Safe

Opportunities for Action

For Individuals

- Advocate for your emergency services as National polls depict 86% of law enforcement professionals do not feel the public fully understands the risks they face.
- Use available technology to remain current and receive local emergency alerts and warnings through personal devices.
- Suspected opioid overdose is a medical emergency. Individuals have received or acquired naloxone products which are administered to persons in an opioid overdose. These individuals receive little to no training in the administration of these products. If the product is administered too fast or inappropriately there is a potential the recovering person can become aggressive or violent.
- Stop participating in distracted driving, such as texting while operating a motor vehicle. Stay focused and cognizant.

For Organizations

- Support and promote outreach groups to build networks, provide education and share accurate information on issues or threats.
- Develop response and security protocols to accommodate your staff and the persons your organization serves.
- Assist individuals leaving incarceration by providing stable housing and employment opportunities causing lifestyle change while being cognizant this is a group that will occasionally fail.
- Focus on solutions and funding to better serve individuals with mental health needs.

For the Community

- Be committed to being a community where all people can maximize their full potential feeling valued regardless of their diverse background, experiences and perspectives.
- Public safety is a two way street. Public safety messages can be shared daily, but unless heard and acted on, they are ineffective.
- Be aware that international issues may affect religious communities and area businesses within this community.
- Emergency services cannot function when fear over misperceptions or even deliberate mischaracterizations inhibit required role of maintaining the community.

SAFE

Successes & Progress

- Marathon County established and is implementing a uniform address system in all townships and the two villages that agreed to participate. This will provide a sequential address numbering system in those areas with no confusion pertaining to similar or same road names being used. This process should be completed in 2019.

- Marathon County District Attorney and area law enforcement implemented a "Proxy" system to assess whether or not an offender is best suited for initial incarceration or if a summons/referral is more appropriate for future court appearances. The Proxy has resulted in a reduction of jail bed days required to house offenders in Marathon County. Out of County jail housing needs have decreased and $50,000.00 in budget dollars were saved.

- The Sheriff's Office, Wausau Police Department and North Central Health Care Center implemented a Crisis Assessment Response Team (CART) with the goals to reduce the numbers of involuntary detentions, provide better access and divert persons to mental health services and provide immediate crisis response to alleviate demand on the Crisis Center. In 2018, CART responded to 41% of all mental health calls for service resulting in a 36% decrease in emergency detentions.

- Technology paves new avenues for criminals to engage in fraudulent schemes and avoid detection. The Sheriff's Office forensic technology lab works directly with Marathon County law enforcement and is building partnerships with other central Wisconsin law enforcement agencies to impact crime committed through technology.

- The Sheriff's Office and North Central Health Care Center received an $80,000.00 grant from the Wisconsin Division of Health Services to create a Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) program in the county jail. This program will be the first in the State to offer Suboxone or Vivitrol to our inmate population to assist with opioid addiction issues. Aspirus Wausau Hospital has offered additional financial assistance and the services of two doctors.

- More area citizens are learning about and receiving local emergency alerts and warnings through their personal devices.

- More individuals and businesses are aware of cyber threats such as data loss risks, viruses, and ransomware which may create problems for their organization or themselves personally.

- Educational opportunities and law enforcement reviews have caused more area businesses to prepare emergency response plans and practice them, ensuring employees have the necessary equipment, know where to go and know how to keep themselves safe when an emergency occurs.

Calls to Action

- Effective radio communications for all emergency services is essential. It provides responders with valuable safety and response information helping all gain a better understanding of the situation. The needs of the community have been assessed and evaluated through various studies which indicate the vital need to open another radio channel for law enforcement services. The Sheriff's Office is working with the community to accomplish this while remaining fiscally responsible.

- The uniform addressing system was implemented in all of Marathon County's townships and in two villages. This helped eliminate various grids that were being used. Other municipalities should follow the direction initiated, eliminating inconsistent directional data, road names and numbering systems. This would assist toward Marathon County's goal of being the safest county.

- Shortages continue in addiction treatment professionals being available. A 2018 Wisconsin Professional Police Association survey identified 77% of respondents feel law enforcement should treat people addicted to opioids as persons in need of care and treatment rather than only as criminal offenders.

- The Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) program is offered in the county jail, but this needs to be expanded outside of the correctional setting as a majority of the persons impacted by opioid addictions are not in our jail but being treated at local medical facilities.

- Initiate local discussions that could drive national decisions focusing on solutions and funding to better serve individuals with mental health needs moving away from incarceration to better suited means and methods to serve this vulnerable population.

- Impaired driving is a significant and growing problem as communities elect to decriminalize or legalize other controlled substances. Communities need to be cognizant of how these changes will impact law enforcement, human services and the health care system.

CONCERNS OF PERSONAL SAFETY Indicator 44

Why is this Important?

The psychological barrier of fear and awareness of our personal safety is not new. People frequently express concern for their personal safety. Personal safety focuses on how comfortable or safe one feels in any given situation under any circumstances whether in urban or rural environments. If one perceives the threat of violence or intimidation caused by others, this causes people to be less likely to enjoy life. In reality, crime can occur in any neighborhood no matter how safe it is deemed. Depending on economic times people are more distressed about rising crime.

Being vigilant will aid individuals and law enforcement in maintaining the safety of a community. A recent survey conducted by the Wisconsin Professional Police Association indicated 76% of State residents feel being safe from crime is a high priority. In that same survey, 73% thought the police spend the right amount of time in their neighborhoods.

Inclusive communities displaying a practice of including people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, such as persons having physical or mental disabilities and members of minority groups, can lessen preconceived notions or fear and lower a person's personal safety concern.
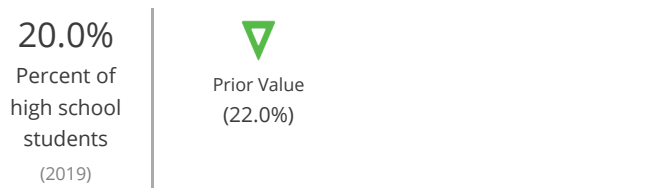
Key Takeaways

Marathon County residents are **experiencing discrimination** in our community.

Be cognizant of what you share on social media as you could be setting yourself or your property to targets for crime.
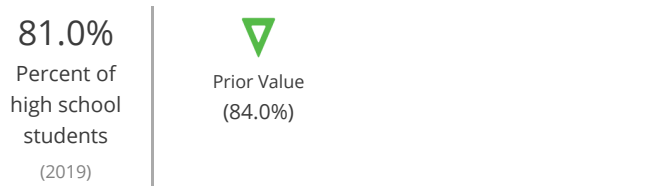
Knowing who lives in your neighborhood will aid in recognizing when a suspicious person is in the area.

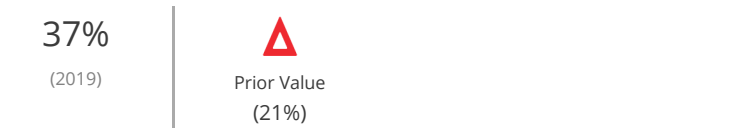## Marathon County teens have concerns about their personal safety at school.

Teens - Violence is Problem at School (High School)

20.0%
Percent of high school students
(2019)

Prior Value
(22.0%)

Teen - Physical Harm at School (High School)

81.0%
Percent of high school students
(2019)

Prior Value
(84.0%)

Marathon County Residents who Experienced Discrimination
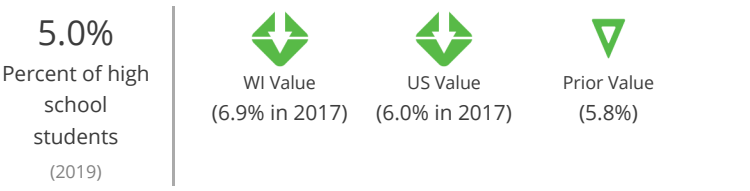
37%
(2019)

Prior Value
(21%)

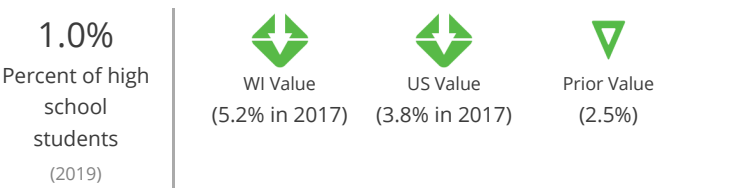## LIFE Survey: Resident Perspectives

9% of LIFE Survey respondents were very concerned about their personal safety in their home.

9% of LIFE Survey respondents were very concerned about their safety when alone in their neighborhood after dark.

Teens Who Were Threatened or Injured with Weapon at School (High School)

5.0%
Percent of high school students
(2019)

WI Value
(6.9% in 2017)

US Value
(6.0% in 2017)

Prior Value
(5.8%)

Teen - Carried A Weapon on School Property (High School)

1.0%
Percent of high school students
(2019)

WI Value
(5.2% in 2017)

US Value
(3.8% in 2017)

Prior Value
(2.5%)

ALCOHOL & DRUG ARRESTS

<div align="right">Indicator 45</div>

Why is this Important?

Marathon County is an urban and rural County depending on the geographic location where one is located. In January 2019, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported higher rates of opioid use and prescriptions in rural communities than seen in urbanized areas. Further information from CDC noted an increase in overdose fatalities in rural areas with those figures surpassing deaths in urban areas. The Marathon County Medical Examiner's Office reports from 2008 to 2018, indicate 88 overdose fatalities from alcohol, illegal drugs and prescription drugs. Marathon County's location in the center of the state makes us attractive to those plying the illegal drug trade.

Alcohol abuse remains an issue. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reported the most frequently recorded blood alcohol level among persons driving while intoxicated in 2017 was .16% BAC. This is twice the legal limit in nearly every state. NHTSA notes in 2016 there was a 42% increase in driver fatalities who tested positive for drugs. Local law enforcement uses community education, high visibility enforcement and officer training to help keep impaired drivers off roads. This includes having officers trained as drug recognition experts who can perform intensive evaluations of suspected impaired drivers.
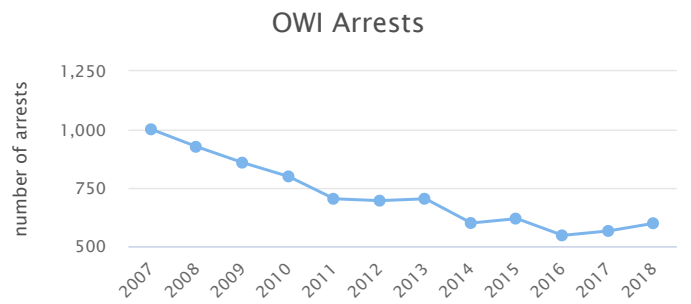
Key Takeaways

Methamphetamine, opioids, cocaine and marijuana are the controlled substances impacting Marathon County the most.
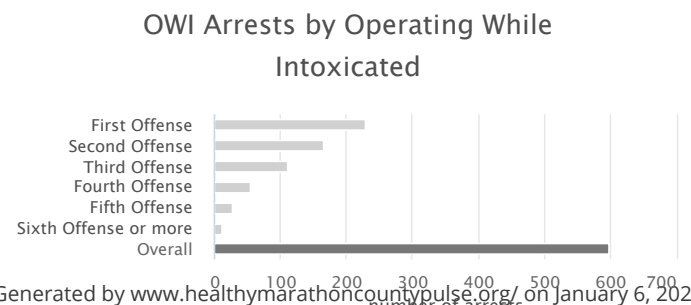
Impaired driving is unsafe driving whether the impairment is the result of alcohol or drugs.

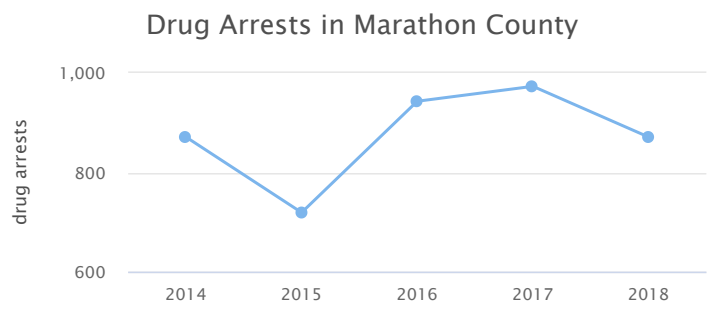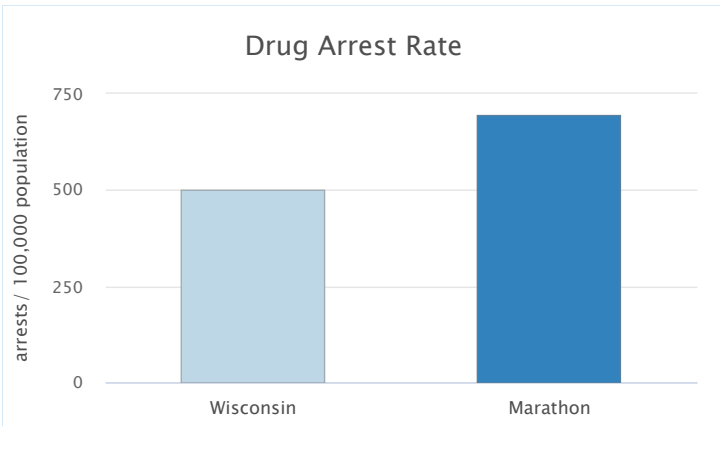New ad campaigns are "If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI."(Driving Under Influence)

Drunk driving arrests continue to decrease significantly in Marathon County.

OWI Arrests

Most drunk driving arrests are first time offenses.

OWI Arrests by Operating While Intoxicated

Marathon County has a significantly higher drug arrest rate than Wisconsin.

Drug Arrest Rate

Drug Arrests in Marathon County

LIFE Survey: Resident Perspectives

Illegal drug use, prescription drug abuse and operating a vehicle while intoxicated were in the Top 5 Concerns of 2019 LIFE survey respondents.

8% of LIFE survey respondents admitted to operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol in the past month.

TRAFFIC CRASHES

Why is this Important?

Highway safety requires every driver and passenger to act in a safe and responsible manner. This includes operating at posted speed limits, wearing safety belts, avoiding being distracted while driving and not operating under the influence of any legal or illegal substances. Nationally, over 90% of traffic crashes involved driver error. Fatalities and injuries from these crashes impact the victims, families and employers. Prevention is key to drivers not making dangerous and irresponsible decisions.

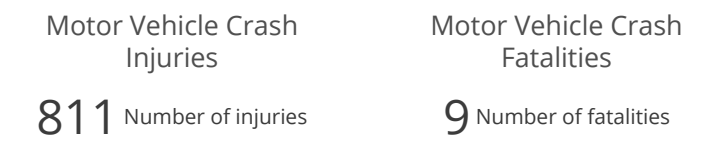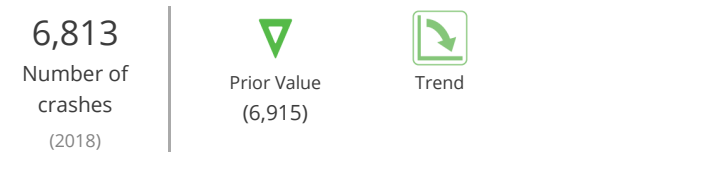Speed and alcohol continue to be the two main contributing factors to motor vehicle crashes.

Wisconsin has seen an 89% seat belt use rate, which still is behind the U.S.average of 90%. In 2016, 41% of drivers/passengers killed in Wisconsin traffic crashes were not wearing seatbelts. Crashes are the leading cause of death for children between the ages of 4 and 8. Age appropriate booster seats protect children from injury better than seatbelts do. Statistics show parents who use child restraint systems are more apt to use seatbelts.
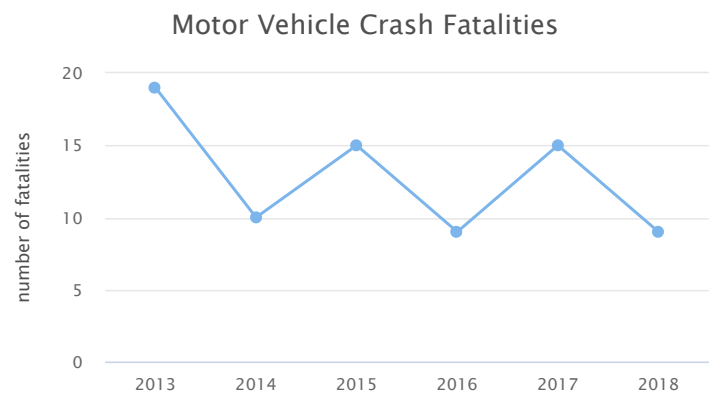
Key Takeaways

On average, Marathon County law enforcement agencies respond to 18 motor vehicle crashes every day.

In 2017 in Wisconsin, 81% of drivers that were killed in a motor vehicle accident had a blood alcohol content (BAC) great than the legal limit of .08.
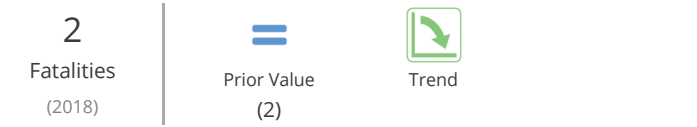
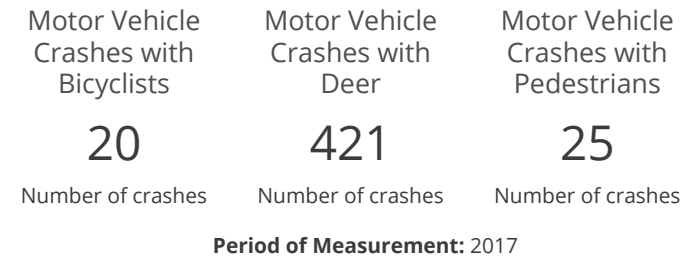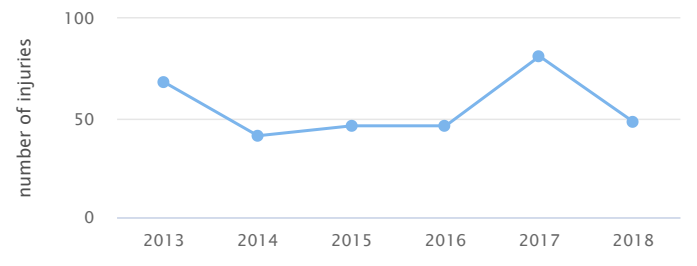## Motor Vehicle Crashes Law Enforcement Responded To

6,813
Number of crashes
(2018)

Prior Value
(6,915)

Trend

Motor Vehicle Crash Injuries

811 Number of injuries

Motor Vehicle Crash Fatalities

9 Number of fatalities

Traffic fatalities have decreased, but not significantly.

Motor Vehicle Crash Fatalities

Generated by www.healthymarathoncountypulse.org/ on January 6, 2020.

Alcohol-Related Motor Vehicle Crash Fatalities

2
Fatalities
(2018)

=
Prior Value
(2)

Trend

Alcohol–Related Motor Vehicle Crash Injuries

Motor Vehicle Crashes with Bicyclists

20

Number of crashes

Motor Vehicle Crashes with Deer

421

Number of crashes

Motor Vehicle Crashes with Pedestrians

25

Number of crashes

Period of Measurement: 2017

LIFE Survey: Resident Perspectives

8% of 2019 LIFE Survey respondents admitted to driving under the influence of alcohol in the past month.

60% of LIFE Survey respondents are very concerned about persons texting while driving

45% of LIFE Survey respondents are very concerned about persons operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

CRIME RATES

Indicator 47

Why is this Important?

During the 2016 Presidential campaign, addressing and fighting crime was a focus. In 2017, Federal prosecutors were instructed to pursue the strongest possible charges against subjects committing crimes. There are two commonly cited sources of crime statistics in the U.S. Both are Federal agencies with one being the FBI and the other the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The FBI collects data from the approximately 18,000 law enforcement jurisdictions around the U.S. The BJS surveys more than 90,000 households inquiring of persons ranging 12 years or older whether they have been victims of crime regardless if it was reported to law enforcement.

Between 1993 and 2017, the FBI reported the violent crime rate fell 49% and according to the BJS it fell 74%. This has not been a steady decline as there have been noticeable increases in violent crime in 2004, 2006, 2014 and 2016. During the same time period, the FBI reported property crime rates fell 50% and BJS reported it was 69%. Interestingly, the figures presented do not coincide with public perception. In the same time span, 6 of 10 Americans felt there was more crime in the U.S. While this perception is at the national level, when discussed locally slightly over 50% feel crime is up in their areas.
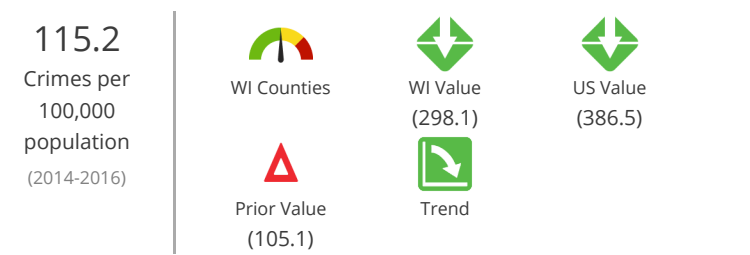
Key Takeaways

Marathon County violent crime rates have remained consistent with a slight increase recently, which is similar across Wisconsin.
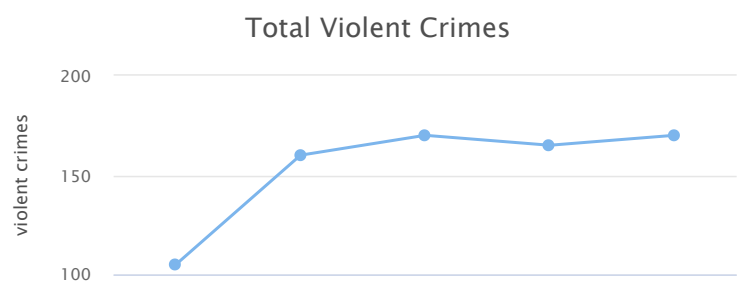
Marathon County property crime rates have decreased, which is consistent with the experience across Wisconsin.

Various factors influence an area's crime rate, such as population density, economic conditions and geographic location.
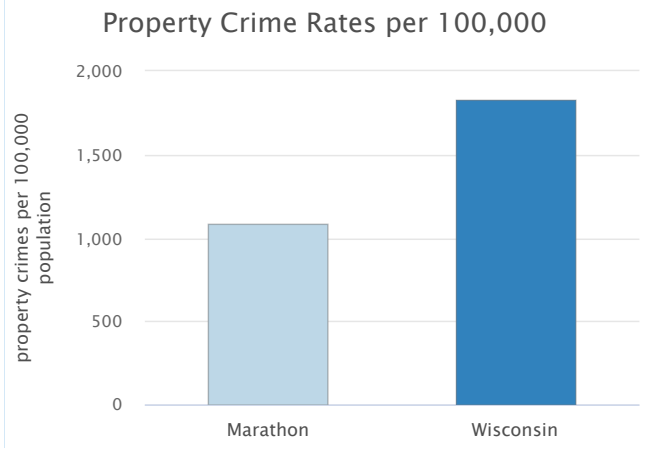
Property crime rates have decreased significantly.

Property crimes include burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Property crimes are committed to obtain property or money and can involve force or threat of force.

Property Crime Rates per 100,000

Violent Crime Rate

115.2
Crimes per 100,000 population
(2014-2016)

WI Counties

WI Value
(298.1)

US Value
(386.5)

Prior Value
(105.1)

Trend

Violent crime in Marathon County is significantly lower than Wisconsin, but has been increasing.

Total Violent Crimes

Property Crime Rates per 100,000

Generated by www.healthymarathoncountypulse.org/ on January 6, 2020.

Why is this Important?

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) conducts annual surveys collected from 90,000 households which asks respondents whether they were victims of crime and if that crime was reported to law enforcement. In 2017, only 45% of violent crimes and 36% of property crimes tracked by BJS were reported to law enforcement. There are many reasons why victims elect to not report crimes. Some may feel that the incident may be too personal or trivial or have the perception law enforcement would not or could not do anything to help. Perception can be reality as in 2017, the FBI using a crime clearance rate measure reported the national clearance rate as 46% for violent crimes and 18% for property crimes.

The use of technology could assist law enforcement with becoming less reactionary to crime already committed and more proactive in predicting where criminal activity is most likely to occur. Software could be utilized to identify trends and develop patterns of activity. Crime prevention methods would be initiated, because the easiest means to solve crime is to prevent it in the first place. The efforts of law enforcement are limited to the factors within its control. As famed risk manager Gordon Graham said, "Predictable is preventable."

Key Takeaways

Crime is a social problem and a community concern.

In 2017, for all offenses reported in the United States, there were 10.5 million arrests.

Problem oriented policing is an analytic method used by law enforcement to develop strategies to prevent or reduce crime.

In the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, a law enforcement agency reports that an offense is cleared by arrest, or solved for crime reporting purposes, when three specific conditions have been met. The three conditions are that at least one person has been:

- Arrested.
- Charged with the commission of the offense.
- Turned over to the court for prosecution (whether following arrest, court summons, or police notice).

In certain situations, elements beyond law enforcement's control prevent the agency from arresting and formally charging the offender. When this occurs, the agency can clear the offense *exceptionally*. Law enforcement agencies must meet the following four conditions in order to clear an offense by exceptional means. The agency must have:

- Identified the offender.
- Gathered enough evidence to support an arrest, make a charge, and turn over the offender to the court for prosecution.
- Identified the offender's exact location so that the suspect could be taken into custody immediately.
- Encountered a circumstance outside the control of law enforcement that prohibits the agency from arresting, charging, and prosecuting the offender.
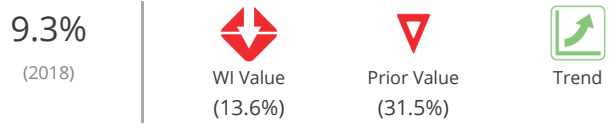
Gathered from www.healthymarathoncountypulse.org/ on January 6, 2020.

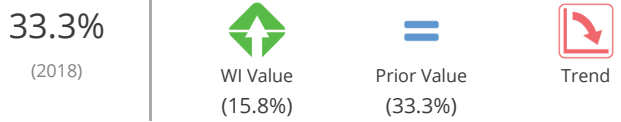### Clearance rates in Marathon County tend to be higher than the state of Wisconsin.
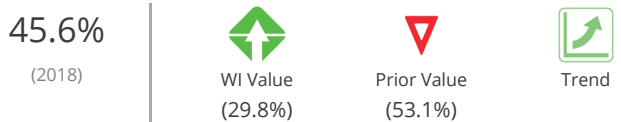
Clearance Rates for Rape Charges

66.7%
(2018)

| WI Value (49.0%) | Prior Value (77.8%) | Trend |

Clearance Rates for Burglary

9.3%
(2018)

| WI Value (13.6%) | Prior Value (31.5%) | Trend |

Clearance Rates for Motor Vehicle Theft

33.3%
(2018)

| WI Value (15.8%) | Prior Value (33.3%) | Trend |

Clearance Rates for Larceny Theft

45.6%
(2018)

| WI Value (29.8%) | Prior Value (53.1%) | Trend |

YOUTH JUSTICE

Why is this Important?

Youth Justice focuses on community safety, accountability, and youth rehabilitation.   Brain development continues to occur for most until the age of 25. During the adolescent years we can expect many youth not to fully comprehend the outcomes of their actions. It is for this reason that youth need intervention when poor decision making occurs. Sometimes parental consequence is enough to remedy the situation, while at other times, restitution may be involved or the action is more serious and requires court intervention along with supervision of the youth.

Current research reflects that youth who are at low risk and have high protective behaviors such as involved parents, a teacher that they are connected to, and activities that they are involved in will often correct themselves and don't need system involvement. However, low risk youth who do not have these protective elements are more likely to reoffend and continue to engage in risky behavior putting themselves and our community at greater risk.

Key Takeaways

Marathon County Social Services continues to carefully evaluate youth that can be deferred from the Youth Justice System.

Youth who have been involved in the Child Protective Services system or have identified mental health issues are more likely to continue to receive referrals based on their behaviors.
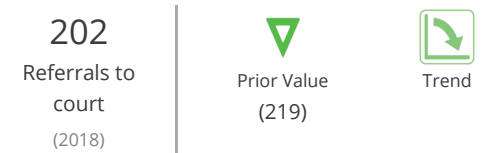
As truancy numbers in Marathon County remain higher than desired, Social Services continues to collaborate with United Way and pilot schools in the Wausau/DC Everest School Districts.

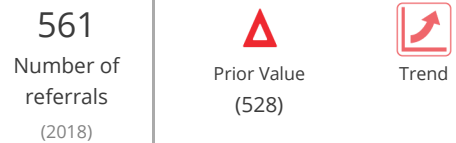## Youth Justice Referrals to Truancy Citation Court

159
Referrals
(2018)

Prior Value
(107)

Trend

The number of youth referrals (youth ages 8-16 years old) directly to Truancy Citation Court from their school.

Youth Justice Referrals Sent to Court

202
Referrals to court
(2018)

Prior Value
(219)

Trend

The number of youth justice referrals (youth ages 8-16 years old) to the Marathon County Department of Social Services for delinquent behavior that are sent to court.
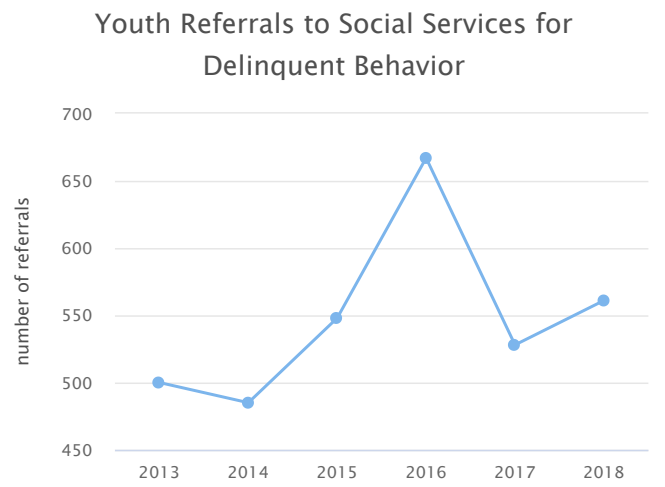
Generated by www.healthymarathoncountypulse.org/ on January 6, 2020.

Youth Referrals to Social Services for Delinquent Behavior

561
Number of referrals
(2018)

Prior Value
(528)

Trend

Juvenile Justice Intake receives and processes referrals from law enforcement agencies and schools. Referrals are reports of delinquent behavior that would be considered a crime or status offense if the juvenile were an adult.

The largest number of youth referrals were for disorderly conduct, theft, battery, criminal damage to property, and drug charges.

Overall, youth referrals to Social Services is increasing.

Youth Referrals to Social Services for Delinquent Behavior

CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

Why is this Important?

Children raised in abusive or neglectful environments are more likely to experience physical and emotional health issues and to display social, cognitive, and behavioral impairments. Abused and neglected children have both immediate and long-term costs for hospitalization, mental health services, educational supports, and legal intervention. Marathon County Department of Social Services provides training to community partners on mandated reporting to ensure that those required by law to report suspected child maltreatment do so when seen in the course of their professional duties.

Anyone who suspects child maltreatment may make a report and is immune from criminal or civil liability. Citizens concerned with a child's safety are encouraged to report suspected child maltreatment directly to Child Protective Services (CPS) at (715) 261-7556 or local law enforcement. You could be the voice for a vulnerable child.
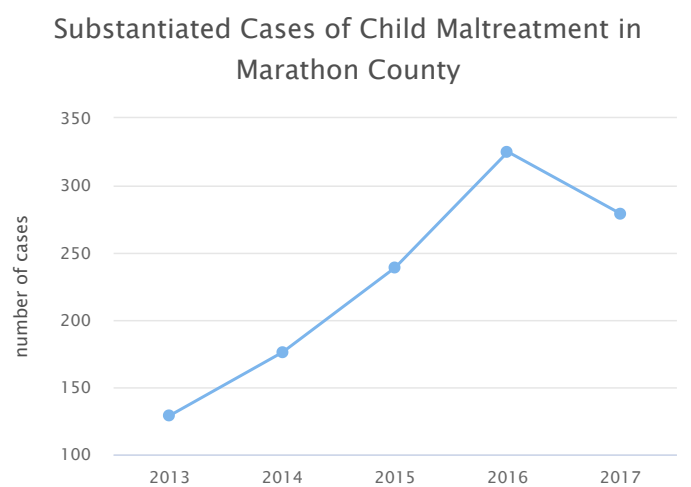
Key Takeaways

At the close of 2017, Marathon County Department of Social Services had 85 children placed in foster homes and 119 children placed in the homes of relatives due to concerns for child abuse and neglect.

Neglect is the most frequent form of substantiated maltreatment in Marathon County and the State of Wisconsin. In Marathon County from January 2016 to January 2018, approximately 70% of children were placed in out of home care as a result of the drug epidemic.
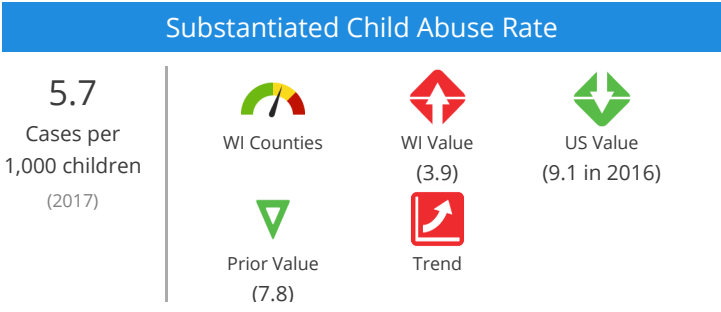
From January 2016 through the end of 2017, Marathon County Department of Social Services completed 1,327 CPS Initial Assessments (this is 44% of the reports that were called in). Of those assessments, 45% of the children that were involved in the assessments were found to have a preponderance of evidence to support that child maltreatment, according to WI Statute Chapter 48, occurred.

Child abuse has decreased for the first time in five years.

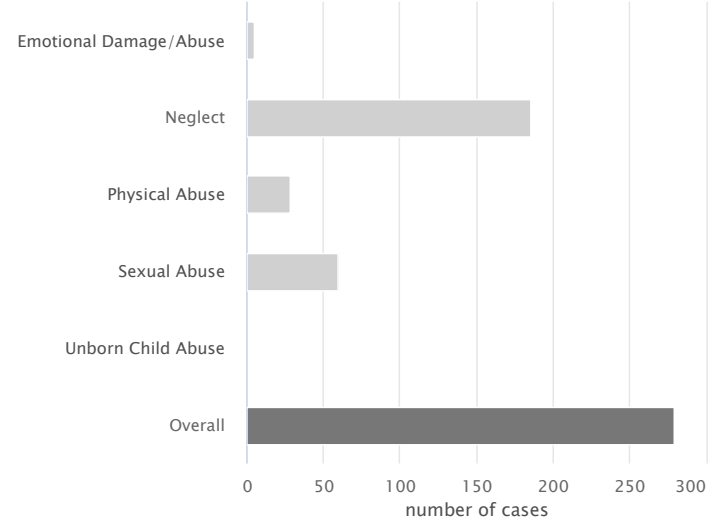### Substantiated Cases of Child Maltreatment in Marathon County

Marathon County has a higher rate of child abuse that the rest of Wisconsin.

Substantiated child abuse rate shows the number of children under 18 years of age that experienced abuse or neglect in cases per 1,000 children.

Substantiated Child Abuse Rate

5.7
Cases per
1,000 children
(2017)

WI Counties

WI Value
(3.9)

US Value
(9.1 in 2016)

Prior Value
(7.8)

Trend

Substantiated Cases of Child Maltreatment in Marathon County by Child Maltreatment Type

Generated by www.healthymarathoncountypulse.org/ on January 6, 2020.

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

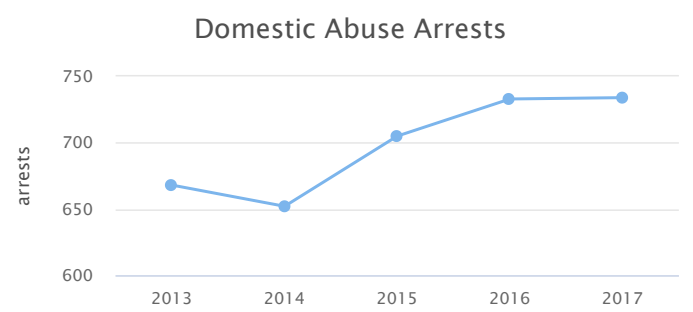## Indicator 51

Why is this Important?

Domestic violence does not discriminate. It occurs in every economic environment, ethnic or religious background, age and community status. Alcoholism or other substance addictions, threats and physical abuse are common factors. Domestic violence devastates lives, families and communities. Yet, many times, domestic violence remains a dirty little secret not to be discussed or shared. This needs to change if impacts are going to be made in the prevention of domestic violence.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), across the U.S. domestic violence has an estimated $8.3 billion annual cost to the economy. Other NCADV statistics relate an average of 20 people are physically abused by their intimate partners every minute in the U.S. 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have been physically abused by an intimate partner. 1 in 3 female and 1 in 20 male murder victims were killed by their intimate partner. Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime. The numbers are tragic, but they are more than statistics. Those numbers represent real people and families who are suffering. Public support and partnerships with local advocacy groups and victim shelters affirms the commitments communities should have in protecting and serving victims.
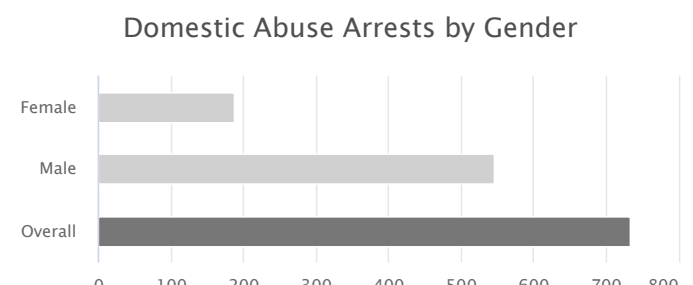
Key Takeaways

Intimate partner violence is on the rise in Marathon County.

In 2018, The Women's Community provided support services to 1765 people (1458 females, 296 males, 6 transgender and 5 undisclosed).

The Women's Community provided shelter to 62 women, 0 men, 63 children and 1 transgender for a total of 7803 nights of shelter.

Domestic abuse arrests are increasing.

Domestic Abuse Arrests

2 out of 3 domestic abuse arrests are male.

Domestic Abuse Arrests by Gender

The number of individuals sheltered and served at The Women's Community continues to increase.

The Women's Community (TWC) is a non-profit organization serving victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault throughout Marathon County, Wisconsin.

Number of Individuals Sheltered at The Women's Community

170 Individuals

Number of Individuals Served by The Women's Community

1,925 Individuals

Teen Partner Violence (High School)

7.0%

Percent of high school students

Percentage of high school students who were physically injured one or more times in the 12 months before the survey by their partner.

Teen Sexual Abuse (High School)

12.0%

Percent of high school students

Percentage of high school students who were forced to take part in a sexual activity.

LIFE Survey: Resident Perspectives

23% of 2019 LIFE Survey respondents are very concerned about domestic violence.

49% of 2019 LIFE Survey respondents were satisfied with the availability of services for victims of family violence or abuse.

ELDER ABUSE & VULNERABLE ADULTS

Indicator 52

Why is this Important?

A vulnerable adult or an "adult-at-risk" is an adult who has a physical or mental condition that substantially impairs his or her ability to care for his or her needs; and has experienced, is currently experiencing, or is at risk of experiencing abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or financial exploitation.

Crimes against the elderly (age 60+) target some of the most vulnerable people in society. Victims often lose thousands of dollars with the cost especially high due to the victim's stage in life. The crimes effect not only the elderly or vulnerable, but their caregivers. Financial abuse impacts society, because as individuals lose funds, they rely on public funds for support.

The most common characteristics of adults-at-risk that are 60 years of age or older are Alzheimer's or dementia, mobility impairment, and medical conditions.

The most common characteristics of adults-at-risk that are 18-59 years of age are developmental disabilities and mental illness.

Adult protective services are present to aid elders and vulnerable adults at risk, who have been abused, neglected or exploited.

Key Takeaways

Elder adults-at-risk are most likely to live alone.

Adults at risk age 60 and older were 58% female and 42% male.

The most common abusers to at-risk adults of any age are family members.

At-Risk Adult Abuse Cases

34
Number of at-risk-adult abuse cases
(2018)

Prior Value
(33)

Trend

The number of at-risk adult (ages 18-59) abuse cases with alleged abuser(s) in Marathon County.

People 65+ Living Alone

25.5%
(2013-2017)

WI Counties

U.S. Counties

WI Value
(28.9%)

US Value
(26.2%)

Prior Value
(25.5%)

Trend

Generated by www.healthymarathoncountypulse.org/ on January 6, 2020.

Elder Abuse Cases

77
Number of elder abuse cases
(2018)

Prior Value
(97)

Trend

The number of elder (age 60+) adults-at-risk abuse cases with alleged abuser(s) in Marathon County.

Why is this Important?

Emergency response is a team effort involving all the emergency service fields. It is the organization and management of resources and responsibilities, such as preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery. The goal is to reduce the harmful effects of all hazards including natural disaster events. Critical events occur daily such as severe weather, violent acts, cyber issues, critical infrastructure and equipment failures, environmental damage, etc. Emergency services drafts plans and policies, followed by training to counteract any possible emergencies, seeking to limit the impact on people and the environment.

Citizens need to consider their own emergency response plan for their homes and businesses. Local law enforcement does provide staff to assist businesses with reviews of their facilities and actions to be considered in reducing risks while making the workplace safer for customers and workers. Marathon County utilizes Everbridge as a direct community outreach alerting all who use the service to receive information by text message, social media, on a smartphone or using a landline phone. This service keeps persons informed in the right language and time during critical events. Persons can opt in to information they wish to receive using their zip code or other data.

Key Takeaways

54% of U.S. households rely solely on cellphones and do not have landline phones.

Communities are building closer to flood and wildfire prone areas. The frequency of severe weather events is increasing across the U.S.

During the period 2009-2019, Marathon County experienced 108 storm events with 25 events causing reportable damage.
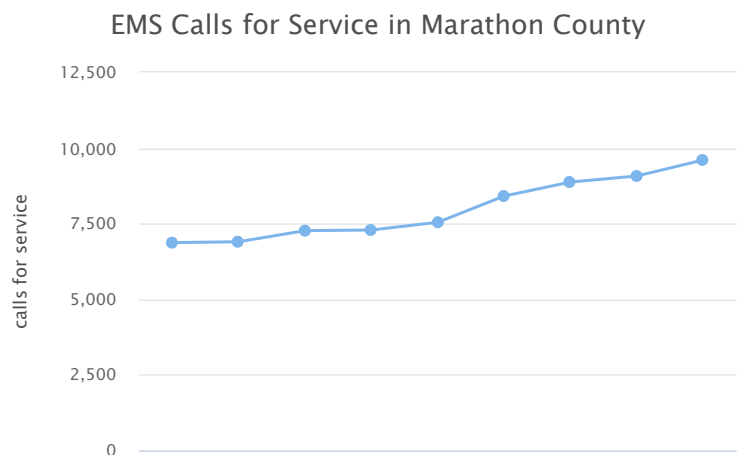
EMS Calls for Service in Marathon County

9,606
Calls for service
(2018)

Prior Value
(9,075)

Trend

Medical emergency calls have increased significantly.

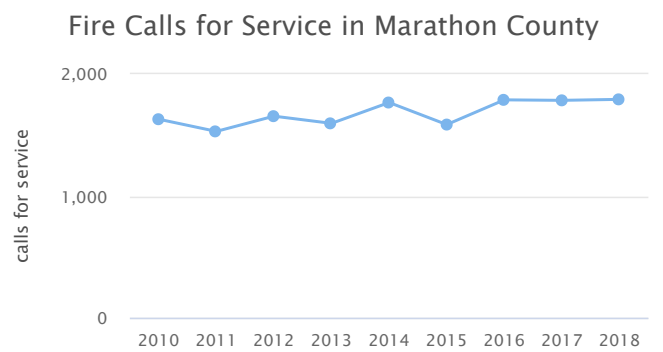EMS Calls for Service in Marathon County

Fire Calls for Service in Marathon County

1,793
Calls for service
(2018)

Prior Value
(1,785)

Trend

Fire calls for service have increased significantly.

Fire Calls for Service in Marathon County

Marathon County Hazards Ranked by Greatest Threat
1. Winter Storm/Extreme Cold
2. Tornado
3. Thunderstorm/High Wind/Hail/Lightning
4. Hazardous Materials Incidents / Groundwater Contamination
5. Flooding / Dam Failure
6. Drought / Extreme Heat
7. Forest Fire / Wildfire

LIFE Survey: Resident Perspectives

70% **of LIFE Survey respondents** agreed that Marathon County is a good place to live.