-related activities. Cop Camp's regimented police training includes crash investigation and traffic enforcement with the Traffic Safety Unit, hostage rescue with the SWAT Team, K-9, Bicycle Unit and crime scene investigations with UMPD Detectives. Additional teamwork and physical conditioning are accomplished through games like tug-of-war, kickball and daily obstacle courses. During camp, cadets are acquainted with numerous police officers, fire fighters, and paramedics and the camp concludes with a graduation ceremony and cookout. Cop Camp is open to well-disciplined boys and girls who reside in the Upper Merion Area School District who provide a good conduct letter from their school.

The 2020 COP CAMP was cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

2020 MED Rx RETURN

The Police Department joined with the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office to provide a method where people can safely dispose of unused prescriptions and over the counter medications. A Med Rx Return Box was placed in the police lobby where it is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Prescription medication, patches, pet medication, over the counter medications, and vitamins are just a few examples of the medications that can be collected. No needles, liquids or inhalers can be collected at this site. These returned medications will then be turned over to the District Attorney's Office on the National Drug Take Back Initiative that they sponsor twice a year in October and in April, to be properly disposed of where the effects of these drugs do not end up in the rivers, streams and ground water. In 2020 we collected 346.5 lbs. of prescription medication.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS IN 2020

Internet Safety, DA National Drug Take Back Initiative, Tours of Police Headquarters, Bullying Education, Township Adventure Day Camp, Child Fingerprinting, Upper Merion Farmers Market, Police Chaplain Program, School Walk Through Program, C.A.S.T. (Community Alliance for a Safer Tomorrow), presentations to numerous businesses and houses of worship on Police Response to an Active Shooter, Cop Camp, Senior Scam Programs, Lock for Life Program, Coffee with the Cops, Police Week Demonstration, Career Days, National Night Out, Med Rx Return, Seat Belt Safety Awareness in cooperation with the Montgomery County Health Department and PennDot.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, some of the above listed Community Response Activities and Programs were cancelled for 2020.

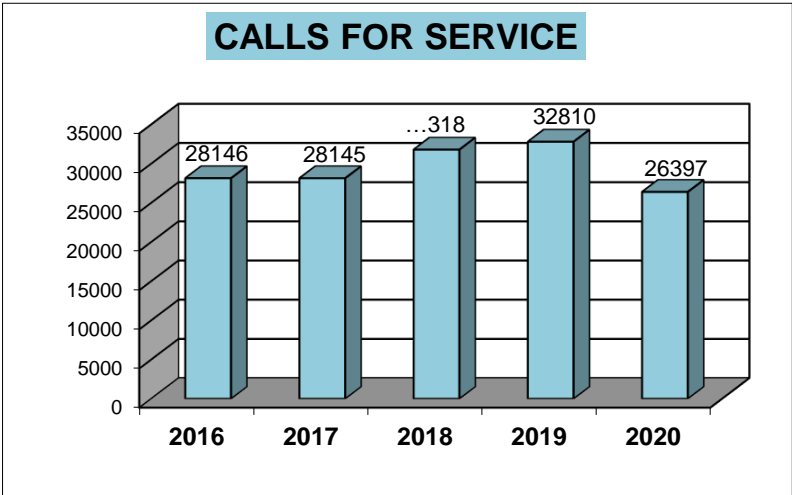
2020 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

In October 2020 the COP Division planned and hosted their third National Night Out. They teamed up with other local leaders to bring an afternoon of entertainment, information and fun to our community. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. In one evening, UMPD visited six different neighborhoods within Upper Merion Township to strengthen our relationship with as many residents as possible. The community had a chance to meet a large number of Upper Merion Police Officers, enjoy music, eat local food, play games and more. Community members also had the opportunity to learn about local resources and programs.

2020

CALLS FOR SERVICE

2020	26397
2019	32810
2018	31803
2017	28145
2016	28146



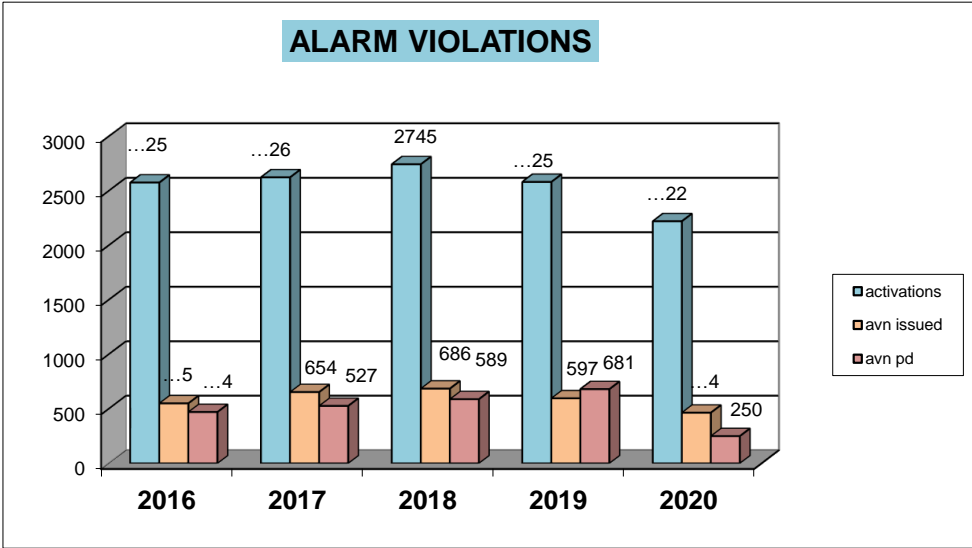
In 2020 UMPD had 26,397 Calls for Service which was a decrease of 6,413 from 2019.

2020 ALARMS

In 2020 Patrol Officers responded to 2222 alarms, which was a decrease of 361 from 2019. Alarm Violation notices issued were 465 in 2020, which was a decrease of 132 from 2019.

ALARM VIOLATION NOTICES

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ACTIVATIONS	2577	2625	2745	2583	2222
AVN ISSUED	551	654	686	597	465
AVN PAID	471	527	589	681	250

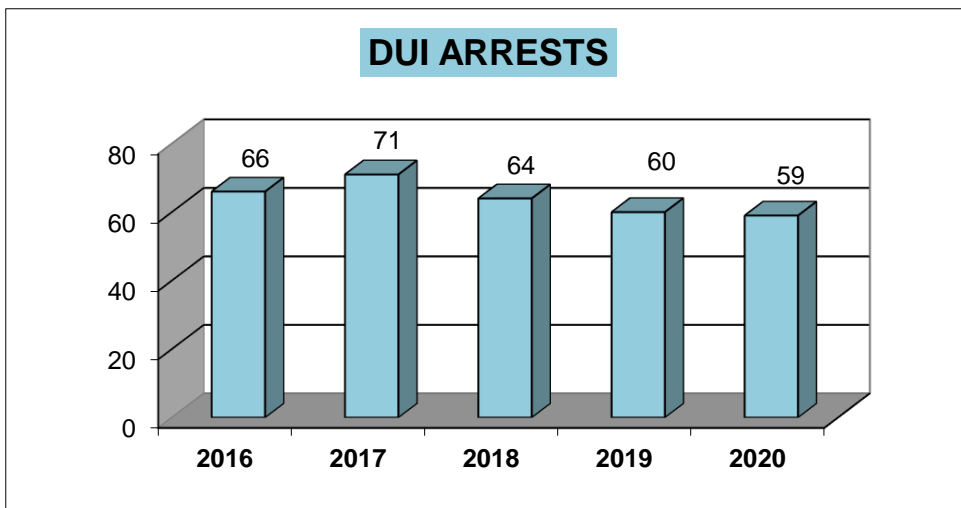


2020

DUI ARRESTS

(Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs)

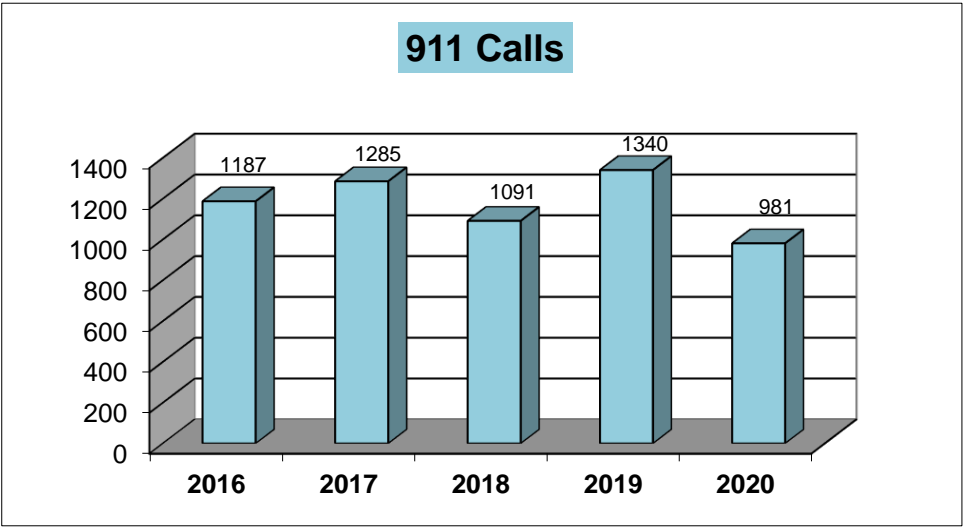
The patrol division arrested 59 drivers for driving under the influence in 2020 which was a decrease of 1 from 2019. Members of the department also participated in DUI Enforcement Patrols during the year.



2020

911 HANG-UP RESPONSES

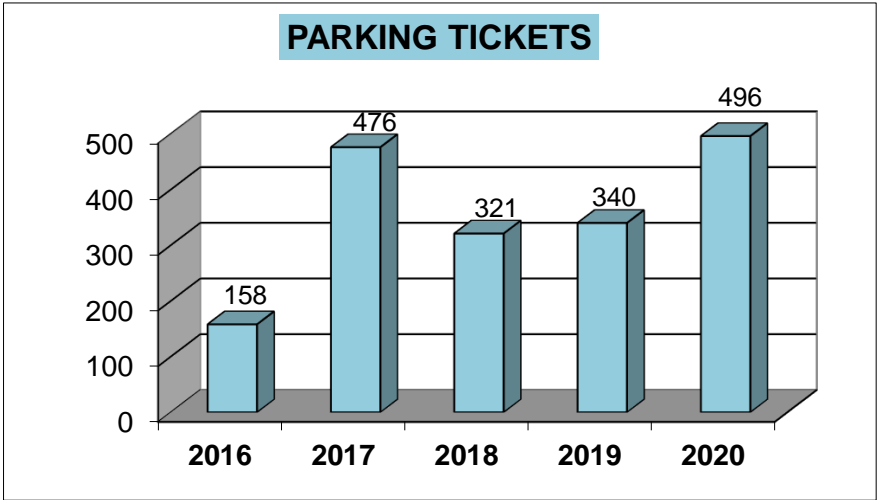
911 hang up responses occur when a caller contacts the Montgomery County 911 Center and hangs up before providing any information. The caller's phone number and address are automatically displayed on the County computer screen. If a County Dispatcher is unable to get an answer on call back, then the location data is transferred to our department. Two officers are dispatched to the location to check on the situation. The vast majority of 911 hang-up calls turn out to be caused by accident, yet each one must be treated as a potential emergency. The Police Department continues their efforts to reduce nuisance locations for 911 hang-up calls.



2020

PARKING TICKETS

496 Parking Tickets were issued in 2020 which was an increase of 156 over 2019.



PARKING TICKETS

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
158	476	321	340	496

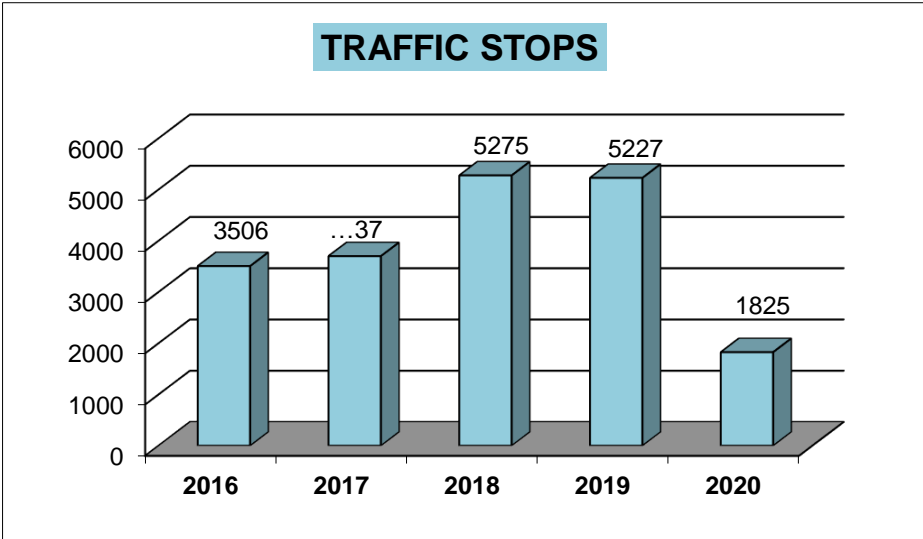
2020

TRAFFIC STOPS

In 2020 a total of 1825 traffic stops were initiated by the Patrol Division. The 2020 total represents a decrease of 3402 traffic stops from the 2019 total.

TRAFFIC STOPS

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTAL	3506	3700	5275	5227	1825



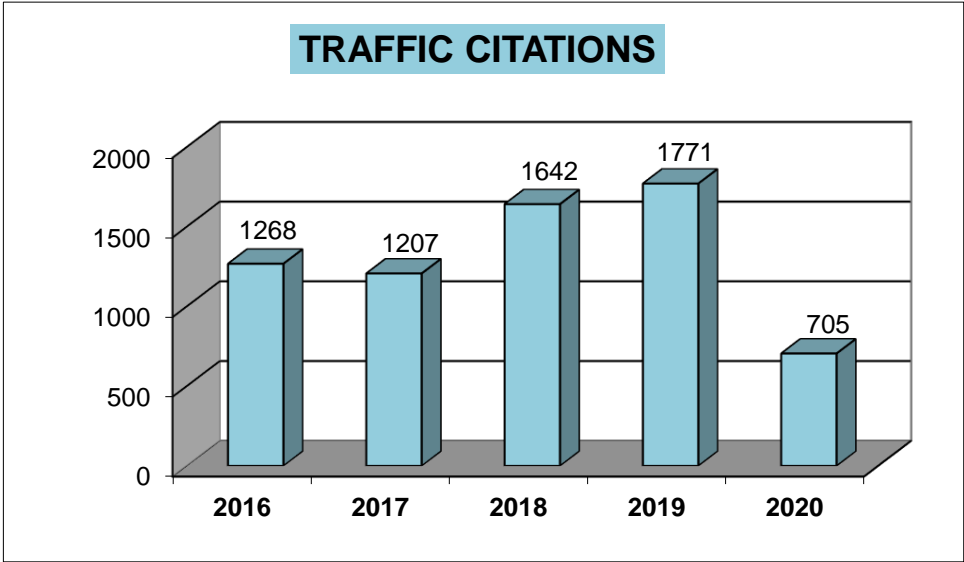
2020

TRAFFIC CITATIONS

In 2020 a total of 705 Traffic Citations were issued by the Patrol Division. The 2020 total represents a decrease of 1066 citations from the 2019 total.

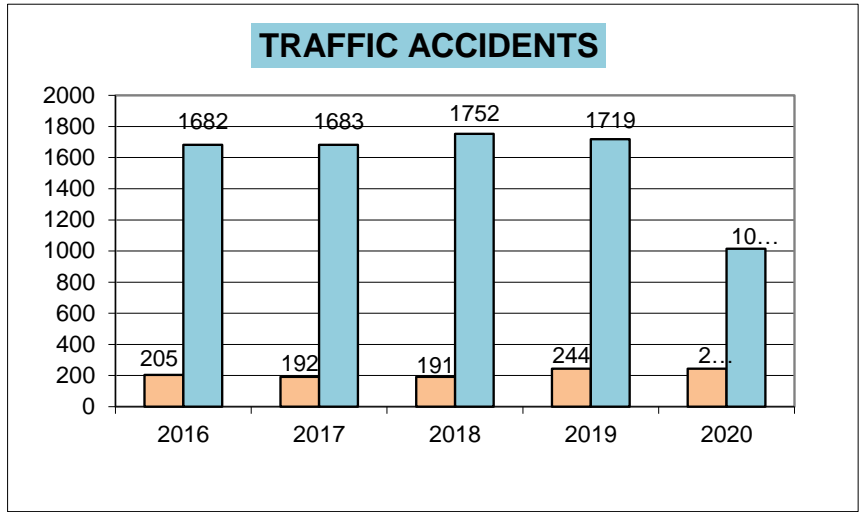
TRAFFIC CITATIONS

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTAL	1268	1207	1642	1771	705



TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

The police department investigated 1258 auto accidents in 2020. When compared with 2019, there was a decrease of 705 accidents in 2020.



TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
REPORTABLE*	205	192	191	244	244
NON-REPT.	1682	1683	1752	1719	1014
TOTAL	1887	1875	1943	1963	1258

* A reportable accident requires death, injury or vehicle towing

**2020
PART 1 CRIMES / CLEARED**

Serious Crime as classified by the FBI

	CRIMES	CLEARED	% CLEARED
HOMICIDE	1	1	100%
RAPE	1	1	100%
ROBBERY	8	5	63%
ASSAULT	10	10	100%
BURGLARY	54	14	26%
THEFT**	669	266	40%
AUTO THEFT	23	40	174%
ARSON	0	0	0%
TOTAL	766	337	44%

**2020
PART 2 CRIMES / CLEARED**

Less Serious Crime as classified by the FBI

	CRIMES	CLEARED	% CLEARED
FORGERY & FRAUD	264	63	24%
OTHER ASSAULTS	56	50	89%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROP.	6	6	100%
DRUGS	69	67	97%
SEX CRIMES	22	14	64%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	20	19	95%
LIQUOR LAWS	0	0	0%
VANDALISM	78	23	29%
ALL OTHERS *	327	297	91%
TOTAL	842	539	64%

*All others includes crimes that are not listed above. (Weapons Offenses, Prostitution, Public Drunkenness, DUI, and all other offenses).

**Theft includes "retail theft" which is by far the most frequent crime committed in Upper Merion Township due to the large number of retail businesses.

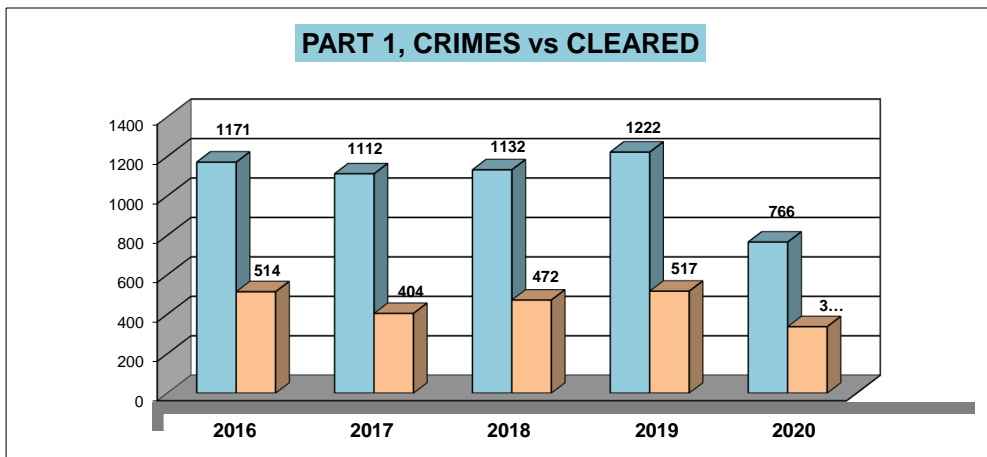
Uniform Crime Report (UCR)

PART 1 CRIMES 5 YEARS

YEAR	Criminal Homicide	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Auto Theft	Arson	Total Part Crimes	% Change
2016	0	2	10	3	57	1079	20	0	1171	0.0%
2017	0	3	12	3	30	1042	20	2	1112	-5.0%
2018	0	4	10	9	30	1055	19	5	1132	1.8%
2019	0	1	10	8	35	1141	23	4	1222	8.0%
2020	1	1	8	10	54	669	23	0	766	-37.3%
TOTAL	1	11	50	33	206	4986	105	11	5403	

PART I CRIMES CLEARED 5 YEARS

YEAR	Criminal Homicide	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Auto Theft	Arson	Total Part Cleared	% Cleared
2016	1	1	8	2	19	478	5	0	514	44%
2017	0	1	6	3	7	384	3	0	404	36%
2018	0	0	5	8	15	441	3	0	472	42%
2019	0	1	8	8	7	482	8	3	517	42%
2020	1	1	5	10	14	266	40	0	337	44%
TOTAL	2	4	32	31	62	2051	59	3	2244	42%



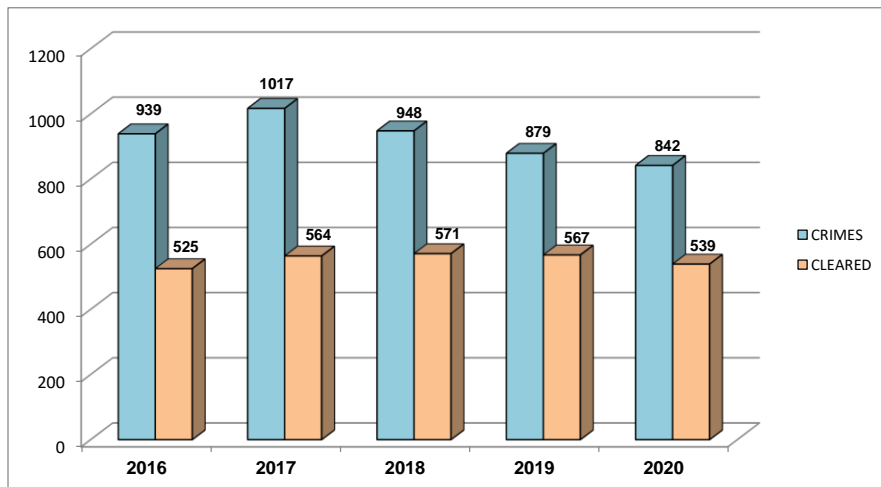
Uniform Crime Report (UCR)

PART 2 CRIMES - 5 YEARS

YEAR	FORGERY COUNTERFEIT	OTHER ASSAULTS	RECEIVING STOLEN PROP	DRUGS	SEX CRIMES	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	LIQUOR LAWS	VANDALISM	MOTHERS	ALL TOTAL	% CHANGE
2016	278	60	1	71	27	33	4	104	361	939	#VALUE!
2017	316	43	0	103	27	31	5	76	416	1017	8%
2018	279	42	1	79	25	24	2	110	386	948	-7%
2019	255	44	3	64	30	24	5	67	387	879	-7%
2020	264	56	6	69	22	20	0	78	327	842	-4%
TOTAL	1392	245	11	386	131	132	16	435	1877	4625	

PART 2 CRIMES CLEARED - 5 YEARS

YEAR	FORGERY COUNTERFEIT	OTHER ASSAULTS	RECEIVING STOLEN PROP	DRUGS	SEX CRIMES	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	LIQUOR LAWS	VANDALISM	MOTHERS	ALL TOTAL	% CLEARED
2016	81	51	1	69	15	32	4	17	255	525	56%
2017	66	34	0	93	24	31	5	8	303	564	55%
2018	76	38	0	75	11	24	2	28	317	571	60%
2019	69	37	3	57	19	24	5	17	336	567	65%
2020	63	50	6	67	14	19	0	23	297	539	64%
TOTAL	355	210	10	361	83	130	16	93	1508	2766	60%



2020

JUVENILE ARRESTS

2020 NUMBER OF JUVENILES ARRESTED

Part I Crimes	Number of Arrests		Part II Crimes	Number of Arrests	
	2019	2020		2019	2020
Homicide	0	0	Forgery / Fraud	4	0
Rape	0	0	Other Assaults	2	0
Robbery	0	0	Embezzlement	0	0
Assault	3	0	RSP	0	1
Burglary	0	2	Vandalism	0	0
Theft	89	31	Weapons	0	1
MV Theft	0	0	Prostitution	0	0
Arson	0	0	Sex Offenses	3	4
			Drugs	6	0
			DUI	0	0
			Liquor Laws	0	2
			Drunkenness	0	1
			Disorderly Conduct	2	1
			All Others except Traffic	4	7
Total	92	33	Total	21	17
			Grand Total	113	50

2020 YOUTH AID PANELS				2020 CURFEW VIOLATIONS		
Referred	Completed	Dropped	Still Active	Citations Issued	Warnings	Total
34	19	15	0	0	0	0

JUVENILE ARRESTS					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Arrests	128	113	108	113	50

