



Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
Enforcement Activity by Major Category

(January 1 – December 31, 2020)

Annual Report

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Introduction

This report presents statistics compiled from Hamilton County Sheriff's Office record management system along with other law enforcement databases. In general, this activity report is prepared in order to track efforts to combat criminal activity and the effectiveness of these efforts.

Statistical Considerations

Data used in the report represents current information housed within law enforcement databases. Due to the fact database entry is ongoing; some statistical information will change over time. For example, a fire investigation will remain a miscellaneous report until the investigation determines otherwise.

For this report, crime data and law enforcement efforts draw on data from the year of 2020, January through December. This data will be compared to previous annual data to track trends and changes. Comparisons will be made to the year 2019 for this report.

Arrest statistics are drawn from the initial booking data collected at the time of arrest prior to arraignment.

Classifications as to a shooting incident are based upon a bullet striking the victim. This category therefore addresses a broad classification of crimes to include robbery, murder, aggravated assault, etc. For reporting purposes, it does not include suicides, accidental, or officer involved shootings.

Some classifications do not have a specific victim; therefore, in cases such as these (i.e. drug possession) the victim is listed as society.

Offense definitions are derived from the TIBRS Data Manual 14th edition.

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Crimes against Persons

HCSO investigates a range of personal crimes. In general, HCSO patrol makes a preliminary assessment and based upon this assessment, determines whether additional investigative resources are necessary. For example, HCSO patrol will notify HCSO Criminal Investigations when an investigation involves homicide, suspicious death, or rape.

HCSO draws upon all available internal resources in the investigation of personal crimes. HCSO also works jointly on a daily basis with local, state and federal law enforcement investigating personal crimes. Additionally, HCSO works closely with the District Attorney's Office, Hamilton County Medical Examiner's Office, Child Protective Team (CPIT), Child Advocacy Center (CAC), Hamilton County Coalition, Hamilton County Partnership, and Hamilton County Health Department.

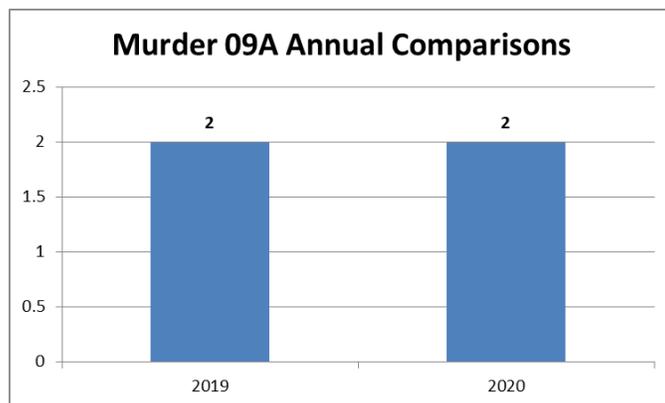
HCSO CID Personal Crimes has one detective assigned to the FBI Task Force and one to the TBI Task Force.

Murder (09A, 09B)

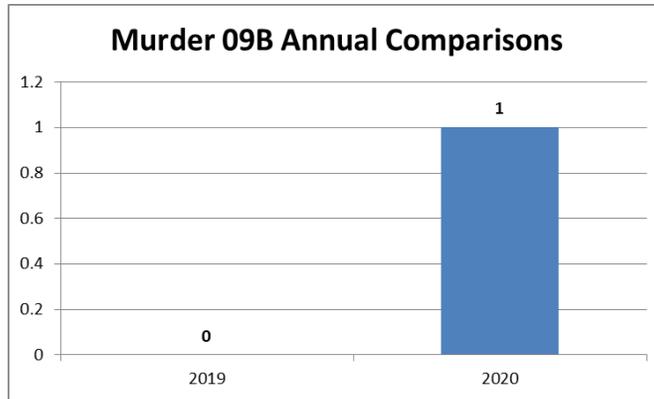
09A Definition: The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

09B Definition: The killing of another person through negligence.

There were two 09A Murders in the years 2019 and 2020. This represents no change in the number of cases investigated. Of the two 09A murders that took place in 2020, one is still not cleared and the other has been cleared by arrest.



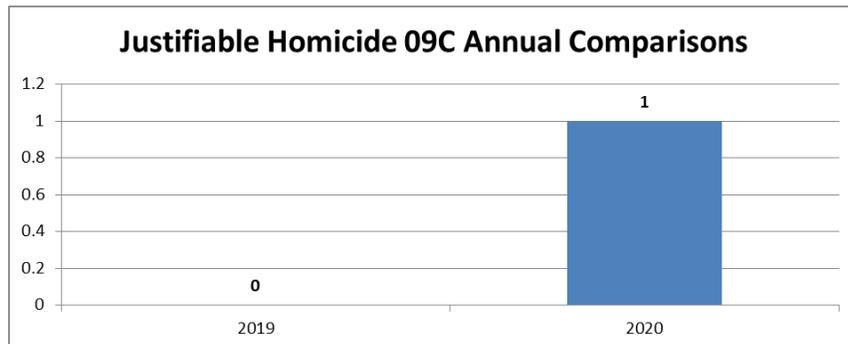
There was one 09B Murder investigated in 2019, and none in 2020. The one that was investigated in 2020 was cleared by arrest.



Justifiable Homicide (09C)

Definition: The killing of a perpetrator of a serious criminal offense by a peace officer in the line of duty; or the killing, during the commission of a serious criminal offense, of the perpetrator by a private individual.

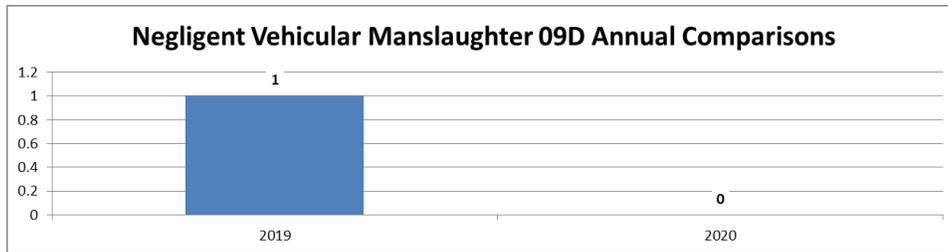
There were no justifiable homicides in the year 2019. There was 1 justifiable homicide that occurred in 2020. This change represents a 100% increase. Clearance rates are not available for this data because no crime was committed.



Negligent Vehicular Manslaughter (09D)

*Definition: The negligent killing of another person by the driver of a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. **Not** included in this category are deaths of persons due to their own negligence; accidental deaths resulting from non-alcohol or drug related negligence (i.e. distracted driving such as tuning a car radio, talking on a phone, texting, etc.); and other accidental traffic fatalities.*

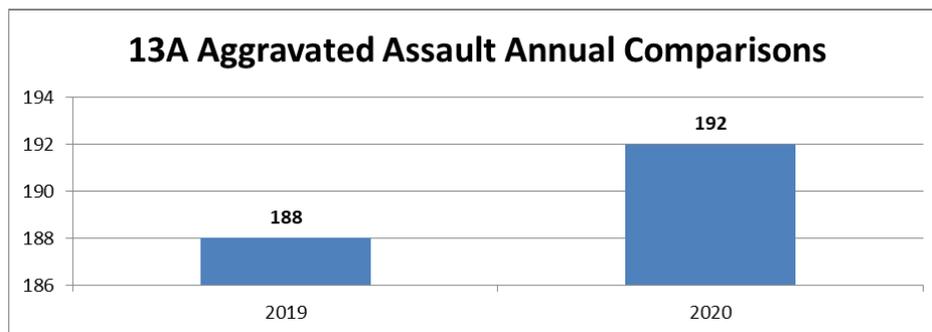
There was one 09D vehicular manslaughter case occurred in 2019 and it was cleared by arrest, whereas in 2020 no 09D crimes were investigated. This represents a -100% decrease, but it is important to note that with a data set this small this number is not an accurate reflection of crime rates for 09D offenses.



Assault – 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D

Aggravated Assault (13A)

Definition: An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.

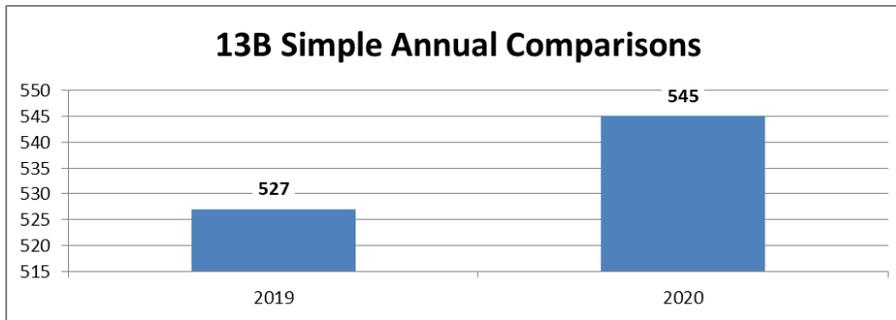


When compared to data from the previous year, the numbers of aggravated assault cases investigated have increased. From 2019 to 2020, aggravated assaults increased from 188 to 192, which represent a 2.13% increase.

In 2020 were a total of 192 Aggravated Assault cases investigated. Of these, 119 (63%) were cleared by arrest, 65 (34.4%) were not cleared, and 5 (2.6%) were cleared exceptionally.

Simple Assault (13B)

Definition: An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.

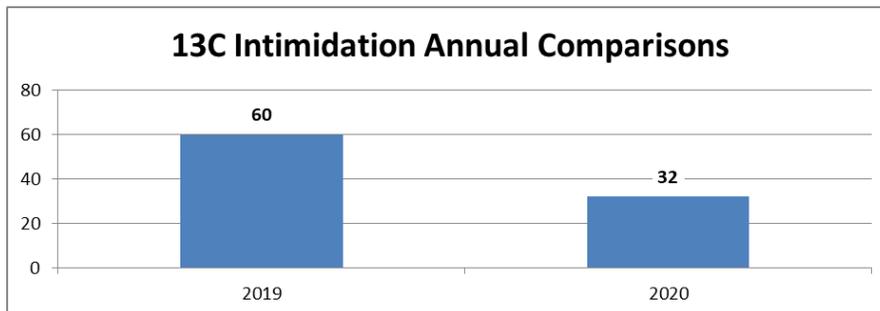


When compared to data from previous year, the numbers of Simple Assault cases investigated have increased. From 2019 to 2020, simple assaults have increased from 527 to 545, which represent a 3.42% increase.

In 2020 there were a total of 545 simple assault cases investigated. Of these, 224 (43.1%) were cleared by arrest, 226 (43.5%) were not cleared, and 70 (13.5%) were cleared exceptionally.

Intimidation (13C)

Definition: To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

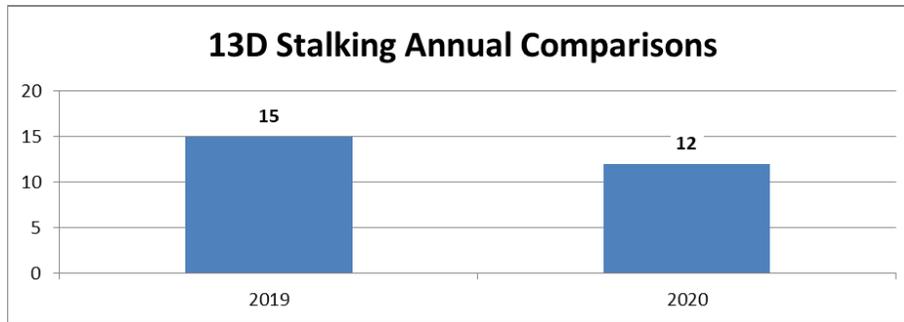


When compared to data from previous year, the numbers of Intimidation cases investigated have decreased. From 2019 to 2020, intimidation cases have decreased from 60 to 32, which is a -46.67% decrease.

In 2020 there were 32 intimidation cases investigated. Of these, 9 (29%) were cleared by arrest, 19 (61.3%) were not cleared, and 3 (9.7%) were cleared exceptionally.

Stalking (13D)

Definition: To intentionally and repeatedly follow or harass another person in such a manner as would cause that person to be in a reasonable fear of being assaulted, suffering bodily injury or death.



When compared to data from the previous year, the numbers of Stalking cases investigated have decreased. From 2019 to 2020 stalking cases decreased from 15 to 12, which represent a -20% decrease.

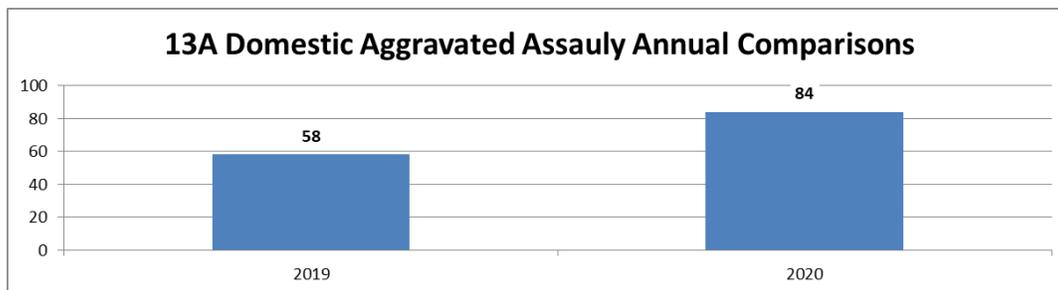
In 2020 there were 12 Stalking cases investigated. Of these, 4 (33.3%) were cleared by arrest and 8 (66.7%) were not cleared.

Domestic Assault (13A-D)

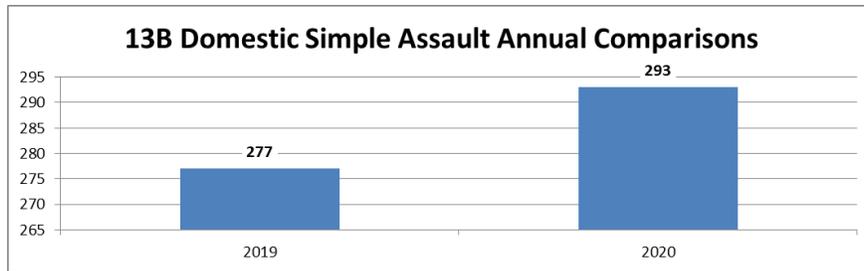
All the above assault data includes Domestic Assaults in the totals, but in this section Domestic Assault data will be analyzed separately. There is no exact TIBRS guideline as to the definition of Domestic Assault, but it is stated in the manual that multiple assault offenses are possible (primarily 13A, 13B, 13C, and 13D).

HCSO patrol conducts most domestic violence investigations. During this year, domestic violence investigations increased across the years being compared.

The vast majority of Domestic Violence charges are 13B Simple Assault. There are significantly less Domestic Assaults under 13A Aggravated Assault, and none for 13C or 13D for all years being analyzed.



13A – The numbers of domestic assault 13A investigations have increased. From 2019 to 2020 they increased from 58 to 84, which represent a 44.83% increase. Of the 84 cases investigated in 2020, 61 (72.6%) were cleared by arrest and 23 (27.4%) were not cleared.



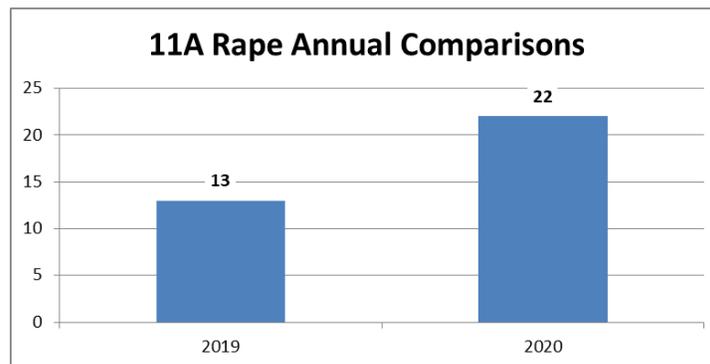
13B – The numbers of domestic assault 13B cases investigated have increased. In 2020 there were 293 domestic assaults investigated that were categorized by this offense, and 277 in 2019. This represents a 5.77% increase. Of the 293 cases investigated in 2020, 157 (53.6%) were cleared by arrest, 125 (42.7%) were not cleared, and 11 (3.8%) were cleared exceptionally.

13C – In 2020 there were no domestic assaults investigated that were categorized by this offense. The same is true for 2019. This section has been included to show the lack of charges under this offense code, and to use in the future for comparison if the need arises.

13D – In 2020 there were no domestic assaults investigated that were categorized by this offense. The same is true for 2019. This section has been included to show the lack of charges under this offense code, and to use in the future for comparison if the need arises.

Rape (11A)

Definition: The carnal knowledge of a person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.



When compared to data from the previous year, the numbers of Rape 11A cases investigated have increased. There was an increase from 13 to 22 from 2019 to 2020, which is a 69.23% increase.

In 2020 there were 22 Rape cases investigated. Of these, 4 (19%) were cleared by arrest, 15 (71.4%) were not cleared, and 2 (9.5%) were cleared exceptionally. Rape cases tend to take a greater amount of time to solve for a multitude of reasons, lengthy wait times for lab results being one example. These cases will be updated as the investigation continues.

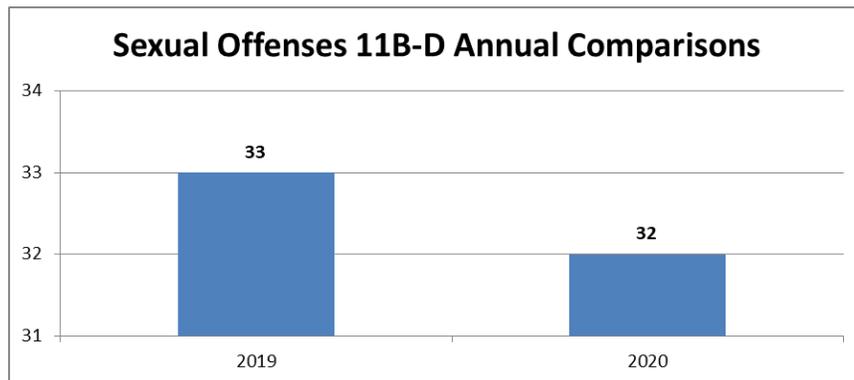
Sexual Offenses (11B-D)

Definition 11B Sodomy: Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Definition 11C Sexual Assault with an Object: To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Definition 11D Fondling: The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification or any other reason, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

For the purposes of this report these offenses have been combined.

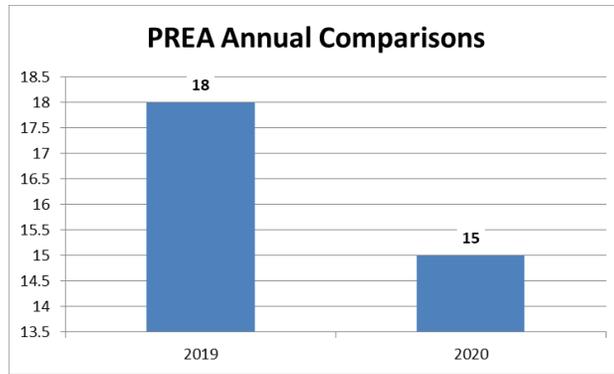


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of sexual offense cases investigated has decreased. From 2019 to 2020 there was a decrease from 33 to 32, which represents a -3.03% decrease.

In 2020 there were 32 sexual offenses investigated. 26 (83.9%) were not cleared, 3 (9.7%) were cleared by arrest, and 2 (6.5%) were cleared exceptionally. Sexual offenses tend to take a greater amount of time to solve for a multitude of reasons, lengthy wait times for lab results being one example. These cases will be updated as the investigation continues.

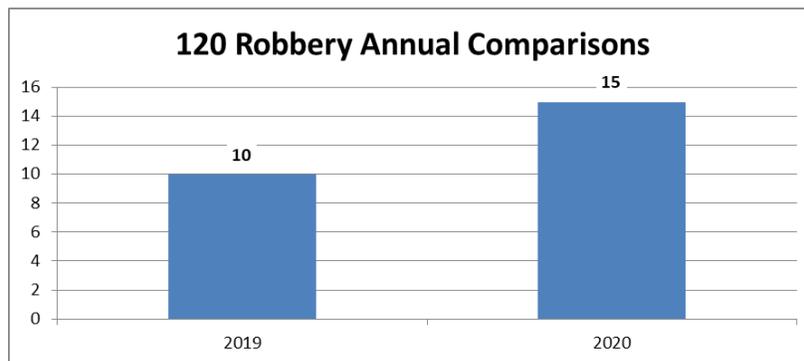
PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act)

In 2020 there were a total of 15 cases investigated that fell under the Prison Rape Elimination Act. In 2019 there were a total of 18, which is a -16.66% decrease. These numbers represent data from both the Hamilton County Jail and the Silverdale Detention Facility. Prior to January 2020 this type of data was not collected, but will be retained and analyzed going forward as more data is accrued.



Robbery 120

Definition: The taking, or attempting to take, anything of value under confrontational circumstances from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm.

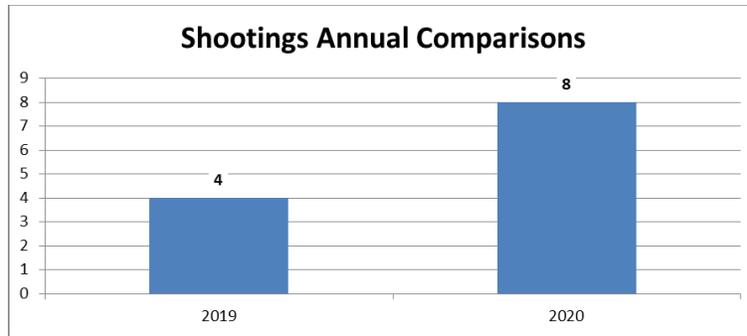


When compared to data from the previous year, Robbery numbers have increased. From 2019 to 2020 the number of robberies increased from 10 to 15, which is a 50% increase.

In 2020, 15 robberies occurred. Of these, 5 (33.3%) were cleared by arrest and 10 (66.7%) were not cleared.

Shooting Incidents

There is no definition provided in the TIBRS manual specifically for shooting incidents, but for the purposes of this report classifications as to a shooting incident are based upon a bullet striking the victim. This category therefore addresses a broad classification of crimes to include robbery, murder, aggravated assault, etc. For reporting purposes, it does not include suicides, accidental, or officer involved shootings.



When compared to data from the previous year, the number of shooting incidents increased. 2019 had 4 shooting incidents and 2020 had 8, which represents a 100% increase.

Below is a table that summarizes the quantities and percentage change calculations from all of the above offenses.

Table 1 – Crimes against Persons

Offense	2019 Total	2019 – 2020 Percent Change	2020 Total
Murder (09A)	2	NC	2
Murder (09B)	0	100%	1
Justifiable Homicide (09C)	0	100%	1
Negligent Vehicular Manslaughter (09D)	1	-100%	0
Aggravated Assault (13A)	188	2.13%	192
Simple Assault (13B)	527	3.42%	545
Intimidation (13C)	60	-46.67%	32
Stalking (13D)	15	-20%	12
Domestic Assault (13A)	58	44.83%	84
Domestic Assault (13B)	277	5.77%	293
Domestic Assault (13C)	0	NC	0
Domestic Assault (13D)	0	NC	0
Rape (11A)	13	69.23%	22
Sexual Offenses (11B-D)	33	-3.03%	32
PREA	18	-16.66%	15
Robbery (120)	10	50%	15
Shooting Incidents	4	100%	8

Property Crimes

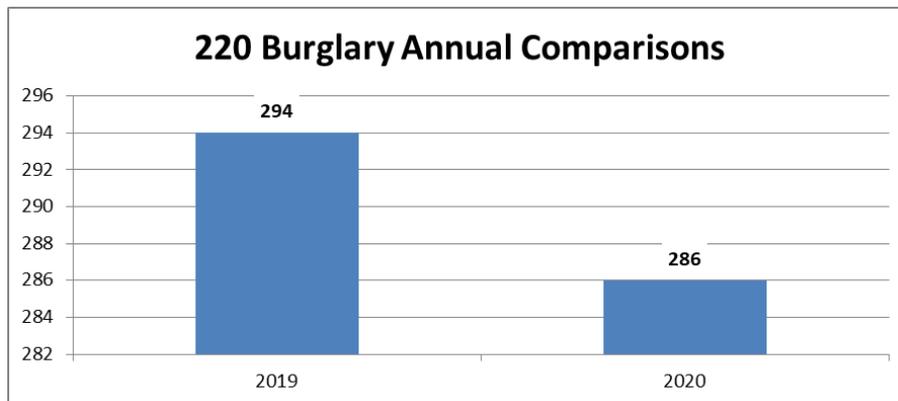
The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office investigates all property crimes reported within the agency's primary jurisdiction. Additionally, as a result of HCSO having overlapping jurisdiction throughout Hamilton County, HCSO investigates and/or assists in property crime investigations as necessary in these overlapping jurisdictions.

HCSO CID has detectives specifically assigned to property crimes. All of these detectives are also members of the Secret Service Task Force. This partnership allows for better coordination concerning fraud investigations.

HCSO shares information and works jointly with local, state, and federal law enforcement. HCSO has a very active community watch program and uses social media effectively to educate the public and share information.

Burglary/Breaking and Entering (220)

Definition: The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or a theft.



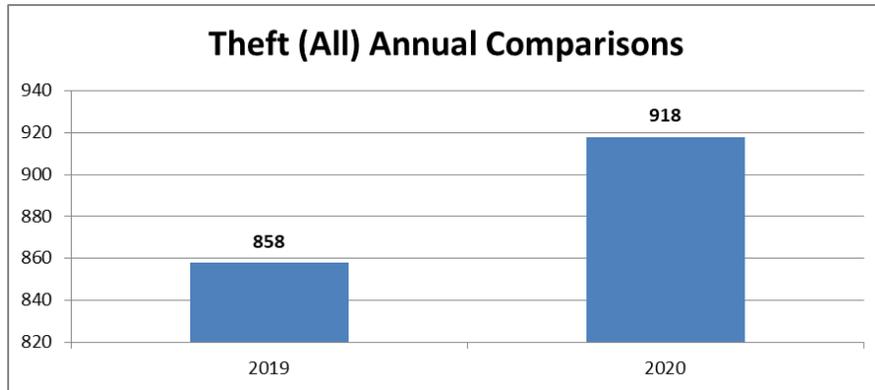
For the purposes of this report, Residential (220R), Commercial (220C), and Aggravated burglaries are included in the above data.

When compared to data from previous year, the number of burglary cases has decreased. From 2019 to 2020 burglary numbers decreased from 294 to 286, which represents a -2.72% decrease.

In 2020 there were 286 burglary cases investigated. Of those, 243 (85.6%) were not cleared, 31 (10.9%) were cleared by arrest, and 10 (3.5%) were cleared exceptionally.

Theft/Larceny (23A-H)

Definition: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession, or constructive possession, of another person.



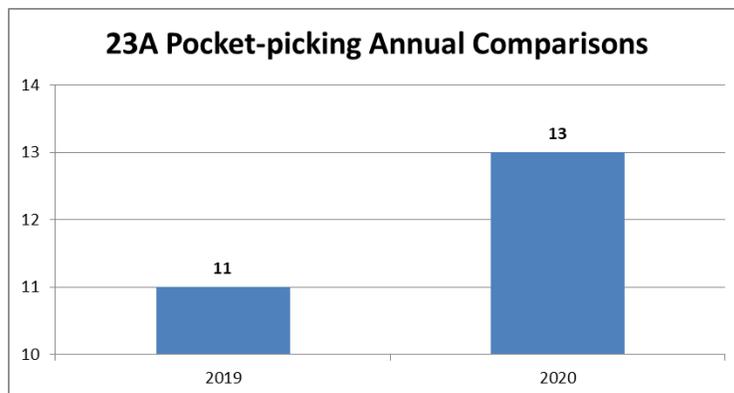
For the purposes of this report, only applicable theft offenses are being represented below. None of the years being analyzed in this report utilized offense codes 23B so it has been excluded.

From 2019 to 2020 there was an increase from 858 to 918, which is a 6.99% increase.

There were 918 theft cases investigated in 2020. Of those, 778 (85.6%) were not cleared, 94 (10.3%) were cleared by arrest, and 36 (4%) were cleared exceptionally.

Pocket-picking (23A)

Definition: The theft of articles from another person's physical possession by stealth where the victim usually does not become immediately aware of the theft.

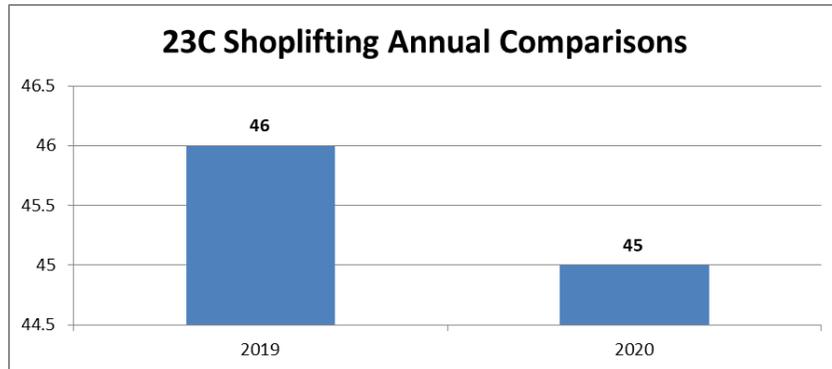


From 2019 to 2020 the number 23A cases increased from 11 to 13, which represent an 18.18% increase.

Of the 13 pocket-picking cases investigated in 2020, 12 (92.3%) were not cleared and 1 (7.7%) was cleared by arrest.

Shoplifting (23C)

Definition: The theft, by someone other than an employee of the victim, of goods or merchandise exposed for sale.

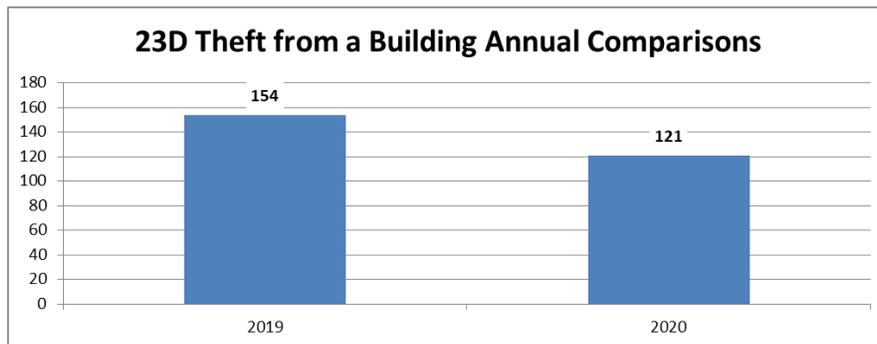


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of shoplifting cases investigated has decreased. From 2019 to 2020 there was a decrease from 46 to 45, which is a -2.17% decrease.

There were 45 shoplifting cases investigated in 2020. Of these, 23 (51.1%) were not cleared, 17 (37.8%) were cleared by arrest, and 5 (11.1%) were cleared exceptionally.

Theft from a Building (23D)

Definition: A theft within a building which is either open to the general public or where the offender has legal access.

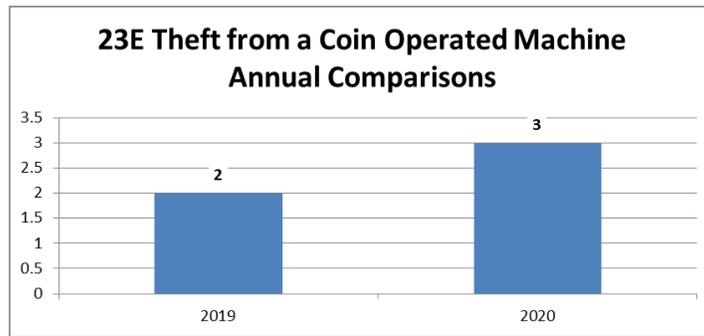


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of Theft from Building cases has decreased. From 2019 to 2020 the number of cases decreased from 154 to 121 which is a -21.43% decrease.

There were 121 Theft from Building cases investigated during 2020. Of these, 95 (79.8%) were not cleared, 12 (10.1%) were cleared by arrest, and 12 (10.1%) were cleared exceptionally.

Theft from a Coin Machine (23E)

Definition: A theft from a machine or device which is operated or activated by the use of coins.

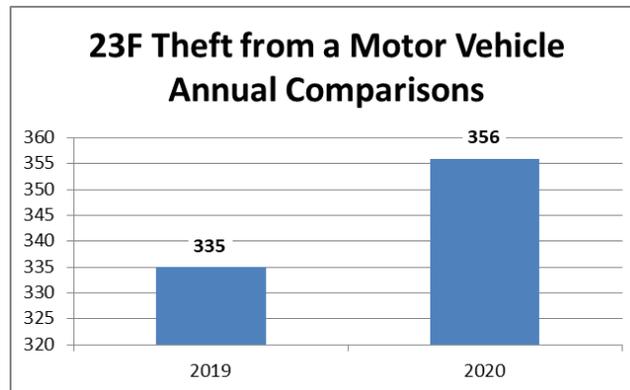


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of 23E Theft from Coin Machine cases has increased. From 2019 to 2020 these cases increased from 2 to 3, which is a 50% increase.

There were 3 cases investigated in 2020, of which 2 (66.7%) were not cleared and 1 (33.3%) was cleared by arrest.

Theft from a Motor Vehicle (23F)

Definition: The theft of articles from a motor vehicle, whether locked or unlocked.

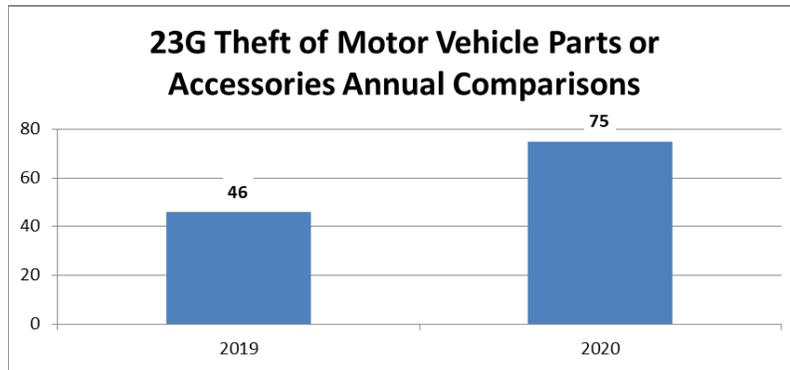


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of Theft from Vehicle cases investigated increased. From 2019 to 2020 there was an increase from 335 to 356, which is an increase of 6.27%.

There were 356 Theft from a Motor Vehicle cases investigated in 2020. Of those, 324 (91.8%) were not cleared, 21 (5.9%) were cleared by arrest, and 8 (2.3%) were cleared exceptionally.

Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories (23G)

Definition: The theft of any part or accessory affixed to the interior or exterior of a motor vehicle in a manner which would make the item an attachment of the vehicle or necessary for its operation.

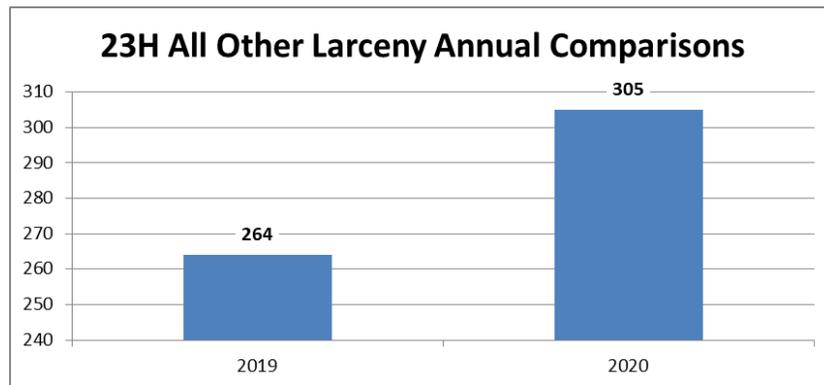


When compared to data from the previous year, the numbers of Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories cases investigated has increased. From 2019 to 2020 there was an increase from 46 to 75, which represents a 63.04% increase.

There were 75 cases of Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories investigated in 2020, of which 66 (89.2%) were not cleared, 7 (9.5%) were cleared by arrest, and 1 (1.4%) was cleared exceptionally.

All Other Larceny (23H)

Definition: All thefts which do not fit any of the definitions of the specific subcategories of Larceny/Theft listed above.

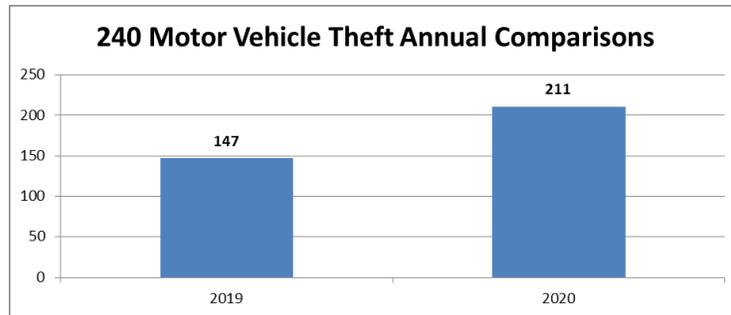


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of All Other Larceny cases investigated increased. From 2019 to 2020 there was an increase from 264 to 305, which is a 15.53% increase.

There were 305 All Other Larceny cases investigated in 2020. Of these, 257 (84.5%) were not cleared, 37 (12.2%) were cleared by arrest, and 10 (3.3%) was cleared exceptionally.

Motor Vehicle Theft (240)

Definition: The theft of a motor vehicle.



When compared to data from the previous year, the numbers of Motor Vehicle Theft cases investigated have increased. From 2019 to 2020, there was an increase from 147 to 211, which is a 43.54% increase.

There were 211 Motor Vehicle Theft cases investigation in 2020. Of those, 163 (79.1%) were not cleared, 39 (19%) were cleared by arrest, and 4 (1.9%) were cleared exceptionally.

Fraud Offenses (26A-G)

Definition: The intentional perversion of the truth for the purpose of inducing another person or other entity in reliance upon it to part with something of value or surrender a legal right.

False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game (26A) Definition: The intentional misrepresentation of existing fact or conditions, or the use of some other deceptive scheme or device, to obtain money, goods, or other things of value.

Credit Card/Automatic Teller Machine Fraud (26B) Definition: The unlawful use of a credit (or debit) card or automatic teller machine for fraudulent purposes.

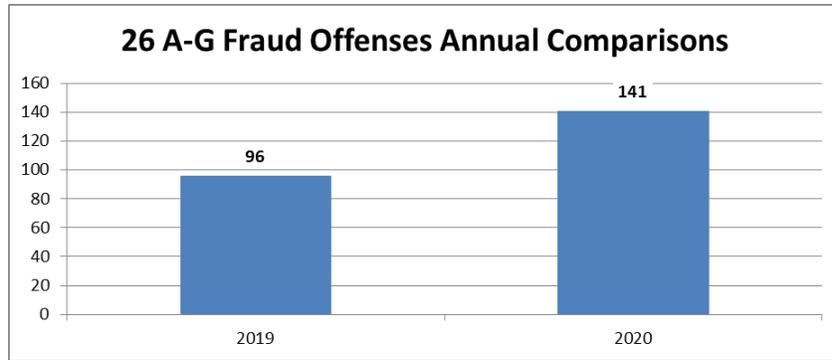
Impersonation (26C) Definition: Falsely representing one's identity or position, and acting in the character or position thus unlawfully assumed, to deceive others and thereby gain a profit or advantage, enjoy some right or privilege, or subject another person or entity to an expense, charge, or liability which would not have otherwise been incurred.

Welfare Fraud (26D) Definition: The use of deceitful statements, practices, or devices to unlawfully obtain welfare benefits.

Wire Fraud (26E) Definition: The use of an electronic or electronic communications facility to intentionally transmit a false and/or deceptive message in furtherance of a fraudulent activity.

Identity Theft (26F) Definition: Wrongfully obtaining and using another person's personal data (e.g., name, date of birth, Social Security number, driver's license number, credit card number).

Computer Hacking/Invasion (23G) Definition: Wrongfully gaining access to another person's or institution's computer software, hardware, or networks without authorized permissions or security clearances.

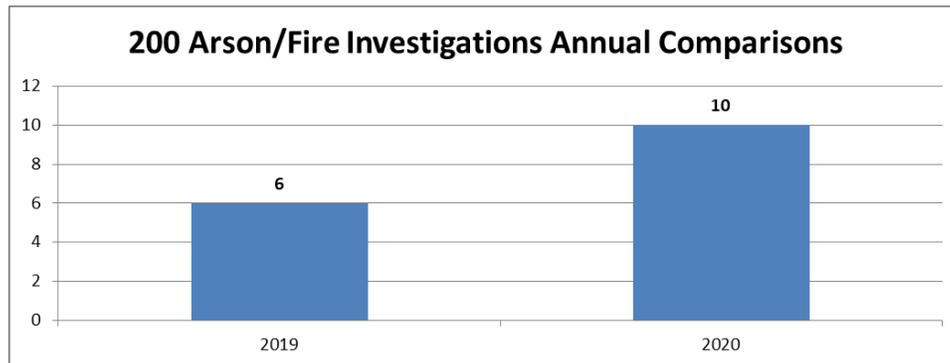


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of Fraud Offenses increased. From 2019 to 2020 there was an increase from 96 to 141, which is a 46.88% increase.

There were 141 Fraud Offense cases investigated in 2020. Of these, 117 (84.7%) were not cleared, 18 (13%) were cleared by arrest, and 3 (2.2%) were cleared exceptionally.

Arson/Fire Investigations (200)

Definition: To unlawfully and intentionally damage, or attempt to damage any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device.



When compared to data from the previous year, the number of Arson/Fire Investigations increased. From 2019 to 2020, the number of cases increased from 6 to 10, which is a 66.67% increase.

In 2020, there were 10 Arson/Fire Investigations that took place. Of these, 3 (30%) were not cleared and 7 (70%) were cleared by arrest.

Below is a table that summarizes the quantities and percentage change calculations from all of the above offenses.

Table 2 – Property Crimes

Offense	2019 Total	2019 – 2020 Percent Change	2020 Total
Burglary (220)	294	-2.72%	286
Theft (All)	858	6.99%	918
Pocket-Picking (23A)	11	18.18%	13
Shoplifting (23C)	46	-2.17%	45
Theft from a Building (23D)	154	-21.43%	121
Theft from a Coin Machine (23E)	2	33.3%	3
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (23F)	335	6.27%	356
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories (23G)	46	63.04%	75
All Other Larceny (23H)	264	15.53%	305
Motor Vehicle Theft (240)	147	43.54%	211
Fraud Offenses (26A-G)	96	46.88%	141
Arson/Fire Investigations (200)	6	66.67%	10

Crimes against Society

The HCSO Narcotics division spearheads the agency’s efforts in the enforcement of drug violations. HCSO K9 and Patrol units are very effective in street interdiction.

HCSO Narcotics works closely with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. HCSO Narcotics has one detective assigned to the DEA Task Force.

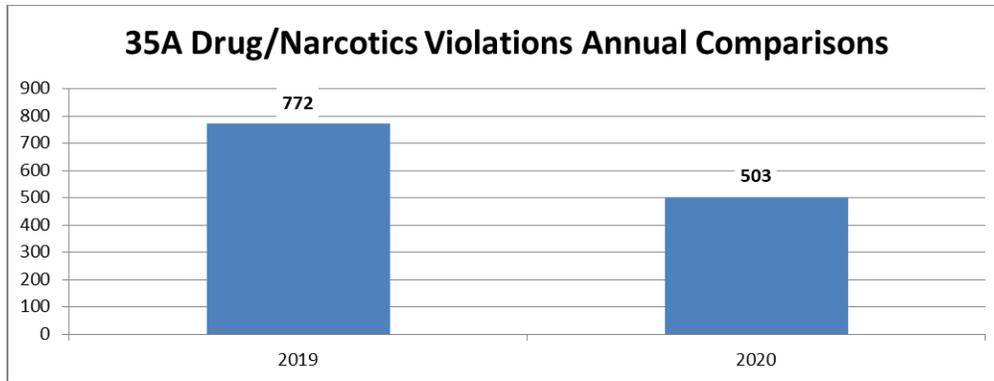
All HCSO law enforcement divisions effectively enforce weapons law violations. HCSO works closely with the ATF and the Chattanooga Police Department’s National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) program in these enforcement efforts.

Drug/Narcotics Offenses (35A-B)

Definition: The violation of law prohibiting the production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use.

Drug/Narcotic Violations (35A)

Definition: The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance.

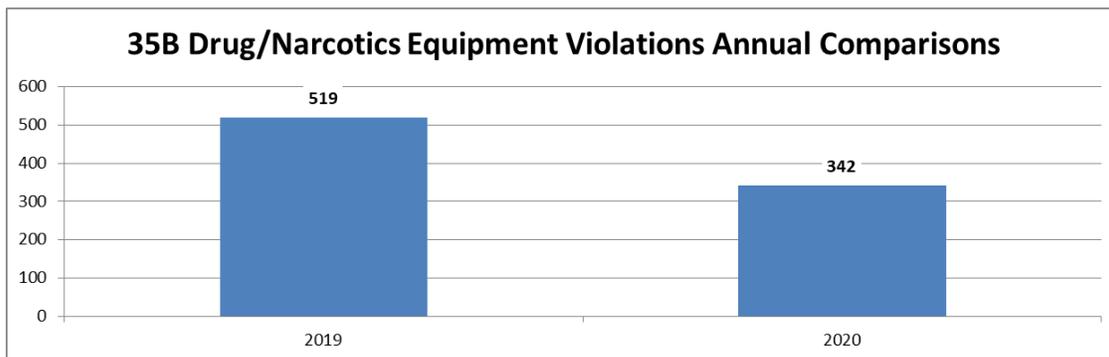


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of Drug/Narcotics 35A cases investigated has decreased. From 2019 to 2020 there was a decrease from 772 to 503, which is a -34.84% decrease.

There were 503 Drug/Narcotic Violation 35A cases investigated in 2020. Of these, 419 (83.5%) were cleared by arrest, 68 (13.5%) were not cleared, and 14 (2.8%) were cleared exceptionally.

Drug Equipment Violations (35B)

Definition: The unlawful manufacture, sale, purchase, possession, or transportation of equipment or devices utilized in preparing and/or using drugs or narcotics.

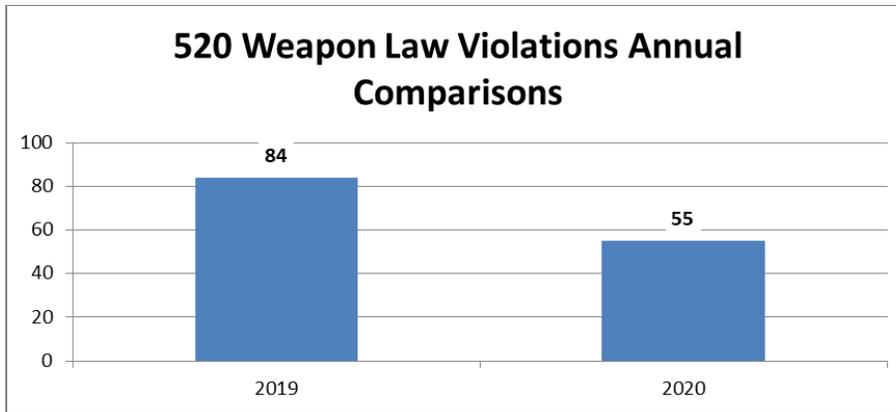


When compared to data from the previous year, the number of Drug/Narcotics Equipment Violations 35B cases investigated has decreased. From 2019 to 2020 there was a decrease from 519 to 342, which represents a -34.1% decrease.

There were 342 Drug/Narcotics Violations 35B cases investigated in 2020. Of those, 300 (87.7%) were cleared by arrest, 39 (11.4%) were not cleared, and 3 (0.9%) were cleared exceptionally.

Weapon Law Violations (520)

Definition: The violation of law or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons. Include violations such as the manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly; using, manufacturing, etc., silences; and furnishing deadly weapons to minors.



When compared to data from the previous year, the numbers of Weapon Law Violations investigated have decreased. From 2019 to 2020, there was a decrease from 84 to 55, which is a -34.52% decrease.

There were 55 Weapon Law Violations investigated in 2020. Of these, 49 (89.1%) were cleared by arrest, 5 (9.1%) were not cleared, and 1 (1.8%) was cleared exceptionally.

Below is a table that summarizes the quantities and percentage change calculations from all of the above offenses.

Table 3 – Crimes against Society

Offense	2019 Total	2019 – 2020 Percent Change	2020 Total
Drug/Narcotic Violations (35A)	772	-34.84%	503
Drug/Narcotic Violations (35B)	519	-34.1%	342
Weapon Law Violations (520)	84	-34.52%	55

Conclusions

This report breaks down crimes by TIBRS Offense Code/Classification; however, some of these crimes are not mutually exclusive. The analysis of criminal trends helps develop a broader understanding of criminal behavior and the effects of law enforcement strategies. With this knowledge, we are more proactive instead of reactive; thereby, reducing the overall effect of the criminal trend.

The Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office is keenly aware of the benefit of data driven policing and makes use of well-thought-out innovative methods. Innovative strategies such as Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS), along with Intelligence-Led Policing, provide the framework to turn the knowledge acquired through data into a focused approach in addressing criminal behavior.