

Meekeer County Sheriff's Office

2019 Activity Report



Mission Statement

To provide high quality professional services with honor, integrity and courage. These services shall preserve the peace and safeguard the lives and property of all Meekeer County residents through a proactive partnership with the community and our public safety partners.

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Meeker County Sheriff's Office

326 N Ramsey Avenue
Litchfield, MN 55355

Dispatch	320-693-5400
Toll Free	866-333-3366
Jail	320-693-5415
Records	320-639-5400
Confidential Tip Line	320-693-5411
Watkins Station Office	320-764-6792

Website and Social Media

Website: <http://www.co.meeker.mn.us/217/Sheriff>



Twitter [@MeekerCoSheriff](https://twitter.com/MeekerCoSheriff)
Facebook at [Office of the Meeker County Sheriff](https://www.facebook.com/OfficeoftheMeekerCountySheriff)



Dispatching Services



The Meeker County Sheriff's Office Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) is responsible for handling all emergency and non-emergency calls for all agencies in Meeker County. The dispatcher is then responsible for assigning and dispatching the appropriate emergency responders to the reported incident. The Meeker County PSAP received 5,920 911 calls in 2019. The vast majority, 5,182 (87%) are received from a wireless source. The Meeker County PSAP received 23,732 administrative calls in 2019. Combined with 911 calls, our dispatch fielded 29,652 calls in 2019. This is an average of 81 calls per day. The Meeker County PSAP generated a total of 18,922 calls for service for all law enforcement and emergency services units in Meeker County. This represents a 5.8% increase over 2018. The Meeker County Sheriff's Office calls for service for 2019 were 8,496 which represents a 2.8% increase over 2018. The Meeker County PSAP continues to use a regional approach to answering text-to-911 calls. Our text-to-911 calls are sent to another county who in turn relays that information to our dispatch center to be handled accordingly.



TEXT-TO-911

CALL if you can

Text if you **CAN'T**

ABOUT TEXT-TO-911

- Text-to-911 is now available throughout Minnesota. The service was deployed in December 2017.
- Text-to-911 can be the first contact option for individuals who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing or those with speech impairments.
- Text-to-911 should only be used when a person can't safely make a voice call.

Examples:

- When someone must stay quiet to remain safe.
- If peer pressure is strong.
- Text-to-911 is a discreet way to report domestic violence, home invasions, human trafficking, and suicidal individuals.

HOW TO TEXT 911

1. Enter the numbers 911 in the "To" field.
2. Text your exact location and type of emergency.
3. Send the message.
4. Promptly answer questions and follow instructions.

TIPS: Use simple words. Do not use abbreviations, emoji's, pictures or slang (BRB, IDK, THX, 2day and BTW). Do not text and drive!

Texting 911 with a false report is a crime. If you accidentally send a text to 911, send another text, or call 911 to let the dispatcher know that there is no emergency.

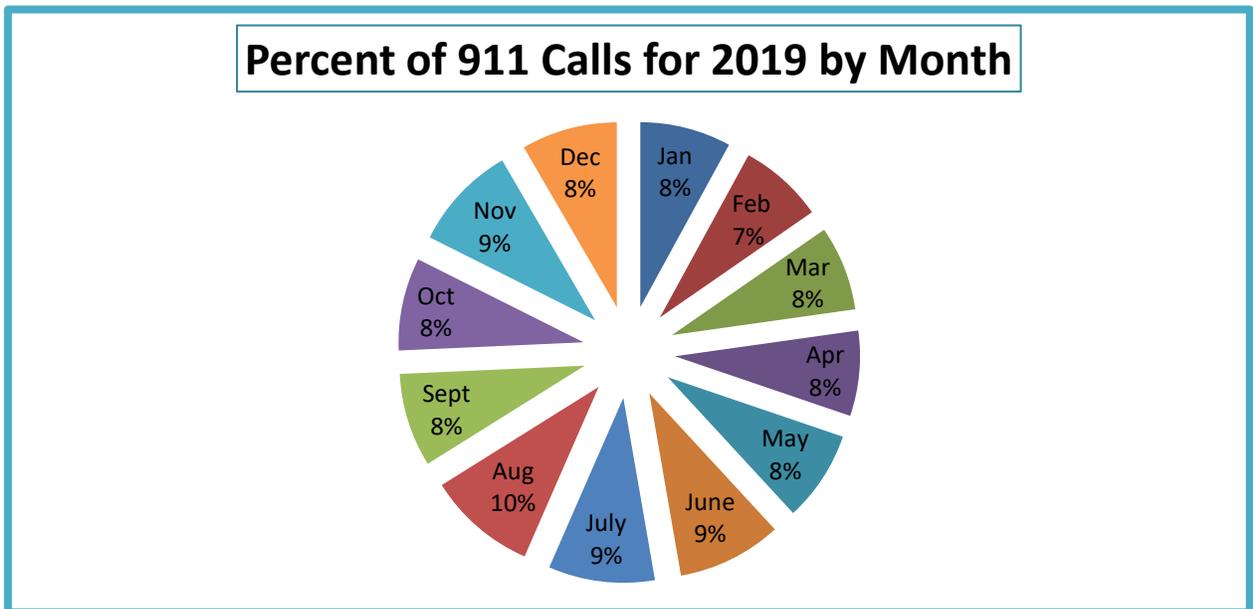
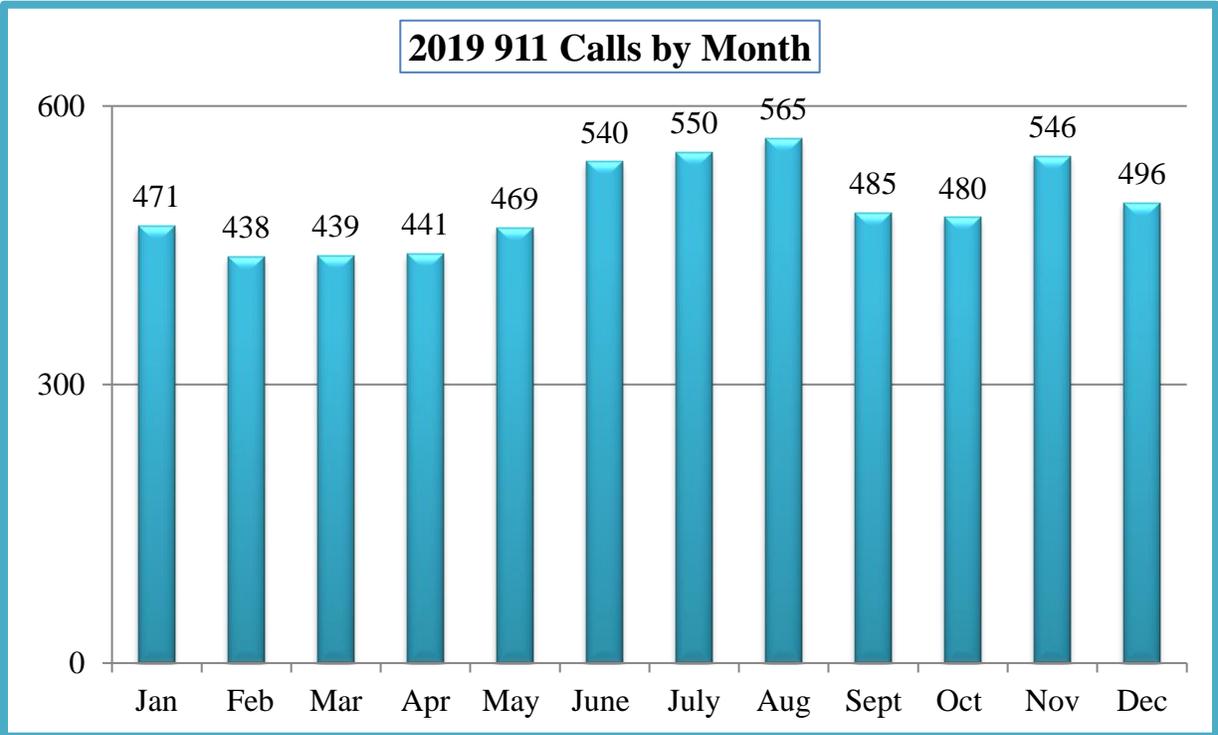
DID YOU KNOW?

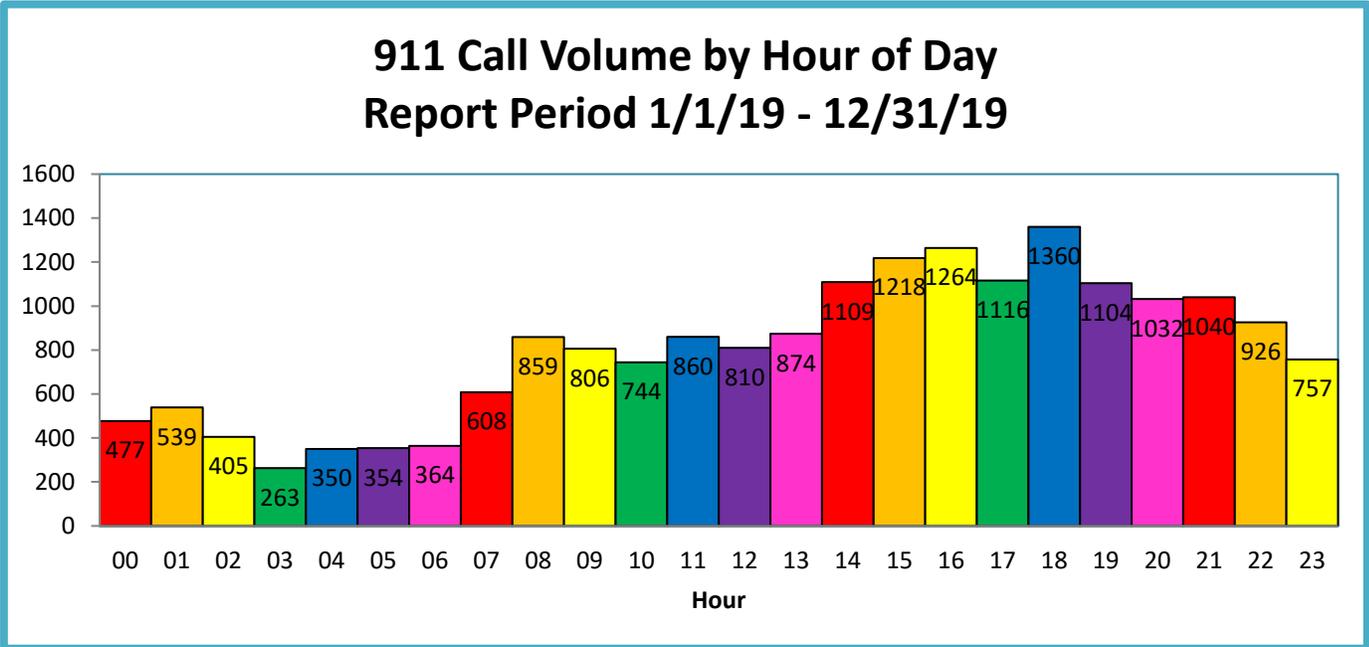
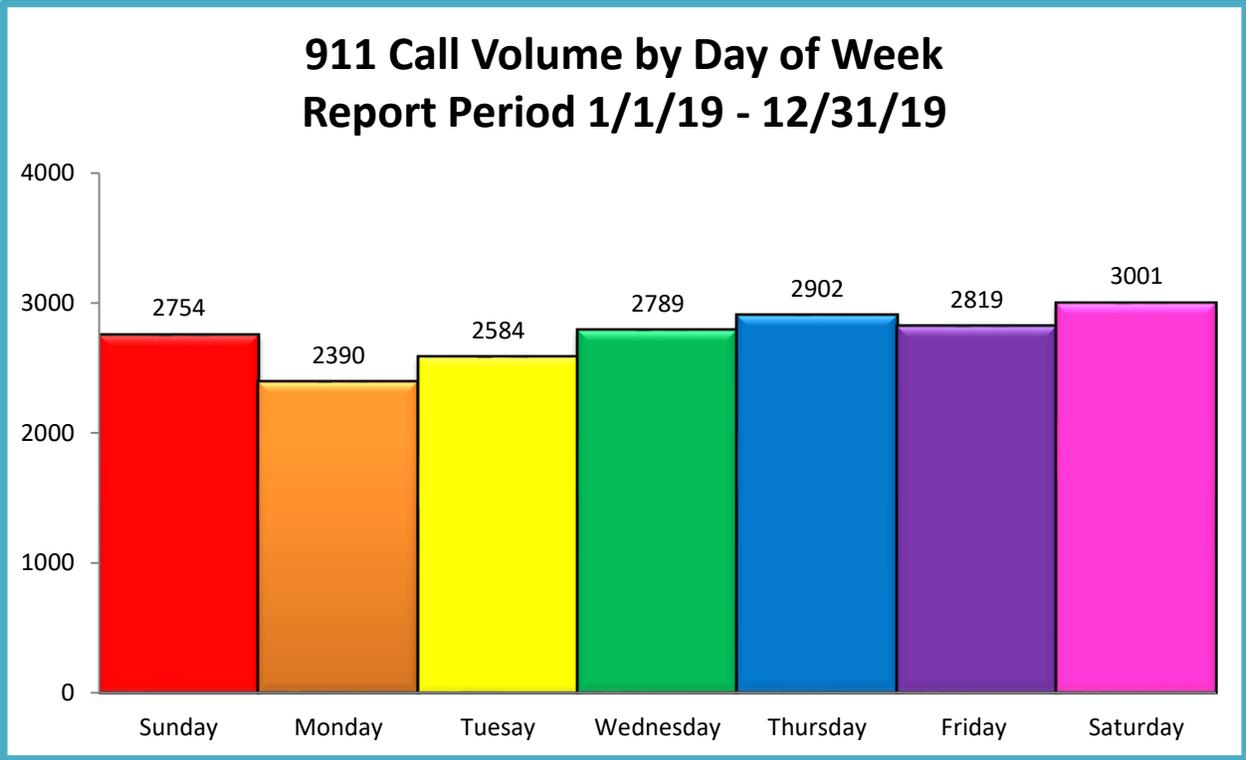
Emergency response may be lengthened due to the time it takes for a text to 911 to be typed and sent. Delivery speed is not guaranteed.

- Dispatchers prefer calls so they can get cues from background noise and voice inflections.
- If you text to 911, dispatchers will ask if they can call you.
- Location is not as accurate with text as it is with a call. Be sure to text your exact address.
- A text or data plan is required to use Text-to-911.
- Texts to 911 will get a bounce back message if you are roaming.
- Texts to 911 have a 160 character limit, can get out of order, or may not be received.
- There is no language translation service for texts to 911.

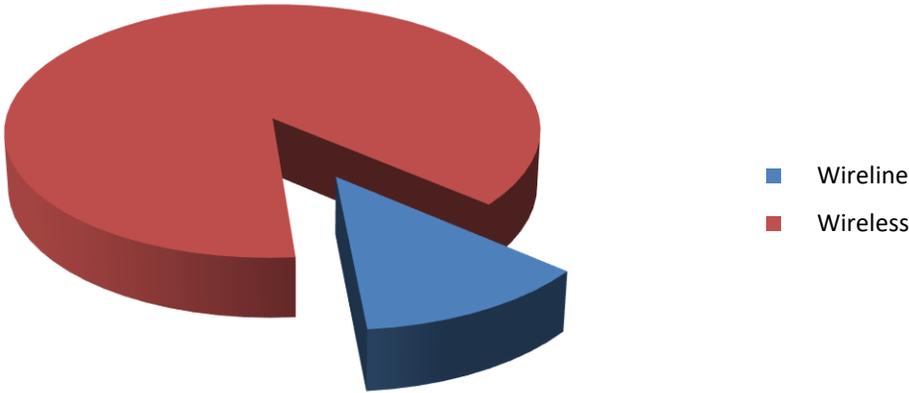


2019 Total 911 calls for Meeker County:





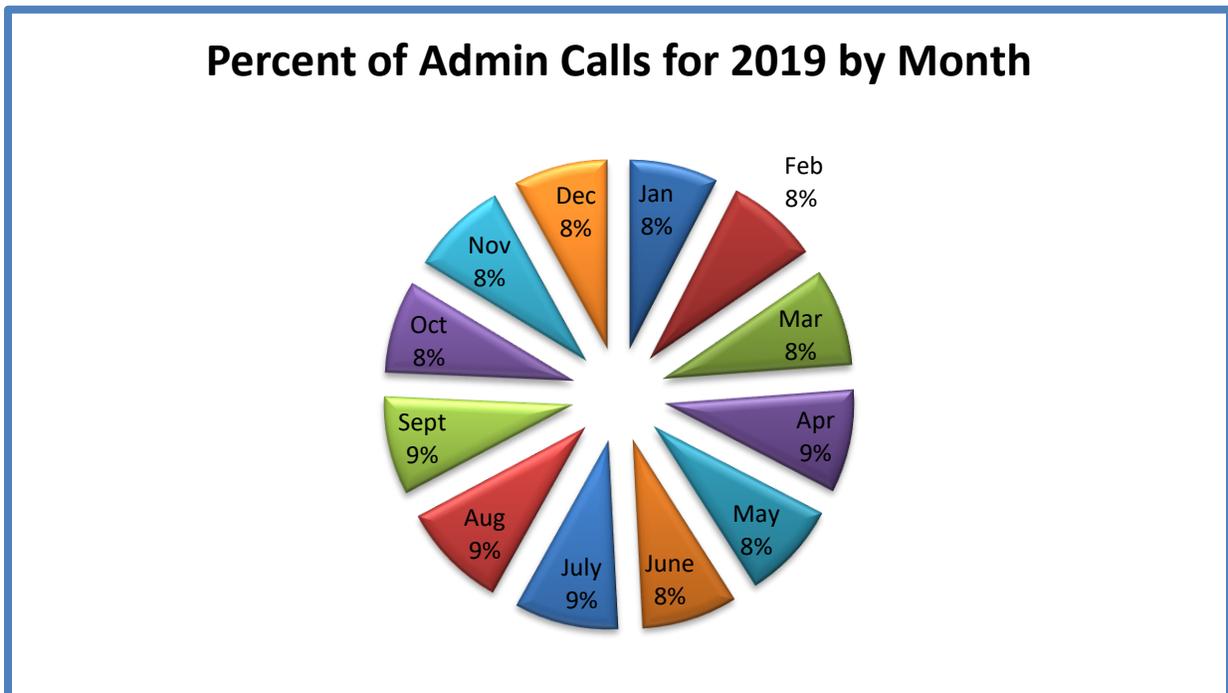
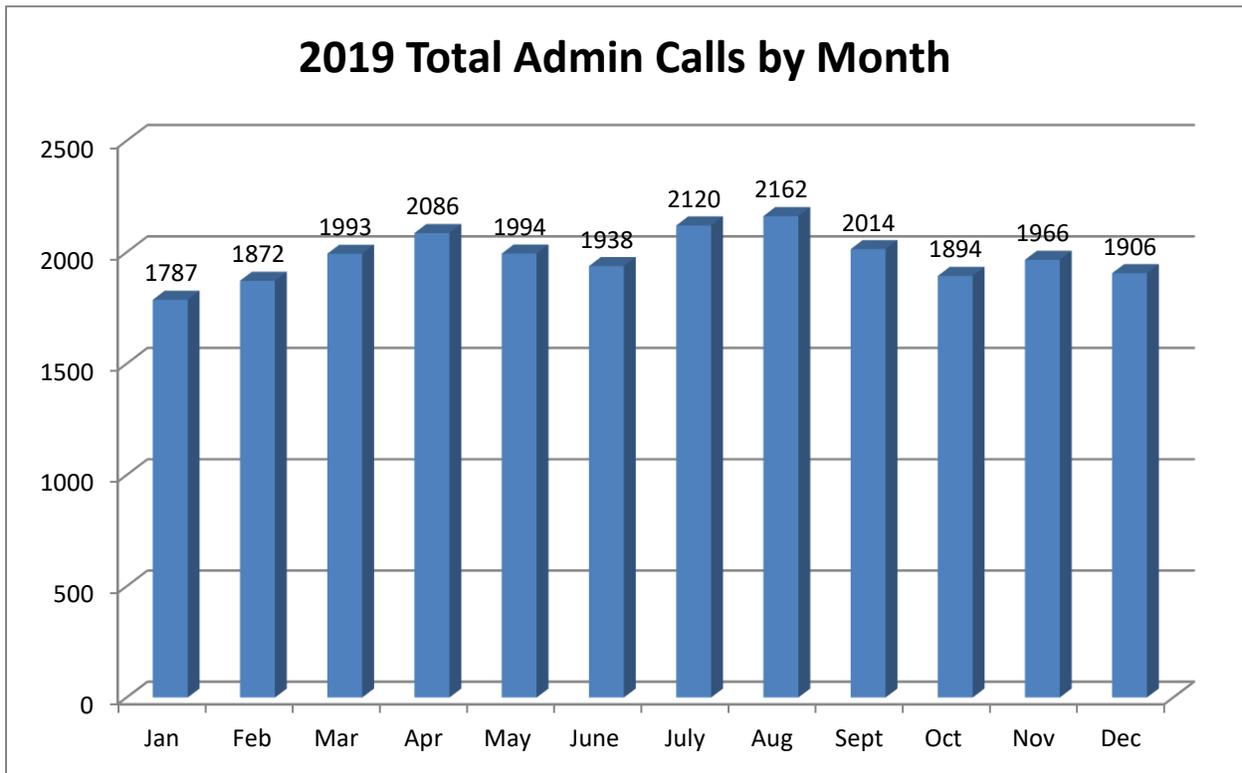
**911 Calls by Cell Phone/Land Line
Report Period 1/1/19 - 12/31/19**



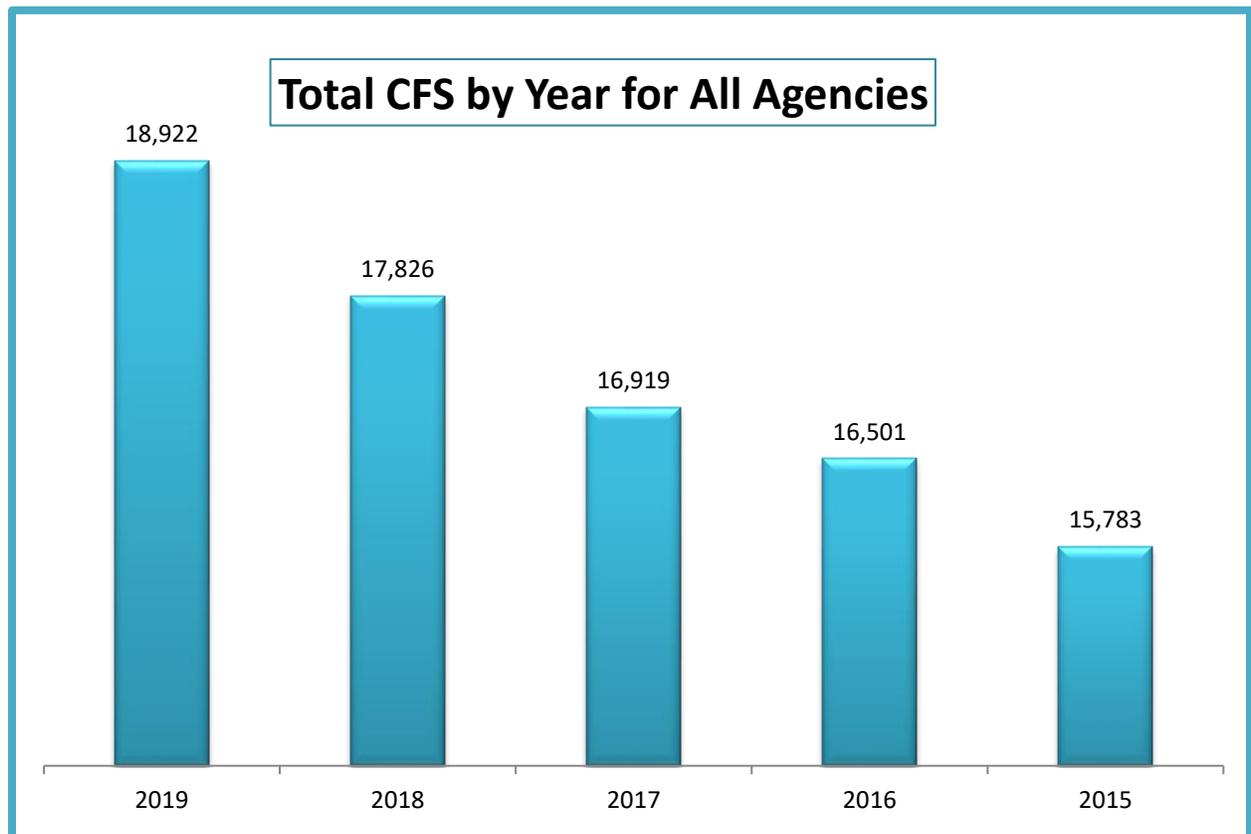
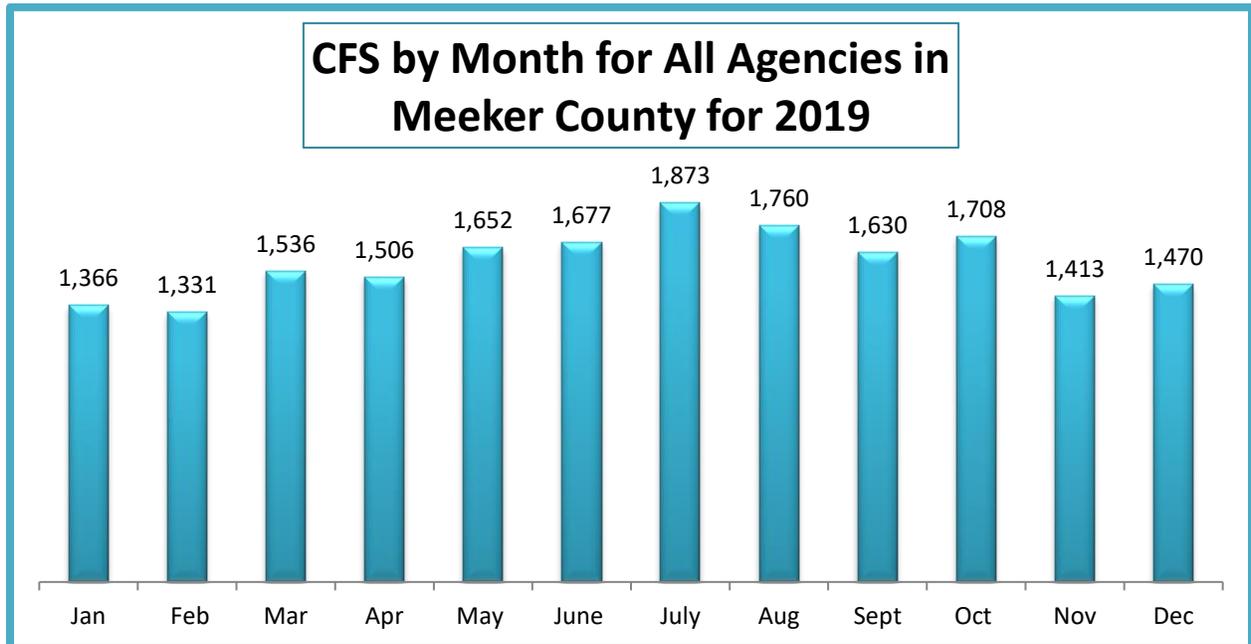
Type	Total	Percentage
■ Wireline	738	13.38%
■ Wireless	5182	86.62%
Total:	5920	100%

Wireless 911 re-bids 13,327

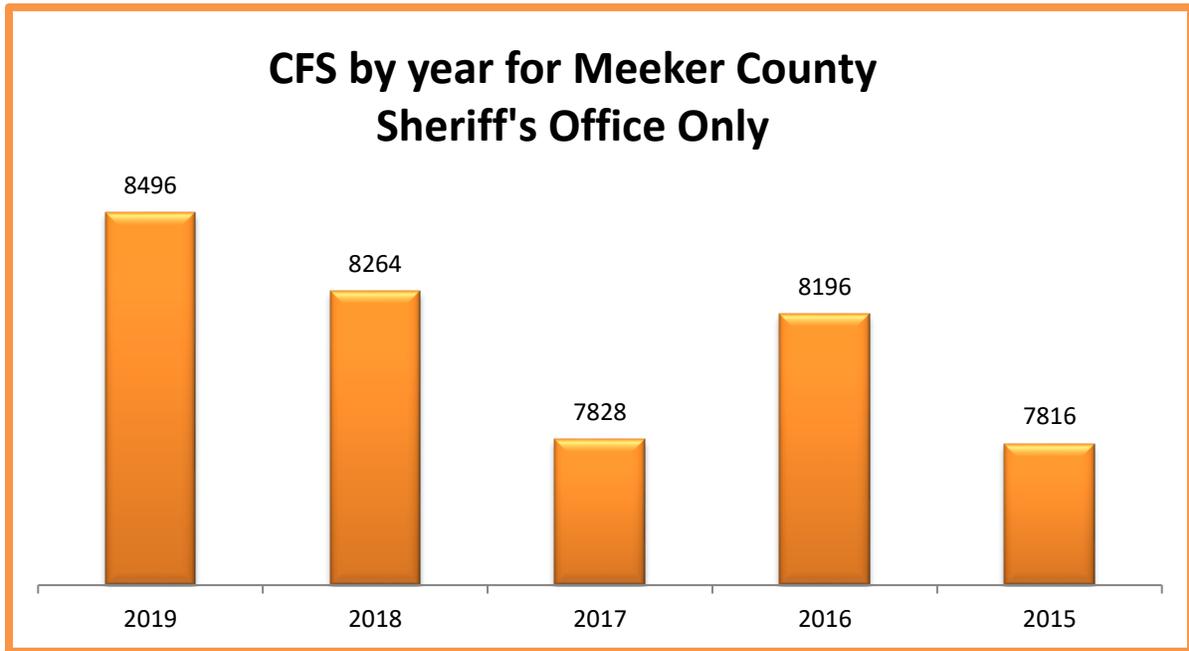
2019 Total Administrative calls for Meeker County: 23,732



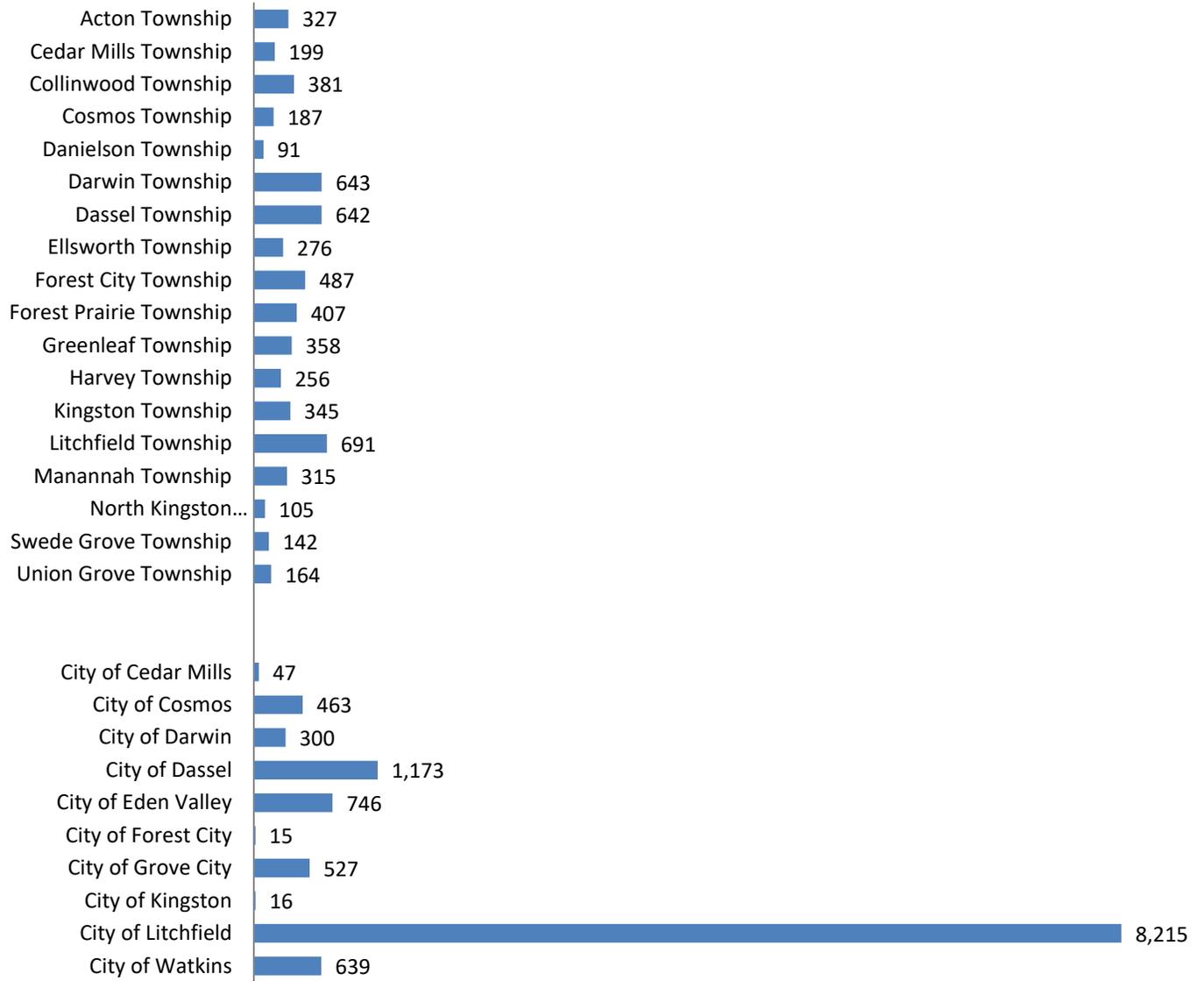
2019 Total Calls for Service (CFS) for All Agencies in Meeker County: 18,922



2019 Total Calls for Service for Meeker County Sheriff's Office only: 8,496



2019 CFS by Cities & Townships - All Agencies

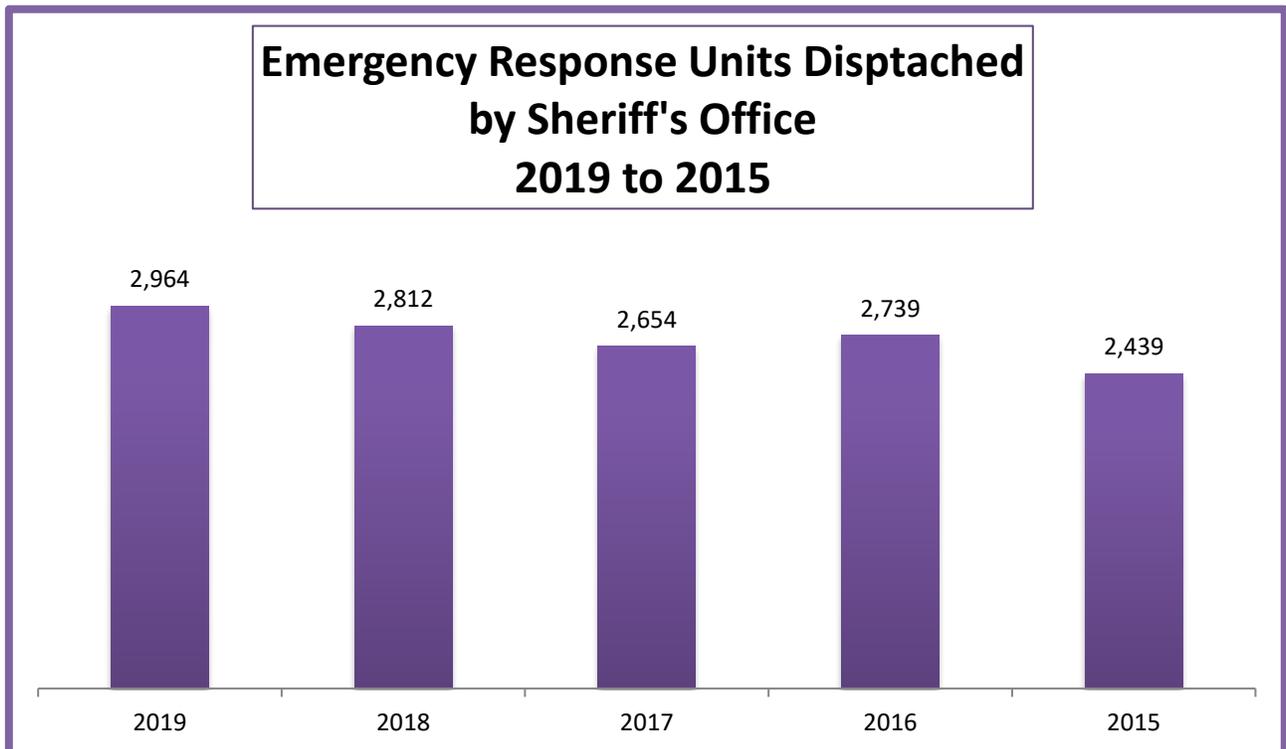




Emergency Response Units Dispatched
by Meeker County
Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center



Agency	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Cosmos Ambulance	75	75	70	99	77
Cosmos Fire & Rescue	28	31	29	27	26
Dassel Fire & Rescue	315	312	318	297	237
Eden Valley Fire & Rescue	160	151	125	154	131
Gold Cross Ambulance	1103	1042	1016	1050	969
Grove City Fire Department	24	79	27	34	53
Grove City Rescue	72	79	90	86	65
Litchfield Fire Department	115	118	112	138	121
Litchfield Rescue	472	455	388	399	353
Watkins Fire Department	24	27	30	26	32
Watkins Rescue & Ambulance	576	443	449	429	375
Total:	2,964	2,812	2,654	2,739	2,439





CodeRed is a free community notification system implemented by the Meeker County Sheriff's Office. The system is used to notify you of emergency and non-emergency events that could impact your safety. These notifications can go to landlines, cell phones, text messages and email. Code Red is also available through a mobile app on your smart phone. To sign up for this free service go to our website and click on the CodeRed banner: www.co.meeker.mn.us/217/Sheriff

Patrol Services

Meeker County Deputies patrol the county, respond to medical emergencies including vehicle crashes, serve civil process papers, diffuse civil disputes, enforce criminal and traffic laws, respond to Calls for Service (CFS) and initiate criminal investigations. Two of the leadership direction statements given to deputies to follow while out on patrol are: 1) "Meeker County Sheriff's Office personnel will work towards improved quality of life for all residents through pro-active patrols with an emphasis on investigations directed toward drunk driving and illegal drug activity." 2) "Meeker County Sheriff's Office personnel will work towards improved community relationships through pro-active community interactions (i.e. community events, presentations, trainings, etc.)." The high expectations of these directives will result in a more professional patrol unit that keeps public safety as a top priority. The 2019 total activity for Meeker County Sheriff's Office Deputies is as follows:

Criminal Incidents	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Assaults: 1st-5th Deg/Domestics/Terror Threats	112	60	80	88	96
Burglary	45	38	50	29	35
Crimes Against Family	11	6	3	1	9
Criminal Sexual Conduct	2	12	17	21	12
Damage to Property/Trespass	65	61	46	55	77
Disturb the Peace/Harassment/Interfere 911	96	38	37	41	50
Drug Crimes	33	43	65	46	42
Fleeing/Escape/Fail to Appear	6	8	6	8	7
Forgery	3	5	6	7	1
Gambling Crimes	1	2	1	0	0
Homicides	0	0	0	1	0
Kidnapping/False Imprisonment	0	0	1	1	0
Mistreat Animals	0	0	1	2	2
Obscenity	0	0	5	2	6
Order for Protection/Harassment Violations	18	14	21	21	20
Perjury/Obstruct Legal Process/False Info to Police	48	43	65	46	42
Robbery	1	1	1	0	0
Sell Liquor to Minors	2	1	7	0	0
Stolen Property	5	6	5	5	6
Theft of Property & Money	92	81	69	77	81
Theft Related-Credit card, NSF checks, Shoplifting, Computer Crime, Swindle	8	17	26	28	32
Vehicle Thefts/Tamper with Vehicle	17	22	22	24	13
Weapons Offenses	6	10	15	10	3
Welfare Fraud	0	0	0	0	5
Total:	571	468	549	513	539

All Other Incidents	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
9-1-1 Hang Ups	115	89	133	187	235
Alarm	156	175	185	187	190
Animal Complaints-Dog	182	229	199	232	249
Animal Complaints-Other	97	95	141	178	138
Assist Other Agencies	577	534	602	512	557
Assist Public	240	283	244	219	220
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	0	1	0	0	2
Deer Possession Tag	38	35	28	32	51
Deliver Emergency Messages	7	2	3	11	7
Door Unlocks	70	75	81	77	88
Escorts	7	3	6	9	8
Noise Complaints	43	46	28	41	34
Open Doors - Residential & Business	9	10	8	13	16
Other	40	43	39	65	54
Scams	144	123	153		
Search Warrants	3	7	12	6	10
Security/Vacation Checks	24	36	72	36	51
Suspicious Activity	292	315	346	394	375
Unwanted Individual	20	32	41	44	24
Welfare Check	177	151	134	130	111
Total:	2241	2284	2455	2373	2420

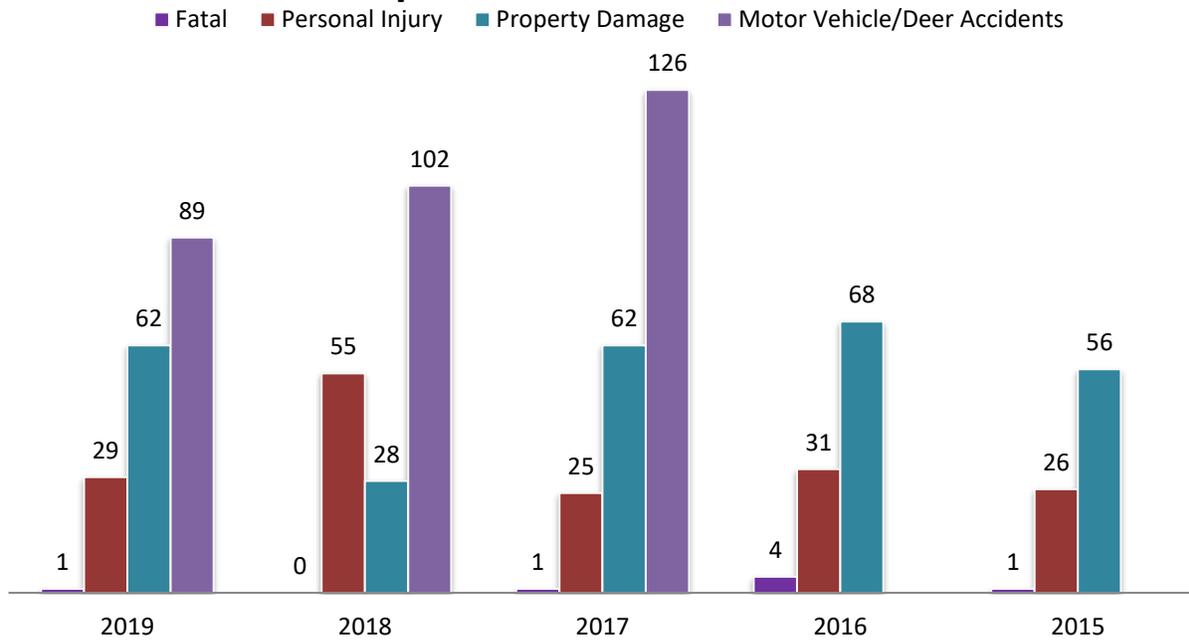
Meeker County Sheriff's Office Traffic Enforcement

Traffic Law Violations, Citations & Arrests	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
All Other Traffic Violations	50	28	9	33	56
Boat & Water/Snowmobile Citations	1	0	1	3	0
Bus Stop Arm Violations	3	3	1	3	1
Driving After Cancel/Revocation/Suspension	70	52	47	63	58

Driver's License Violations	35	26	21	26	30
DUI/Refuse to Submit to Test	39	29	66	49	25
No Insurance/No Proof of Insurance	82	40	31	58	62
Open Bottle Citations /Allow Open Bottle	1	1	6	1	9
Parking Violations	0	2	3	0	17
Reckless/Careless Driving	7	4	10	10	10
Seat Belt Violations	16	22	2	11	8
Speed	208	146	98	238	263
Stop Sign Violations	5	14	3	9	10
Under 21 Drink & Drive	1	2	2	2	0
Underage Consumption/Possesses Citations	4	13	13	23	19
Vehicle Registration Violations	3	21	5	12	10
Yield Right of Way	6	5	5	5	2
Total:	531	408	323	546	580

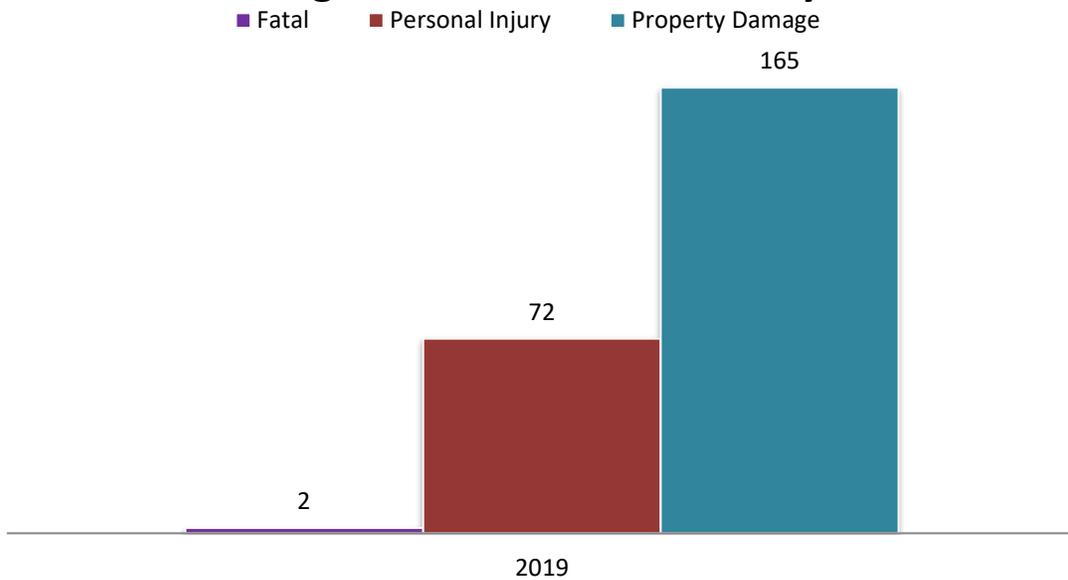
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Traffic Stops	2685	2457	1943	2347	2033
Abandoned/Stalled Vehicles	144	139	249	315	272
Driving Complaints	248	311	373	371	359
Total Number of Traffic Accidents	181	185	214	269	229

2019 Meeker County Sheriff's Office Reported Traffic Accidents



Motor Vehicle/Deer Accidents were added starting in 2017

2019 Total Traffic Accidents for All Agencies in Meeker County



Meeker County Contract Deputies

The Meeker County Sheriff's Office contracts with Dassel, Grove City and Watkins for full time policing services, and Cosmos for part-time policing services. The total activity for each contract city for 2019 is as follows:

Contract Town Activity	2019 Calls for Service
Cosmos	396
Dassel	927
Grove City	435
Watkins	448

2019 Criminal Incidents	Cosmos	Dassel	Grove City	Watkins
Assault	1	0	1	3
Burglary	0	7	0	1
Check Forgery	1	0	0	0
Child Abuse/Maltreatment	16	19	18	16
Criminal Damage to Property	5	4	3	7
DANCO Violation	1	1	0	4
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	1	0
Disturbance	6	8	2	5
Domestics	8	9	5	6
Drugs/Paraphernalia	2	1	4	3
DUI	6	1	3	4
Forgery	0	1	0	0
Harassment/Stalking	4	10	12	11
Homicides	0	0	0	0
Identity Theft	0	0	0	0
Lost/Found Property	6	17	5	4
Property Damage Accident	3	15	3	4
Pursuit Vehicle/Person	0	0	0	0

Robbery	0	0	0	0
Scams/Swindle	4	12	5	2
Sex Crime Offense	1	3	1	1
Stolen Vehicle	0	1	1	2
Tamper w/MV	0	2	0	3
Theft by check	1	4	1	0
Thefts	7	19	9	7
Threats	5	2	3	3
Trespass	1	6	0	1
Violation of Order for Protection/Harassment	5	2	3	0
Weapons Offenses	0	0	0	0
Welfare Fraud	0	0	0	0
Total:	83	144	80	87

2019 Non-Criminal Incidents	Cosmos	Dassel	Grove City	Watkins
9-1-1 Hang Ups	10	22	14	11
9-1-1 Mis or Accident Dial	0	1	0	0
Abandoned/Stalled Vehicles	1	12	3	2
Alarms	3	26	5	10
Animal Complaints	11	41	24	17
Assist Other Agencies	15	15	16	9
Assist Public	15	33	24	24
ATV Complaint	0	2	0	4
Burning Complaint	2	1	2	1
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	0	0	0	0
Debris on Roadway	1	0	0	1
Deliver Emergency Messages	0	0	0	0
Driving Complaints	4	15	9	17
Escorts	0	1	0	0
Fire Calls	4	3	5	3
Funeral Escort	0	5	0	0
Gas Drive Off	0	2	3	11

HAZMAT/Chemical Spill	1	1	5	3
Medicals	8	48	10	26
Motorist Assist	2	13	4	2
Noise Complaints	1	7	4	5
Open Doors - Residential & Business	0	3	2	2
Ordinance Violations	0	15	9	10
Other	79	105	63	81
Search Warrants	1	0	0	0
Security/Vacation Checks	0	1	0	0
Shooting Complaint	0	2	0	0
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	16	40	16	20
Tobacco Violation	0	0	1	0
Traffic Stops - Citations	7	28	15	4
Traffic Stops - Warnings	110	294	102	70
Unlock Vehicle	3	15	5	7
Unwanted Individual	7	2	0	1
Welfare Check	12	30	14	20
Total:	313	783	355	361

Toward Zero Death (TZD)

What is TZD?

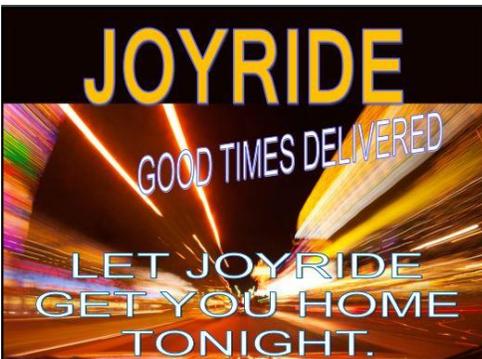
The Toward Zero Deaths approach is based on the belief that even one traffic-related death on our roads is unacceptable. This “zero deaths” idea was first adopted in Sweden in 1997 as "Vision Zero" and since then has evolved to several state Departments of Transportation (DOT), including Minnesota, that have identified zero deaths as a core objective in their Strategic Highway Safety Plans.

TZD uses a data-driven, interdisciplinary approach that targets areas for improvement and employs proven countermeasures, integrating the application of education, enforcement, engineering, and emergency medical and trauma services (the “4Es”). A combination of strategies from different focus areas is often most effective for solving a particular problem.

Meeker County is partnered with Kandiyohi County and participates in the extra patrols that focus on distracted driving, speed enforcement and DUI enforcement.

Meeker County Safe Roads Coalition

The Meeker County Sheriff’s Office partnered with the TZD Meeker County Safe Roads Coalition. This coalition brings the State TZD philosophy to the local level.



The Joyride program and School Safety Day are an example of the work from this coalition. Joyride is a program that gives those who are celebrating at local bars an opportunity to get a safe and sober ride home. School Safety Day brings first responders into the school to educate our young

drivers on the serious consequences of distracted driving and driving under the influence. The coalition also works on bringing traffic education to the public at various health and community expos along with setting up child safety seat inspections.

Snowmobile / Boat and Water / OHV Patrols



The Meeker County Sheriff's Office is responsible for Snowmobile, Off Highway Vehicle (OHV), and Water Safety patrol and enforcement. Patrol deputies and seasonal water patrol deputies work these patrols year round. Grant monies received from the State of Minnesota help with enforcement efforts and needed equipment.

Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant

The Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant for fiscal year 2019 is \$3,559. The fiscal year runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. We received 17 snowmobile complaints in 2019 and did not receive any reports of snowmobile accidents.

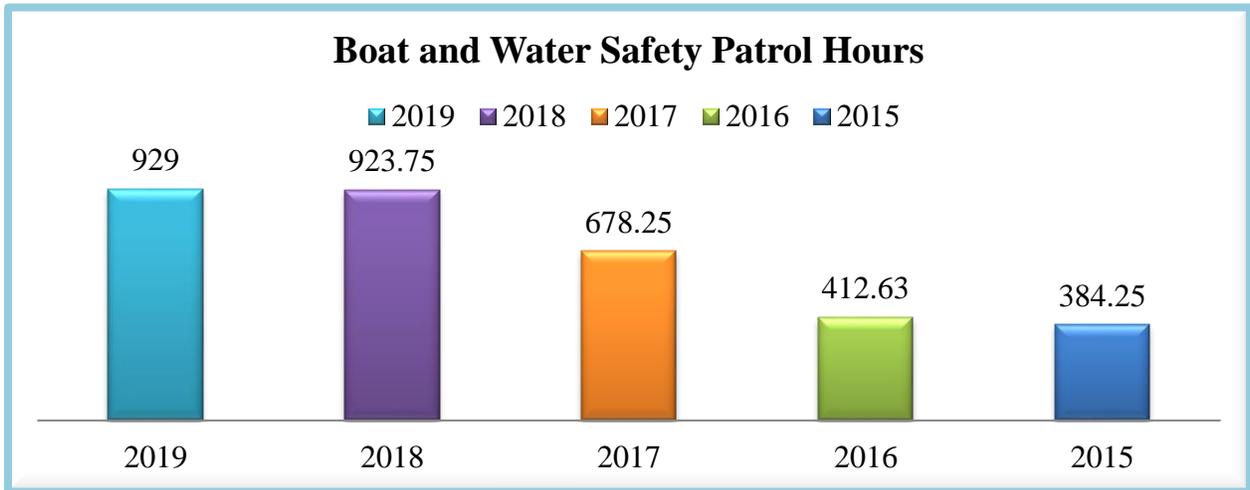


Boat and Water Safety Grant



The Boat and Water Safety Grant runs from January 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. The grant for the 2019 fiscal year is \$6,158. The Meeker County Sheriff's Office also partnered with the county Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program and has additional resources for dedicated AIS inspections. We received 17 boating complaints and investigated three boating

accidents two of which involved injuries. In 2019, the total AIS hours were 245 for which the AIS committee reimbursed the Sheriff’s Office \$4,006.



Boat and Water	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Complaints	17	11	12	16	5
Temporary Structure Permits	25	46	45	60	66

OHV Safety Enforcement Grant (Off-Highway Vehicle)

The Meeker County Sheriff’s Office received \$6,537.00 for the OHV Safety Enforcement Grant fiscal year 2019. The fiscal year runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. We received 16 OHV complaints in 2019 and investigated three injury OHV accidents.



Investigations

The Meeker County Sheriff’s Office currently has three full-time detectives responsible for investigating criminal activity to include: child abuse/neglect, vulnerable adult crimes, welfare fraud, sexual assaults, financial crimes, fraud, computer/internet crimes, thefts, burglaries, death investigations (natural, suicide and

homicide), robberies, etc. The detectives are also responsible for background investigations of potential new hires as well as internal affairs investigations.

Reported Deaths in Meeker County:

Meeker County contracts with Midwest Medical Examiner’s Office for coroner services. Death Investigators respond to the scene of reported deaths and work with the Sheriff’s Office to complete the death investigation.

Of the 155 reported deaths in Meeker County in 2019, 11 autopsies were performed as a part of those death



investigations. "Reportable, Declined" includes deaths that were investigated but the actual death certificate was signed by a local M.D. The following is a report by the Medical Examiner’s Office for reported deaths for all of Meeker County:

Meeker County Deaths	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Motor Vehicle Accident	2	3	1	3	4
Natural	6	8	7	8	4
Non Motor Vehicle Accident	3	9	4	3	6
Reportable, Declined	139	162	145	115	119
Suicide	4	1	6	9	3
Homicide	1	0	0	1	0
Total	155	183	163	139	136

Drug and Gang Investigations:

The Meeker County Sheriff’s Office has two detectives assigned to the CEE-VI Drug and Gang Task Force. CEE stands for Cooperative Enforcement Effort and the Roman numeral VI stands for the original six counties that were a part of the cooperative when it was formed in 1990. The CEE-VI Drug and Gang Task Force currently consists of the following counties: Meeker, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Swift and Yellow Medicine. There is federal, state and local funding used for this

initiative. The funding includes a per capita charge of \$4.75 in each county. The counties that provide personnel are reimbursed salary and benefits. This year we saw a significant increase in cocaine, marijuana and methamphetamine seizures. The following is the reported activity for all of Meeker County:

CEE-VI Drug Task Force Statistics	2017	2018	2019
Arrests	60 (0 gang)	60 (2 gang)	36 (1 gang)
Drug and/or Gang Presentations	2 for 43 people	2 for 20 people	2 for 40 people
Searches	25	24	16
Children Removed	14	4	4
Asset Seizures			
Cash	\$4,641.00	\$13,480.00	\$14,487.00
Vehicles	2	2	0
Hand Guns	1	3	3
Long Guns	14	6	12
Drugs Seizures			
Cocaine	11.51 grams	517.80 grams	28.41 grams
Hashish	.30 grams	None	None
Heroin	None	5.20 grams	.10 grams
Marijuana	2.46 ounces	23982.20 grams (52.87 lbs)	14923.60 grams (32.90 lbs)
Marijuana - concentrate	.60 grams	802.70 grams	141.70 grams
Meth	654.48 grams (1.44 lbs)	1187.64 grams (2.61 lbs)	413.16 grams (.91 lbs)
Prescription		3.00 pills	23.00 pills

D.A.R.E.

This year millions of school children around the world will benefit from D.A.R.E.



(Drug Abuse Resistance Education), the highly acclaimed program that gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence. D.A.R.E. was founded in 1983 in Los Angeles and

has proven so successful it is now being implemented in 75 percent of our nation's school districts and in more than 52 countries around the world.

The Meeker County Sheriff's Office provides this program to the 5th grade classes in both the Atwater Cosmos Grove City (ACGC) and Eden Valley-Watkins (EVW) school districts. D.A.R.E. Deputy Josh Case is assigned to EVW and D.A.R.E. Deputy Sara Miller is assigned to ACGC. In 2017 we updated our D.A.R.E. program to the new curriculum called "Keepin' it REAL," which puts an emphasis on decision-making skills instead of drug lectures. D.A.R.E. envisions a world in which students everywhere are empowered to respect others and choose to lead lives free from violence, substance abuse and other dangerous behaviors. At the completion of our 10 week program, we host a D.A.R.E. graduation for the families of the D.A.R.E. students. As a special treat, we bring in a magician who, through a very entertaining magic show, reinforces the D.A.R.E. teachings.

Training

The Meeker County Sheriff's Office will continue to strive to make the Sheriff's



Office the best it can be and one the public can be proud of and trust. This will be achieved through continued professionalism and highly trained Sheriff's Office personnel. The Minnesota Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Board is responsible for licensing Peace Officers in the State of Minnesota. As a requirement of this license, each deputy is required to complete a minimum of 48 hours of continuing education every three years. It is not

uncommon for deputies to have two to three times the minimum number of hours.

We train on all aspects of law enforcement including those we rarely encounter. The public expects we will be trained and able to handle whatever situation we encounter.

We take this responsibility very seriously and spend countless hours each year to better our skills and knowledge of this job. In addition to all the law enforcement training, deputies are also certified Emergency Medical Responders (EMR).

ICLD

All full time employees are enrolled in the Institute for Credible Learning and Development (ICLD) leadership program through a partnership with the Minnesota's Sheriff's Association (MSA). The leadership program is a comprehensive, career-long leadership education and developmental program. Participants complete an in-depth journey by addressing relevant topics and proven theories offered by ICLD.



A majority of law enforcement professionals attending the ICLD program report the following positive outcomes:

- Increased officer safety.
- Increased organizational thought.
- Reduction in stress.
- Reduction in citizen complaints.
- Increased capacity in character building behaviors.
- Increased accountability and responsibility.
- Increased personnel engagement and job satisfaction.
- Improved personal self-awareness and decision-making.
- Improved integrity of personal and professional conduct.
- Enhanced personnel civic mindedness and involvement in the community.
- Increased cross-cultural awareness, understanding and tolerance.
- Increased ability to develop partnerships with community representatives.

Community Education and Presentations

Meeker County Sheriff's Office staff routinely present at various civic groups, church groups and public presentations. Our goal is to educate the public on what to watch for when it comes to criminal activity and how to be safe. We present on a wide variety of topics including sex trafficking, drug trafficking, scams, bike safety, active shooter, distracted driving, etc. With the increased use of vaporizers and the availability of drugs to teenagers, we developed a "Hidden in Plain Sight" program. Hidden in Plain Sight is an interactive presentation that provides parents with the knowledge and insight on drug use indicators that can be found in a teen's room. These indicators will help parents determine if their child is using or experimenting with drugs. The presentation strengthens parent's knowledge of drug use and abuse in our community. Also as a regular part of our effort to reach out to the community,

we have hosted many “Coffee with the Sheriff” events throughout the county. These are informal gatherings where the public can interact directly with the Sheriff and Sheriff’s Office staff, ask questions or simply say hi. If your group or organization would like our office to present to your group, call our office and we will have someone attend one of your meetings.



Sheriff Cruze presenting Hidden in Plain Sight to a group of area educators.

Safe Schools Initiative

In cooperation with Meeker County Probation and the Meeker County Attorney’s Office, we brought a Safe Schools initiative to the school districts in Meeker County. These meetings bring together school officials, social services, probation, prosecutors, and law enforcement to the table to discuss issues we are all facing with the children in our communities. These meetings touch on wide ranging issues from truancy, drug use to mental health issues. Cooperatively we are better able to address and understand everyone’s role with solutions to these issues. Annually we have a county wide Safe Schools meeting where all county school districts and stake holders are brought together to present and discuss issues in the various districts.

ALICE Training

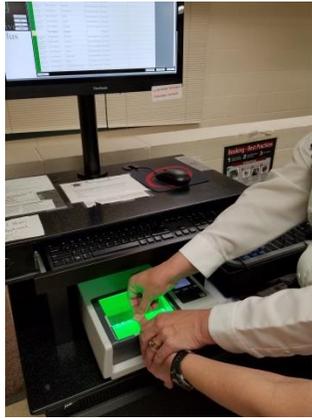
ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. This is a pro-active approach to address potential threats of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event in our schools. We currently have four deputies who are certified ALICE trainers. These deputies work in conjunction with our schools to bring this pro-active approach to our county. This training is based on the premise that protection and safety must be the priority in an active shooter event. ALICE training provides options addressing the unique challenges that present themselves in these situations.

Teen Academies

The Meeker County Sheriff's Office held our second annual Teen Academies. These academies are intended to provide youth an inside look at the operations and services of our office. The Teen Deputy Academy focuses on patrol operations including traffic stop scenarios, law enforcement procedures, handcuffing and defensive tactics. The Teen Detective Academy focuses on crime scene investigations, evidence collection and a mock court trial. This program is free and open to all Meeker County residents age 13-18 and all out of county residents age 13-18 who attend the ACGC, D-C, EVW or Litchfield School Districts. This is a great opportunity for these students to interact with law enforcement, see what the profession is all about and potentially start a career path into the law enforcement profession.

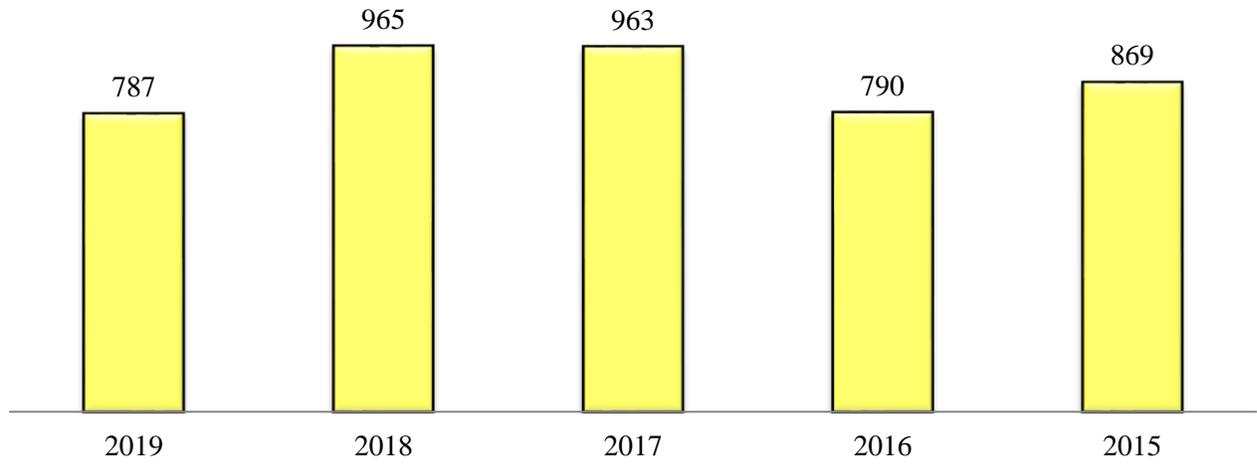
Meeker County Jail

The Meeker County Sheriff's Office Jail is responsible for housing inmates awaiting court, as well as those who are sentenced for misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor offenses. The average daily population for 2019 was 33 inmates per day. The Jail also boards inmates from other counties and the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC). The Meeker County Sheriff's Office charges \$57.50 per day for inmates who are boarded for other jurisdictions. The boarding revenue received for 2019 was \$128,173. The average stay for all inmates booked into our facility is 14 days.

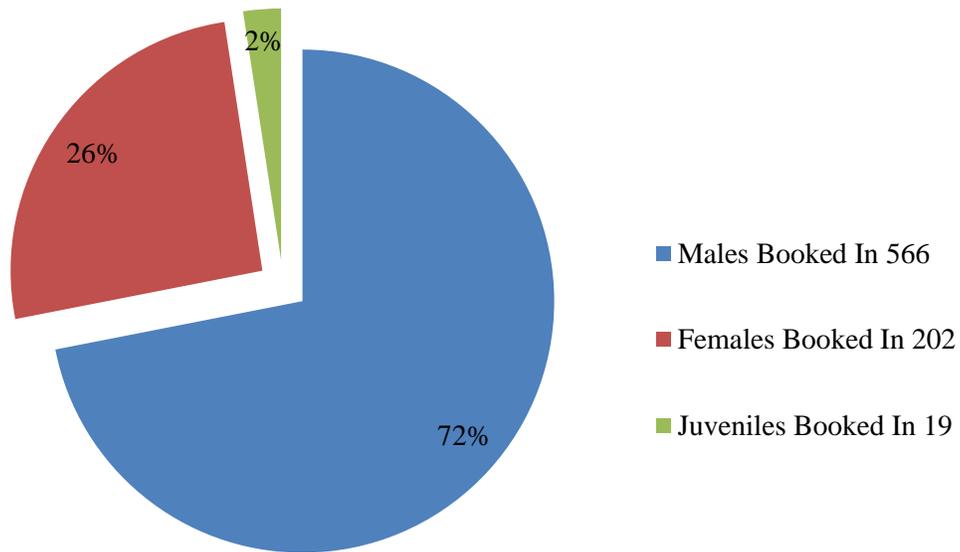


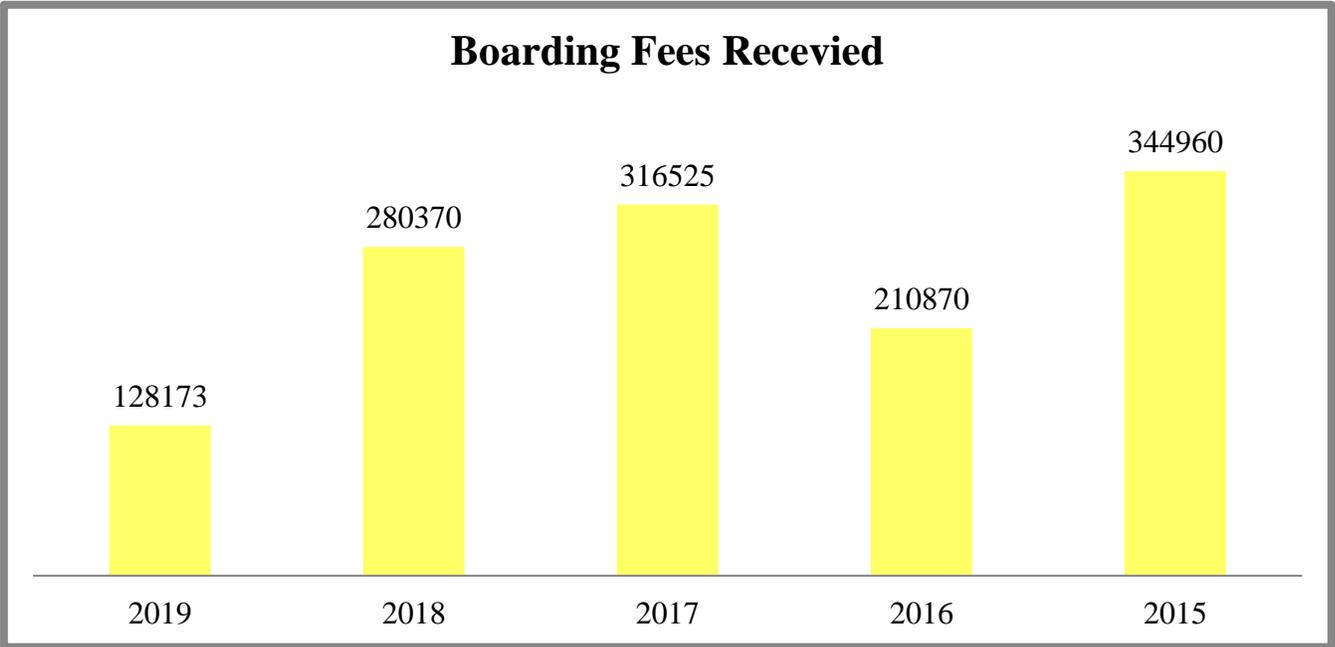
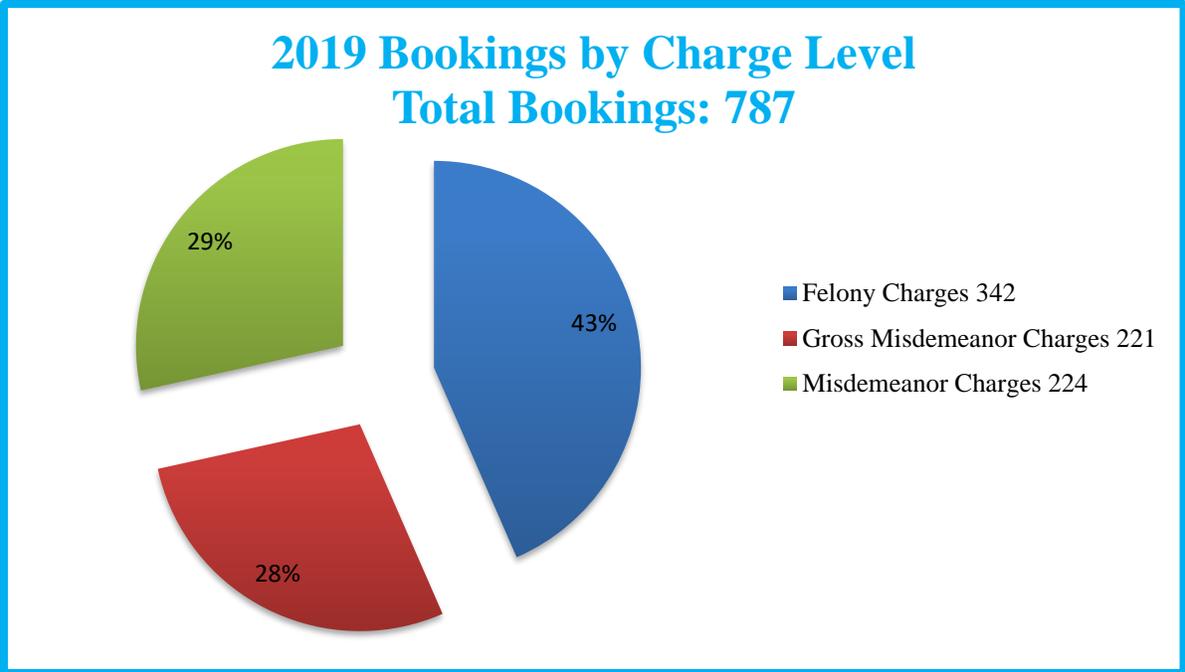
The 2018 MN DOC Inspection report for the Meeker County Jail showed staffing deficiencies. Most concerning for the DOC was these staffing levels directly impacting the required well-being checks by staff. Due to staffing shortages, staff, at times, were unable to perform well-being checks as prescribed by the DOC. The recommendation by the DOC, to make sure we are in compliance with their rules, was to add staffing. We contracted to have a complete staffing study of the jail done in 2018, which also pointed out staffing shortages. To be in compliance with the DOC, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners agreed to add three staff members in 2019 and two staff members in 2020.

Total Bookings

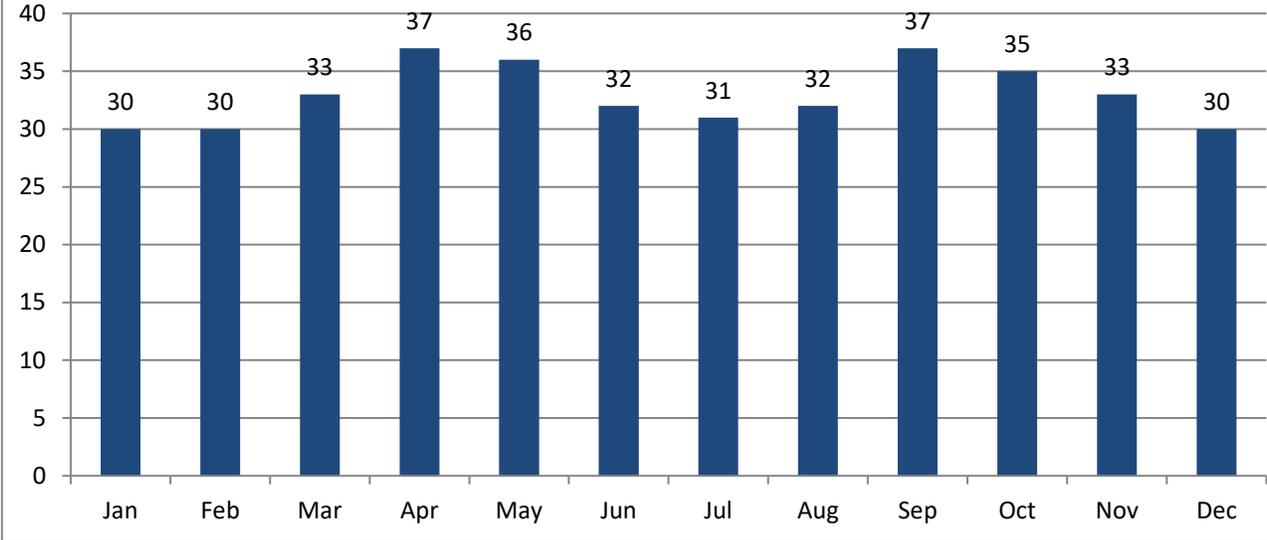


Percentage of Bookings for 2019 Total Booked: 787

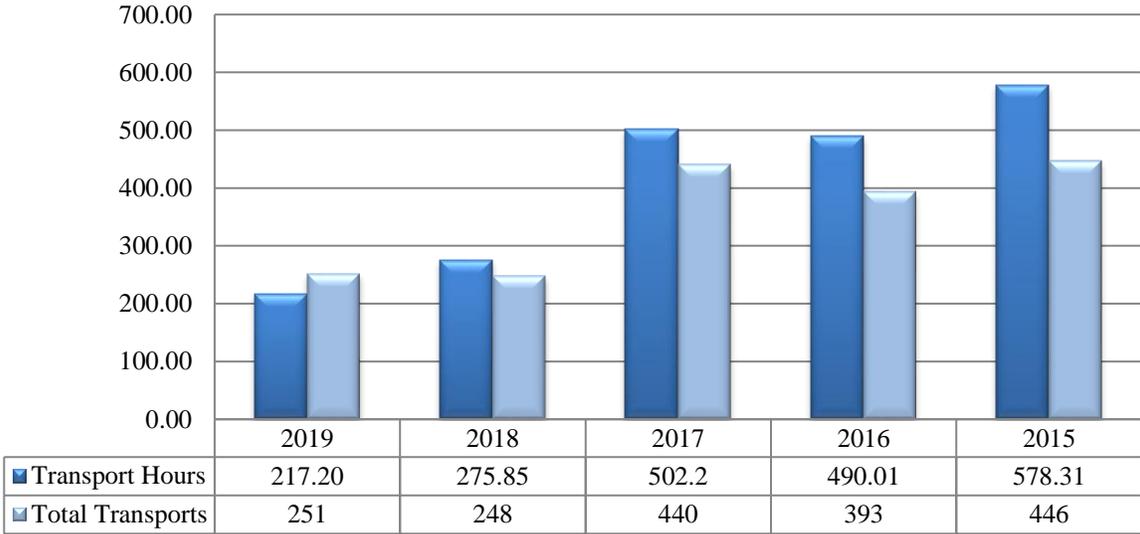




2019 Average Daily Count by Month



Transport Hours and Total Transports



Court Security

The security of the Meeker County Courthouse is the responsibility of the Sheriff's Office. Since the installation of the security station in 2018, we have seized more than 70 knives off people and arrested several people for drug possession. In one of those cases, the person had 49 grams of methamphetamine as he attempted to pass through security. Court security remains a high priority for Meeker County and we continue to explore a remodel to include a secure prisoner elevator and prisoner holding cells on the court level. This would cut down dramatically on prisoner movement in public areas. Sheriff Cruze fully supports both of these initiatives to improve security and safety in the Meeker County Courthouse.



Civil Process Services



In 2019, the Meeker County Sheriff's Office served a total of 525 civil process papers. The most common types of papers a deputy sheriff serve include Summons & Complaints, Subpoenas, Mortgage Foreclosures, Orders, Evictions, Writs of Recovery, Writs of Execution, Orders for Protection, Harassment Restraining Orders, Civil Commitments and Affidavits. In 2019, the Sheriff's Office collected \$27,540.00 in civil process service fees.

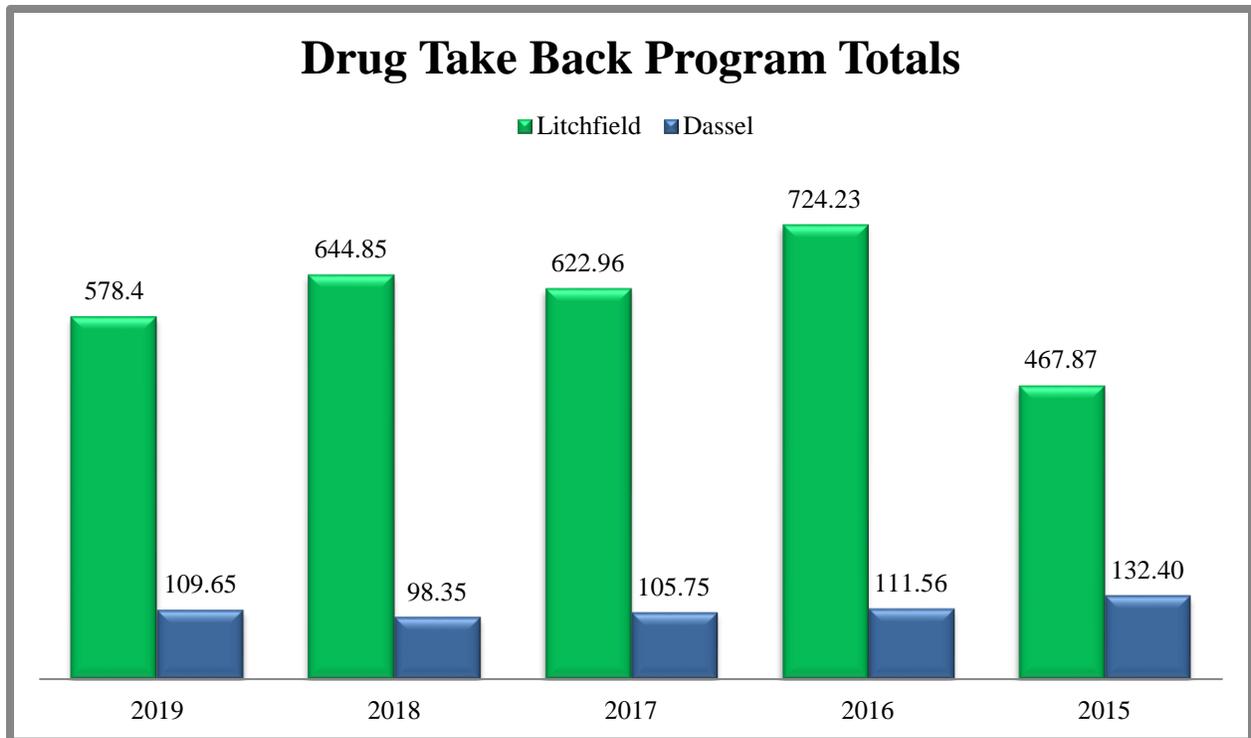
Sheriff Fees		
911 Recordings (911 calls, radio traffic on data CD/DVD)	\$30.00	Per hour (1 hr minimum charged)
Animal Fees:		
~Pound Pickup Fee	\$50.00	Per animal
~Impound Fee	\$5.00	Per day (charged after the first 24 hrs)
Audio/Video Recordings on CD/DVD	\$30.00	Per hour (1 hr minimum charged)
Background Check: In-House	\$5.00	Per person (for private business or agency)
Civil Process Fees:		
~Notice of Intent to Redeem	\$100.00	Per notice
~Paper Service	\$80.00	Up to 3 attempts, mileage included
~Each Additional Attempt	\$30.00	Mileage Included
~Additional Papers at Same Address	\$30.00	Mileage Included
~Return of Unserved Papers	\$80.00	Mileage Included
~Redemption of Property Mortgagor	\$250.00	Per redemption
~Sale Notice - Posting 3 Copies	\$70.00	Per parcel
~Sheriff Sales	\$80.00	Per sale
~Writ of Execution Commission Service	6%	Per writ (\$20 minimum charge)
~Writ of Execution Service	\$84.00	Per writ
Deputy Time:		
~Standard	\$60.00	Per hour (3 hr minimum charged)
~Deputy: Squad Required for Roadway Escorts	\$80.00	Per hour (3 hr minimum charged)
~Deputy: Reserve/Posse time	\$20.00	Per hour
False Alarm Fees:		
~4th & 5th in a Year	\$25.00	Each
~ 6th & Subsequent in a Year	\$50.00	Each
Fax: Sent or Received	\$0.25	Per page
Firearms Storage Fee	\$1.00	Per day, per gun (30 day minimum)
Gun Permits:		
~Meeker County Residents: New	\$40.00	Per permit
~Meeker County Residents: Renew	\$35.00	Per permit
~Out-of-State Residents: New	\$75.00	Per permit
~Out-of-State Residents: Renew	\$70.00	Per permit
~Purchase/Transfer Permit	Free	Per permit
~Replacement Cards	\$10.00	Per permit
Impound Storage Fee	\$15.00	Per day (effective 5 days after date of Notice of Impoundment letter)
Jails Fees:		
~Fingerprint Cards: Meeker County Resident	Free	Per card
~Fingerprint Cards: Out-of-County Resident	\$15.00	Per card
~Booking Fee	\$25.00	Per booking
~Boarding Fee	\$57.50	Per day
~Pay-for-Stay Fee	\$20.00	Per day

~Huber Fee	\$20.00	Per day
~Huber Urinalysis Fee	\$30.00	Per sample
~Inmate Doctor Fee	\$15.00	Per in-house visit
~Inmate Nurse Fee	\$5.00	Per in-house visit
~Probation Urinalysis Fee	\$10.00	Per sample
~Probation Portable Breath Test Fee	\$5.00	Per test
Photographs:		
~Burned onto CD/DVD	\$10.00	Per CD/DVD
Records Clerk	\$25.00	Per hour (for persons requesting documents in large volume that are time consuming, 1 hr minimum in addition to document fee)
Reports/Documents:		
~Copies Printed	\$0.25	Per page
~Copies on CD/DVD	\$10.00	Per CD/DVD
Scanning	\$10.00	Per page or CD/DVD
Typing Reports	\$20.00	Per hour (1 hr minimum charged)

Drug Take Back Program

The Meeker County Sheriff's Office continues this free service to Meeker County residents. This service provides a safe and secure manner of disposing unused and expired medications. The Sheriff's Office has two Take Back Boxes, one at our main office in Litchfield and one at the Dassel Office at the Dassel City Hall. 2019 Total Pounds of Prescription Drugs Disposed: 688.05





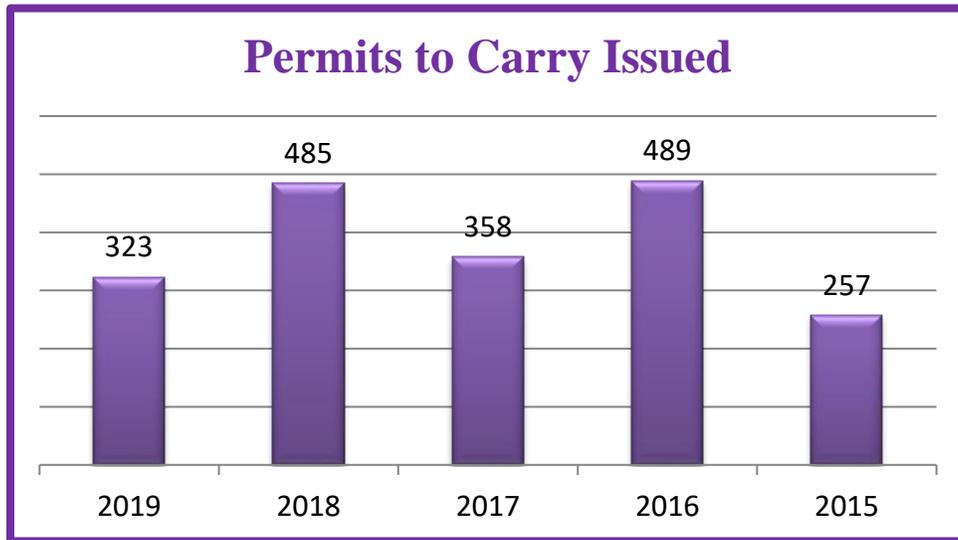
Gun Permits

The Meeker County Sheriff is responsible for issuing all Permits to Carry in the county and all Permits to Purchase for all residents who don't live in a city with an independent police department. In 2019 the Permit to Carry application fee was \$40.00 with renewals costing \$35.00. For each Permit to Carry approved, by law, \$10.00 for new and \$5.00 for renewal applications is submitted to the MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). Each year a report is made to the BCA in reference to our permit activity. This report can be viewed at:

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/administrative/Documents/2019-Permit-to-Carry-Report.pdf>

Permits to Purchase: In 2019, there were 206 Permits to Purchase issued.

Permits to Carry: In 2019, there were 323 Permits to Carry issued.



Meeker County Emergency Management

Meeker County Emergency Management has multiple areas of responsibility to include planning, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. Our planning objectives and our response efforts focus on saving lives, protecting property, meeting the needs of victims, reducing the effects of an emergency on essential facilities and utilities and minimizing the disruption on our community's financial livelihood. Our preparedness process includes multiple plans, whole community input, other county agencies, neighboring county emergency managers and regional planning.

Budget

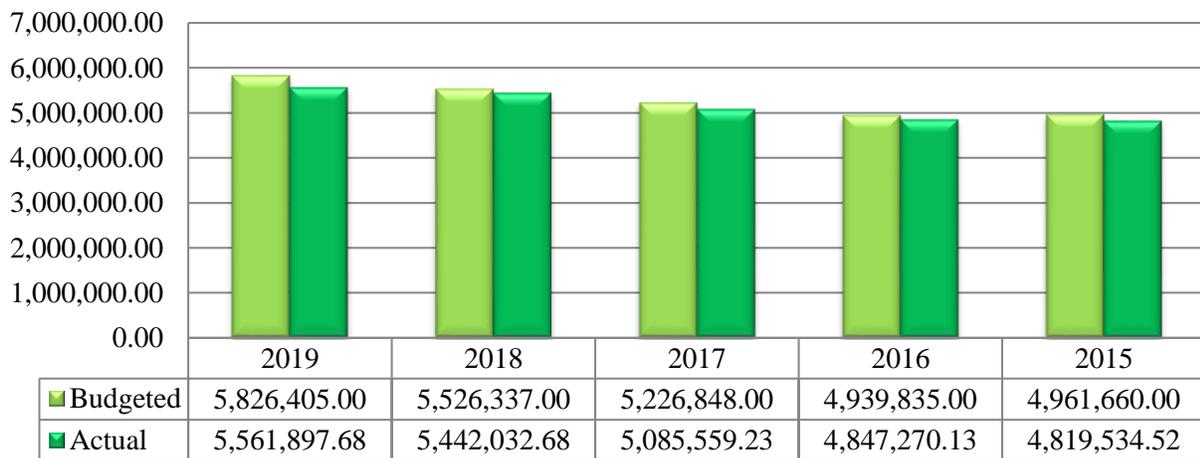


The following figures are taken from the end of year Revenue/Expenditure Budget Report distributed by the Meeker County Auditor.

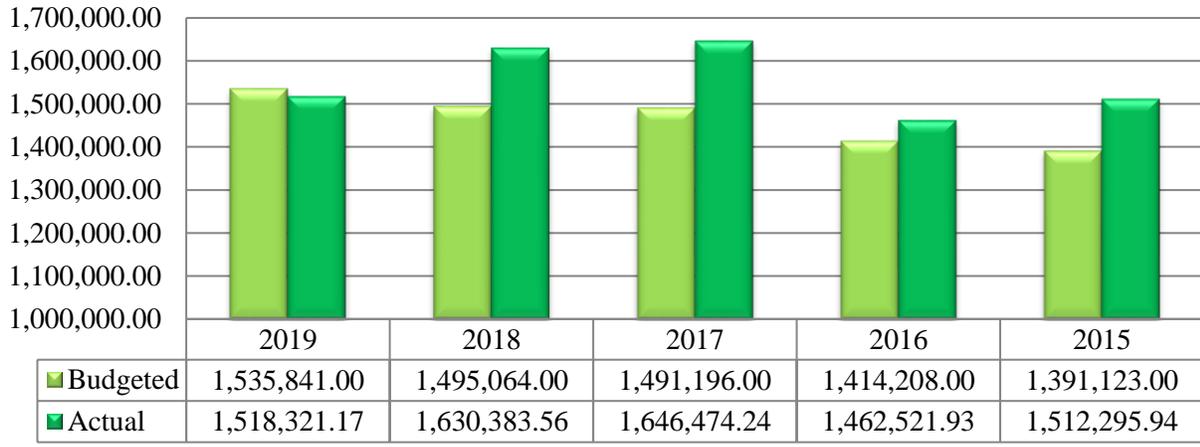
2019 Budgeted vs. Actual

Department	Budgeted Expenses	Budgeted Revenue	Budgeted Net	Actual Expenses	Actual Revenue	Actual Net
Sheriff	5,461,988.00	1,390,508.00	4,071,480.00	5,238,411.66	1,398,385.90	3,840,025.76
Emergency Management	76,049.00	22,000.00	54,049.00	70,731.27	6,085.67	64,645.60
Enhanced 911	127,752.00	98,333.00	29,419.00	112,855.81	98,332.80	14,523.01
Wireless Communications	160,616.00	25,000.00	135,616.00	139,898.94	15,516.80	124,382.14
Total:	5,826,405.00	1,535,841.00	4,290,564.00	5,561,897.68	1,518,321.17	4,043,576.51

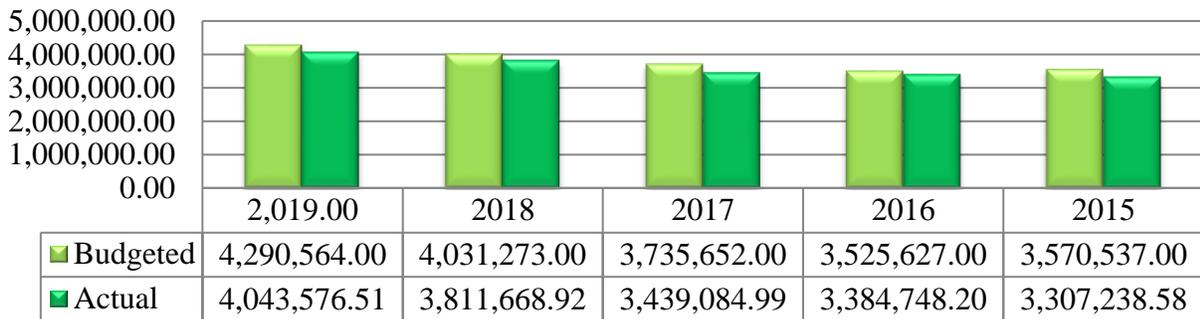
Budgeted vs. Actual Expenses - Historical Review



Budgeted vs. Actual Revenue - Historical Review



Budgeted vs. Actual Net - Historical Review



Volunteer Programs

The Meeker County Sheriff's Office has a number of people who volunteer their time to assist in the day-to-day operations of the Sheriff's Office. Reserve Deputies spend time riding with the patrol deputies to provide back-up and assistance when needed. Reserve Deputies also provide security and traffic control at many events in the county including the Meeker County Fair. The Posse provides



assistance at county events and does routine patrols at the Meeker County Fair. Posse members have been involved in searches for missing persons in and outside of



Meeker County. The Community Service Officer – Paramedics (CSO-P) volunteer many hours to provide professional and immediate medical care when needed at various events in the county. They also patrol the county and provide assistance to the patrol deputies on medicals and a wide variety of other calls. In addition to the specific training geared towards each group, our Reserve and Posse members receive medical and CPR training. All groups also receive defensive tactics training which

includes the proper and legal use only when necessary. This enhances public safety when they are under direct supervision of a patrol deputy.



Posse and Reserve members receive first aid training (above left), while our CSO-Paramedics go through their medical bags during their training (above right).

2019 Total Volunteer hours:

