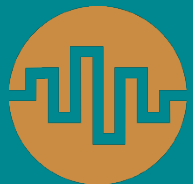


# Data Analysis of the City of Berkeley's Police Response

Reimagining Public Safety Task Force Meeting  
April 29, 2021



BERKELEY CITY AUDITOR

# Data Analysis of the City of Berkeley's Police Response

## Overview

- Introduction
- Background
- Characteristics of Events
- Characteristics of Officer-Initiated Stops
- Characteristics of Police Response
- Finding: Mental Health and Homelessness Calls
- Finding: Open Data Portal
- Recommendations
- Police Department Response



# Section I. Introduction

Report Page 5



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## Who we are – The City Auditor's Office

- Provide independent oversight of City operations
- Catalyst for improving City government
- Conduct audits in accordance with Government Audit Standards
- Provide the public with objective, timely, and accurate information about City program performance.



## Why we did this audit:

- National protests ignited by the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis
- Berkeley City Council proposal requested analysis of police data
- To give a broad overview to help inform community engagement process around reimagining policing



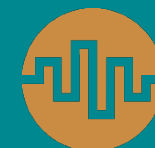
## Objectives:

1. What are the characteristics of calls for service to which Berkeley Police respond?
2. What are the characteristics of officer-initiated stops by Berkeley Police?
3. How much time do officers spend responding to calls for service?
4. How many calls for service are related to mental health and homelessness?
5. Can the City improve the transparency of Police Department calls through the City of Berkeley's Open Data Portal?



# Section II. Background

Report Page 7



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# Methodology

- Review of policies and procedures
- Cleaning the data set from BPD
- Responses that include at least 1 sworn BPD officer
- Call types are not proof of a crime
- Organized 138 call types into City Auditor Classifications:
  1. *Violent Crimes (FBI Part I Crimes)*
  2. *Property Crimes, (FBI Part I Crimes)*
  3. *FBI Part II Crimes*
  4. *Community*
  5. *Medical or Mental Health*
  6. *Traffic*
  7. *Informational or Administrative*
  8. *Investigative or Operational, and Alarm*





# Interviews with external Subject Matter Experts, BPD Staff, and other Berkeley Departments

- Austin Justice Coalition
- Berkeley Fire Department
- Berkeley Mental Health
- Berkeley Police Review Commission
- Berkeley's Police Review Commission
- Berkeley Health, Housing, and Community Services
- Berkeley Homeless Commission
- Center for Policing Equity
- UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy
- Mayor's Fair and Impartial Policing Working Group
- Mental Health Commission
- National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform
- NYU Policing Project
- Oakland City Auditor
- Oakland Reimagining Public Safety Task Force (Data Advisory Board)
- Portland City Auditor
- Portland Independent Police Review
- Resource Development Associates
- San Jose City Auditor
- Temple University
- Walk Bike Berkeley
- Yale Justice Collaboratory
- BPD patrol officers, command staff, dispatchers, information technology staff, the crime analyst, and the police records manager



# Data Background

## Where the data comes from:

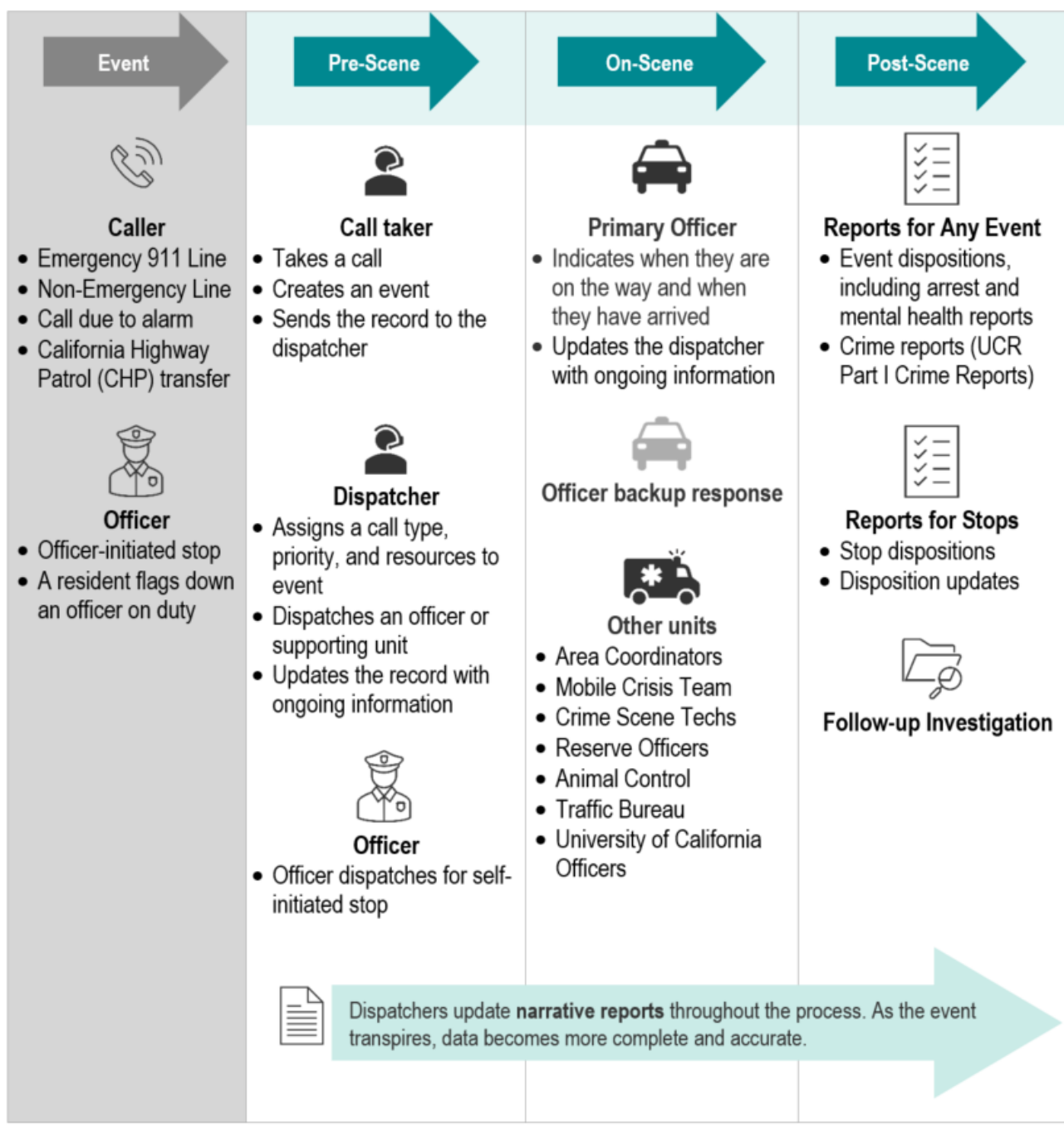
- Berkeley Police Department Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)
- Data based on information entered by dispatchers and officers into CAD

## Data dive in 3 ways:

- Characteristics of Events (360,242 events)
- Characteristics of Officer-Initiated Stops (56,070 individuals stopped)
- Characteristics of Police Response (646,958 responses)

Date range: 2015 to 2019





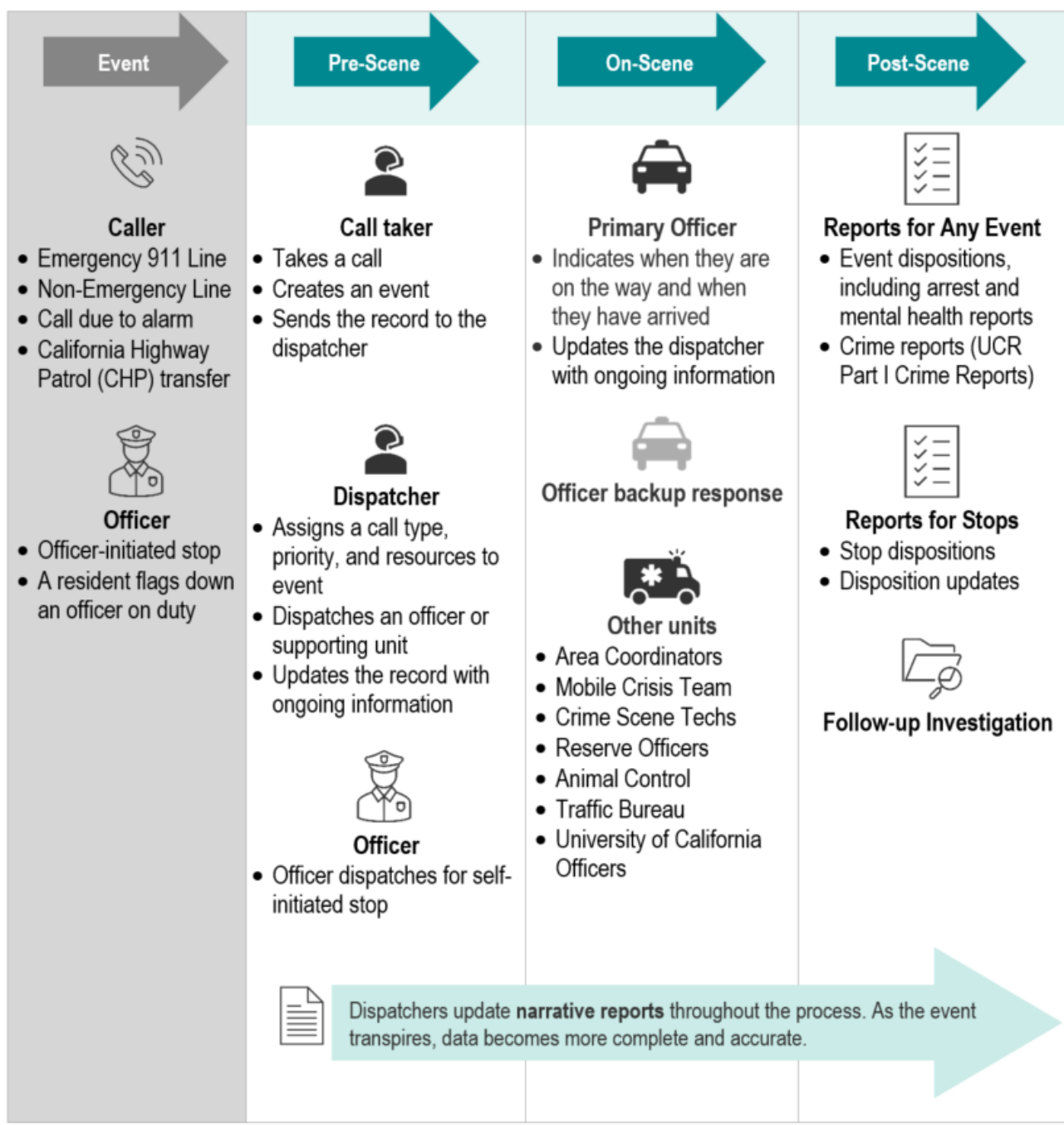
# Berkeley Police Department's Process for Responding to Calls





# Berkeley Police Department's Process for Responding to Calls



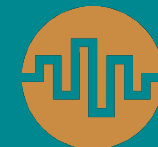


# Berkeley Police Department's Process for Responding to Calls



# Section III. Characteristics of Events

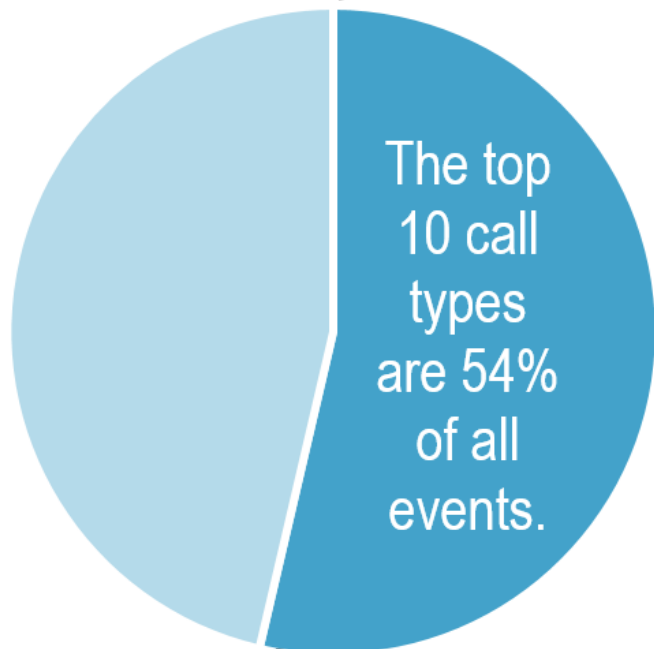
Report Page 13; Analysis of 360,242 Events





## CHARACTERISTICS OF EVENTS:

### Recorded Events from 2015 to 2019



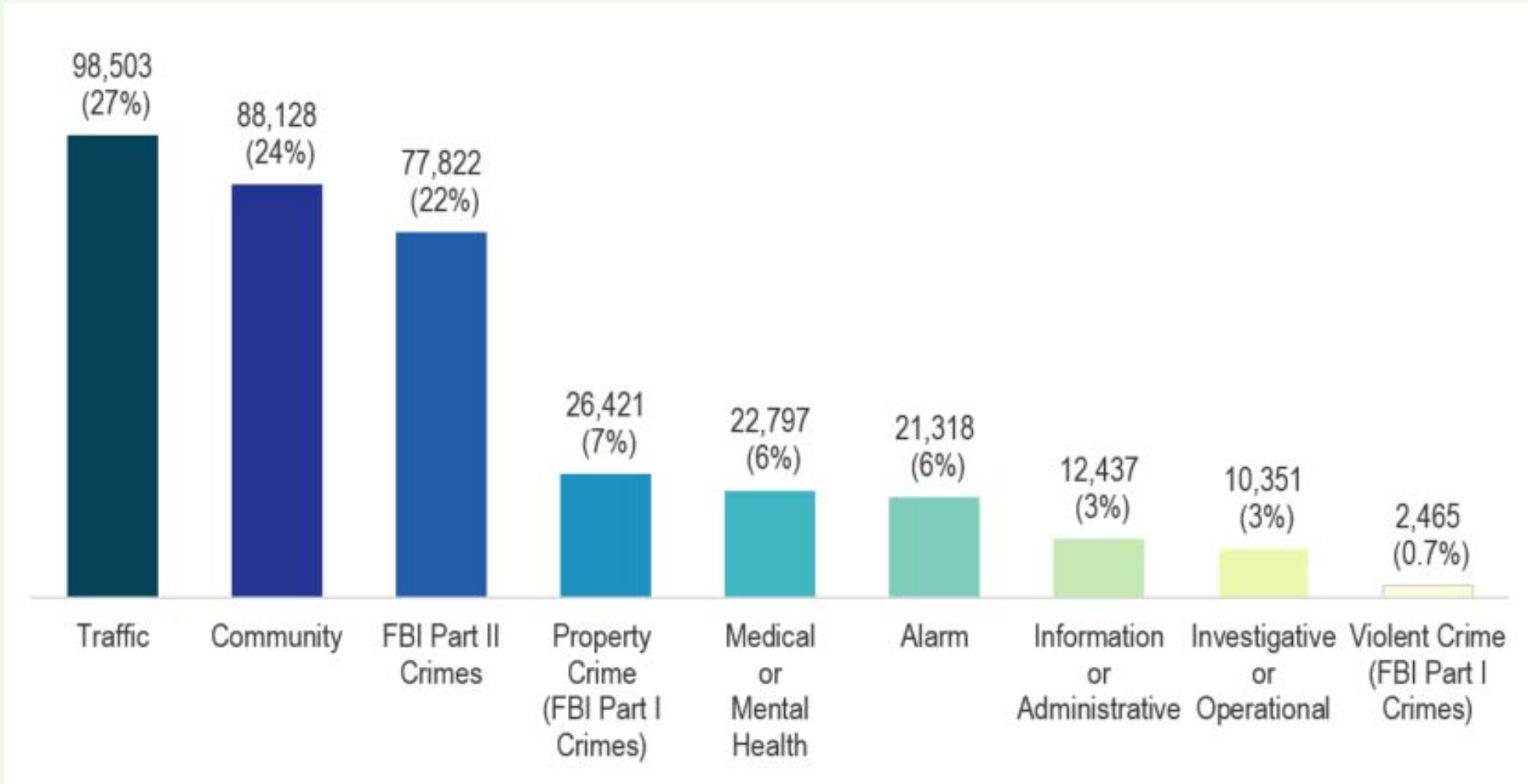
Top 10 Call Types	Total Events
1. T - Traffic Stop*	44,797
2. 415 - Disturbance	35,697
3. 1033A - Audible Alarm	19,921
4. 415E - Noise Disturbance	15,773
5. SEC - Security Check	15,268
6. 1042 - Welfare Check	15,030
7. PRKVIO - Parking Violation	13,613
8. SUSCIR - Suspicious Circumstance	11,547
9. 602L - Trespassing	11,058
10. 484 - Theft	10,556

*\*Includes stops that were not officer-initiated*



## CHARACTERISTICS OF EVENTS:

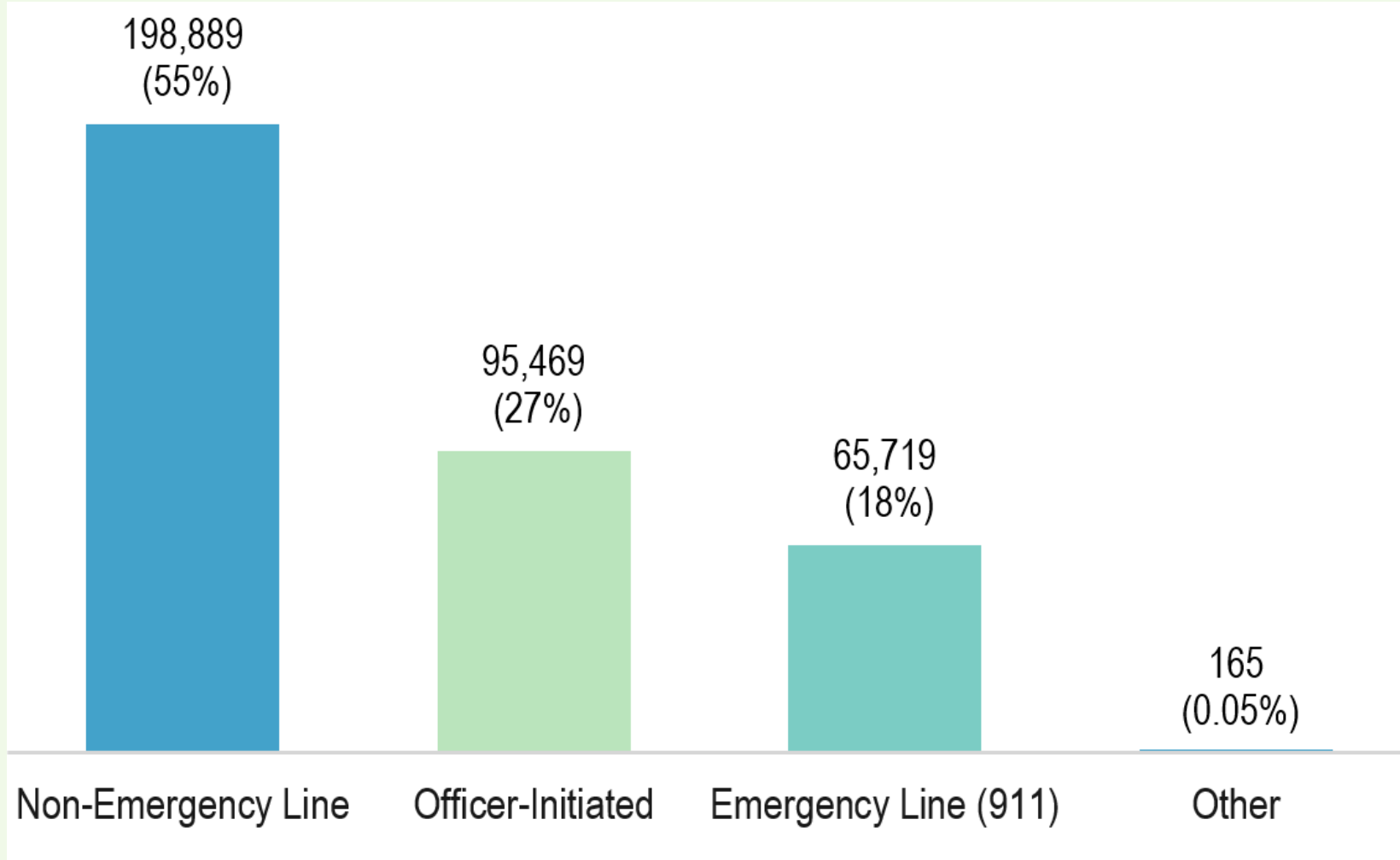
# Events by City Auditor Classifications





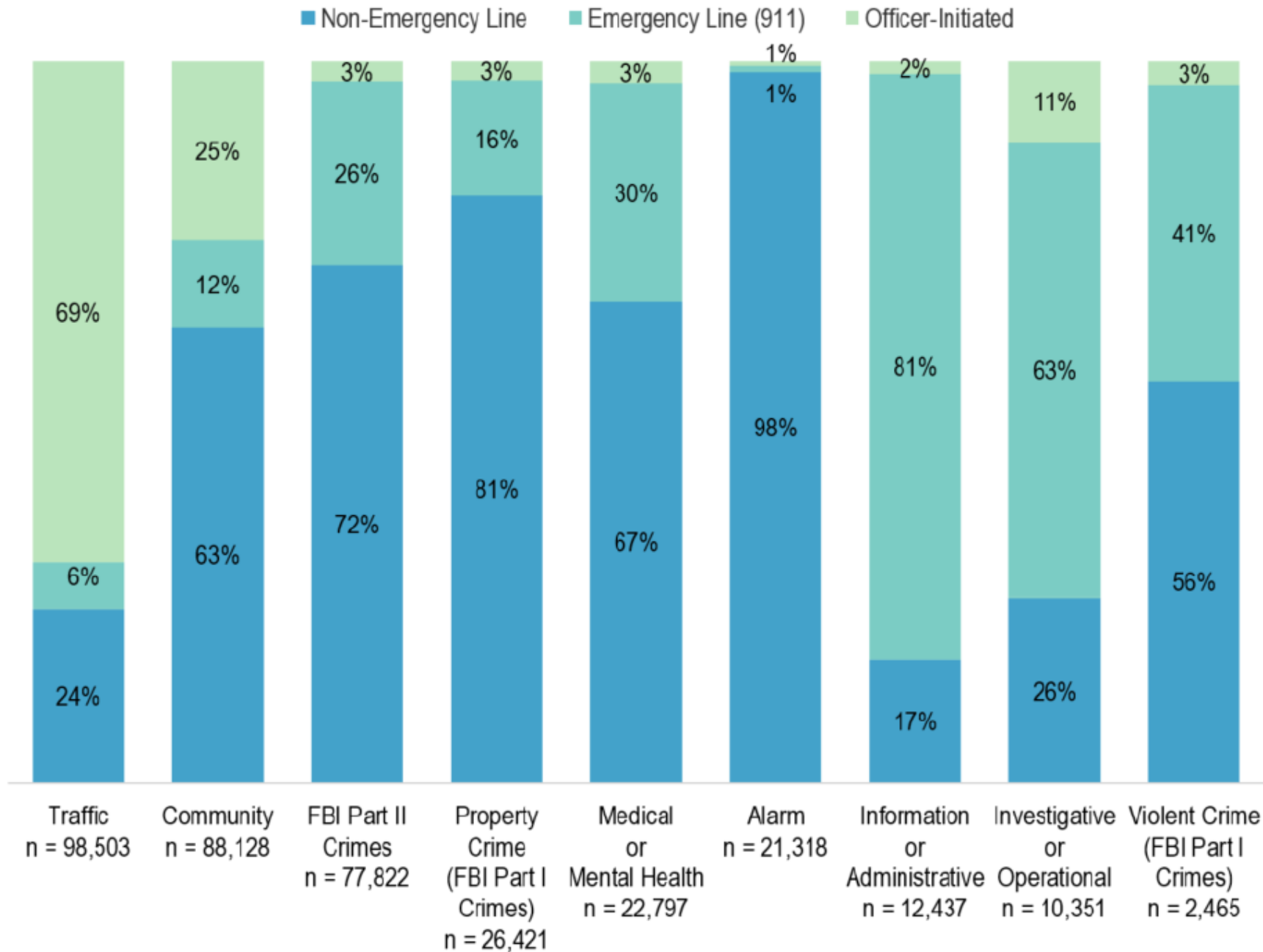
## CHARACTERISTICS OF EVENTS:

# Initiation Source of Events



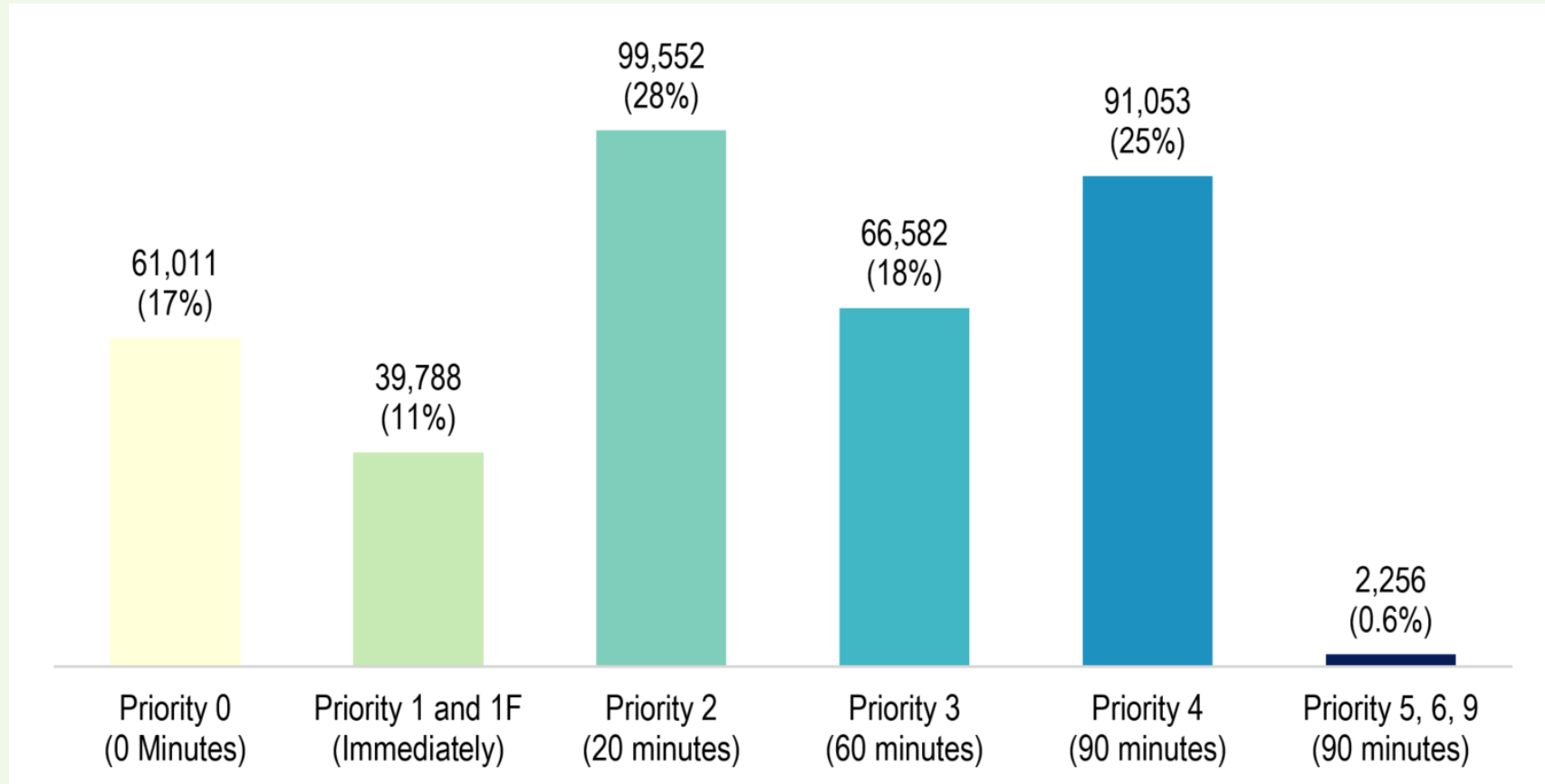
CHARACTERISTICS OF EVENTS:

# Initiation Source of Events by City Auditor Classifications



## CHARACTERISTICS OF EVENTS:

# Events by Priority Level

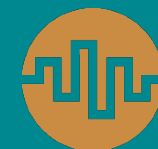


- 56% require dispatch under 20min
- 44% require dispatch +60min

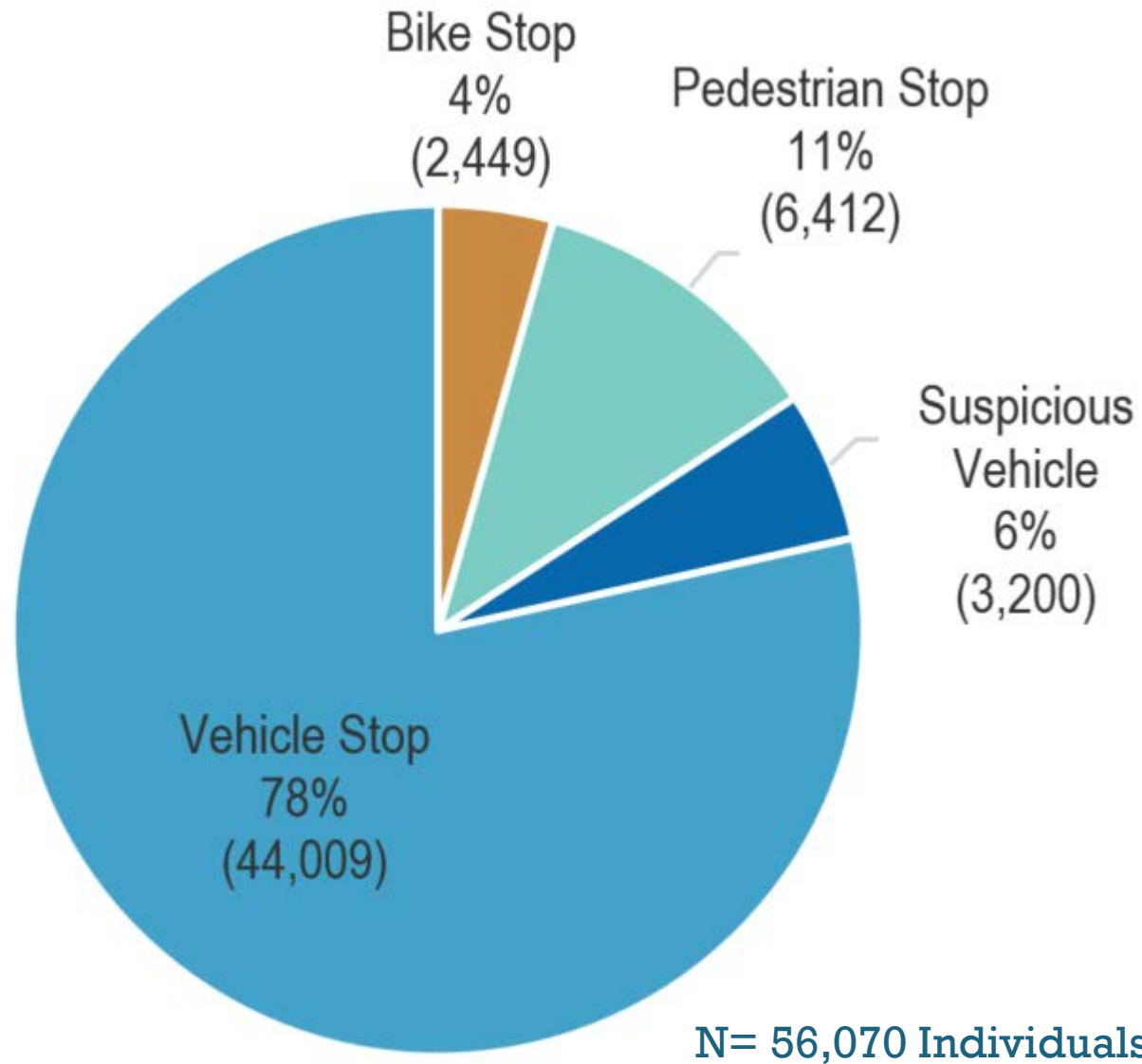


# Section IV. Characteristics of Officer-Initiated Stops

Report Page 27; Analysis of stops for 56,070 individuals



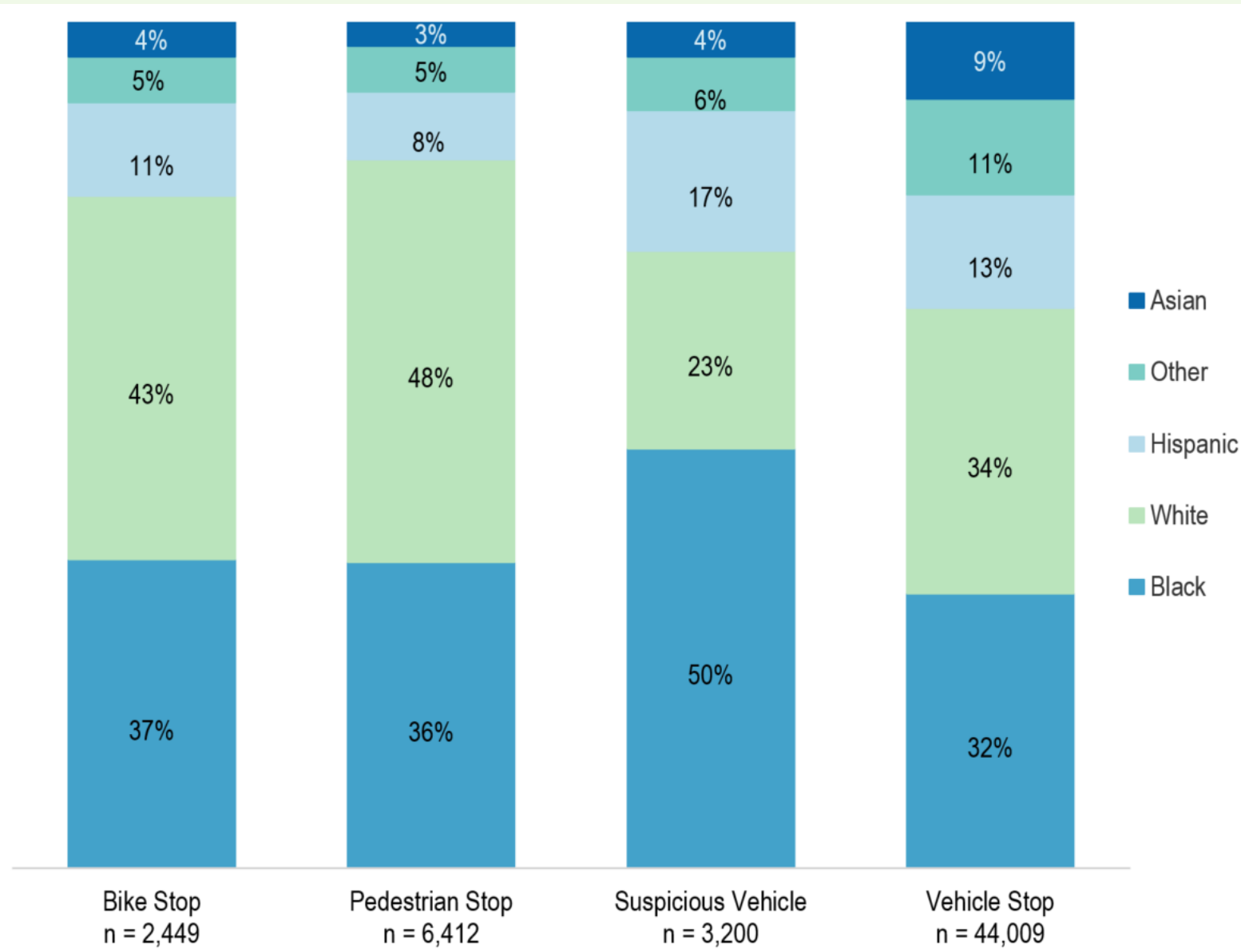
## CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFICER-INITIATED STOPS:



## Officer-Initiated Stops by Type of Stop



## CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFICER-INITIATED STOPS:

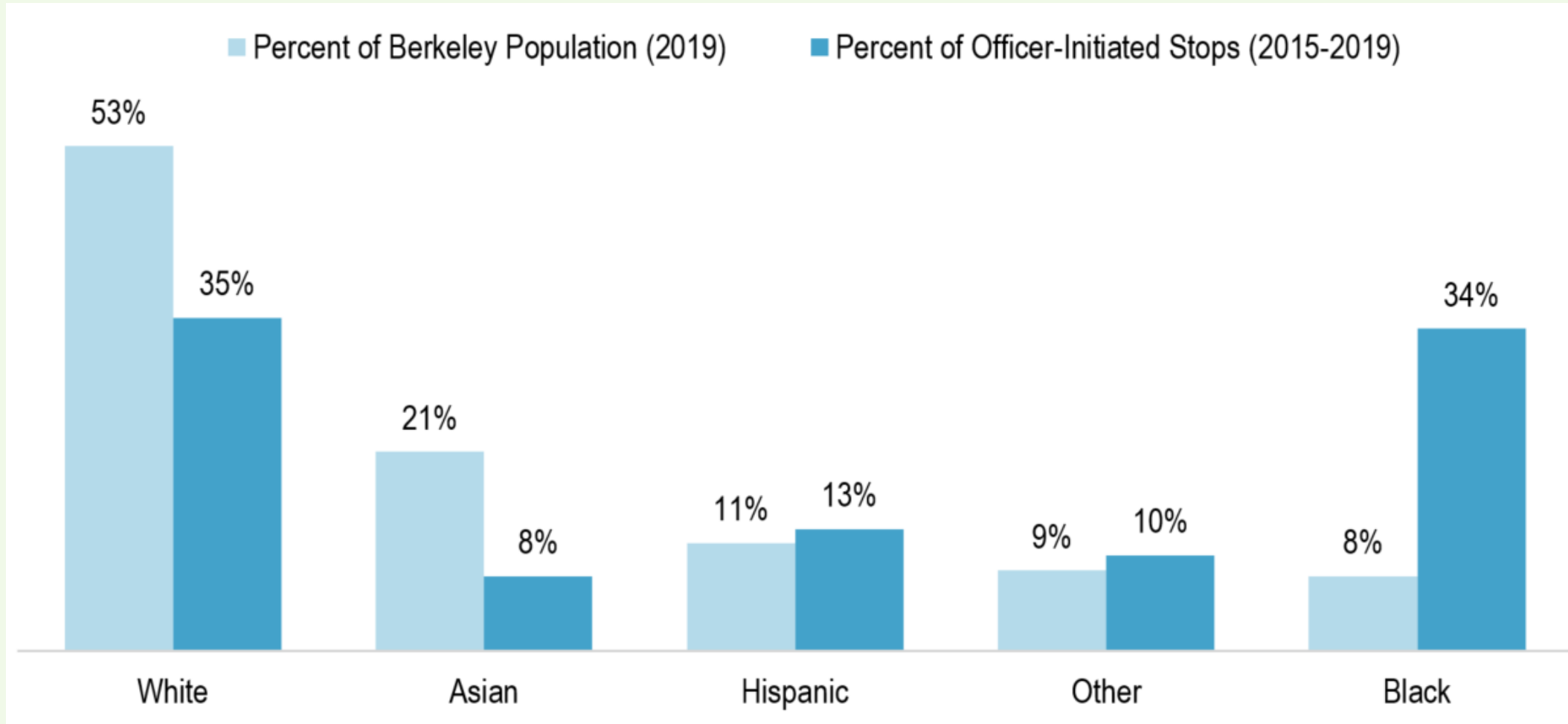


## Type of Officer-Initiated Stops by Race

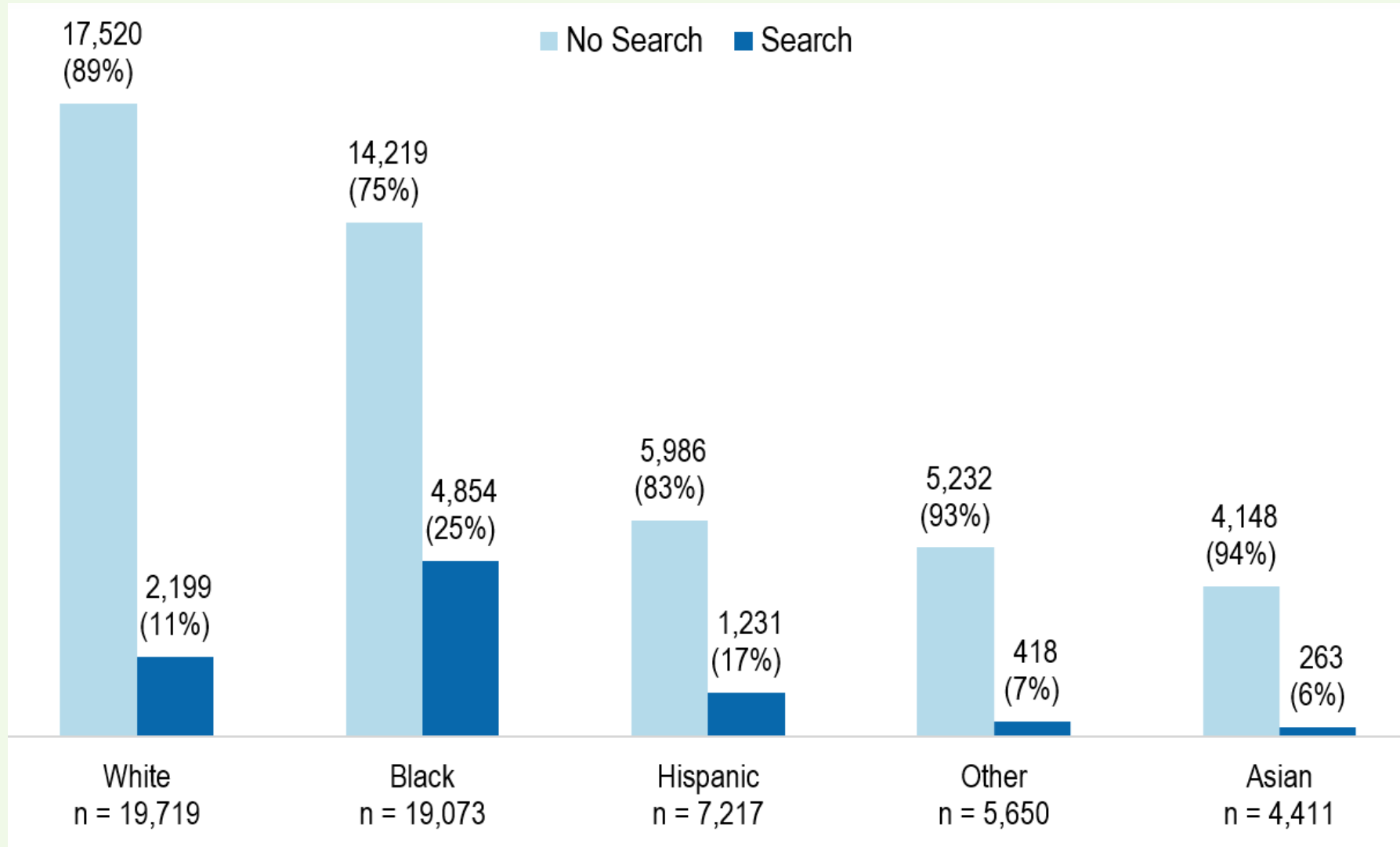


## CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFICER-INITIATED STOPS:

# Race and Officer-Initiated Stops



## CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFICER-INITIATED STOPS:



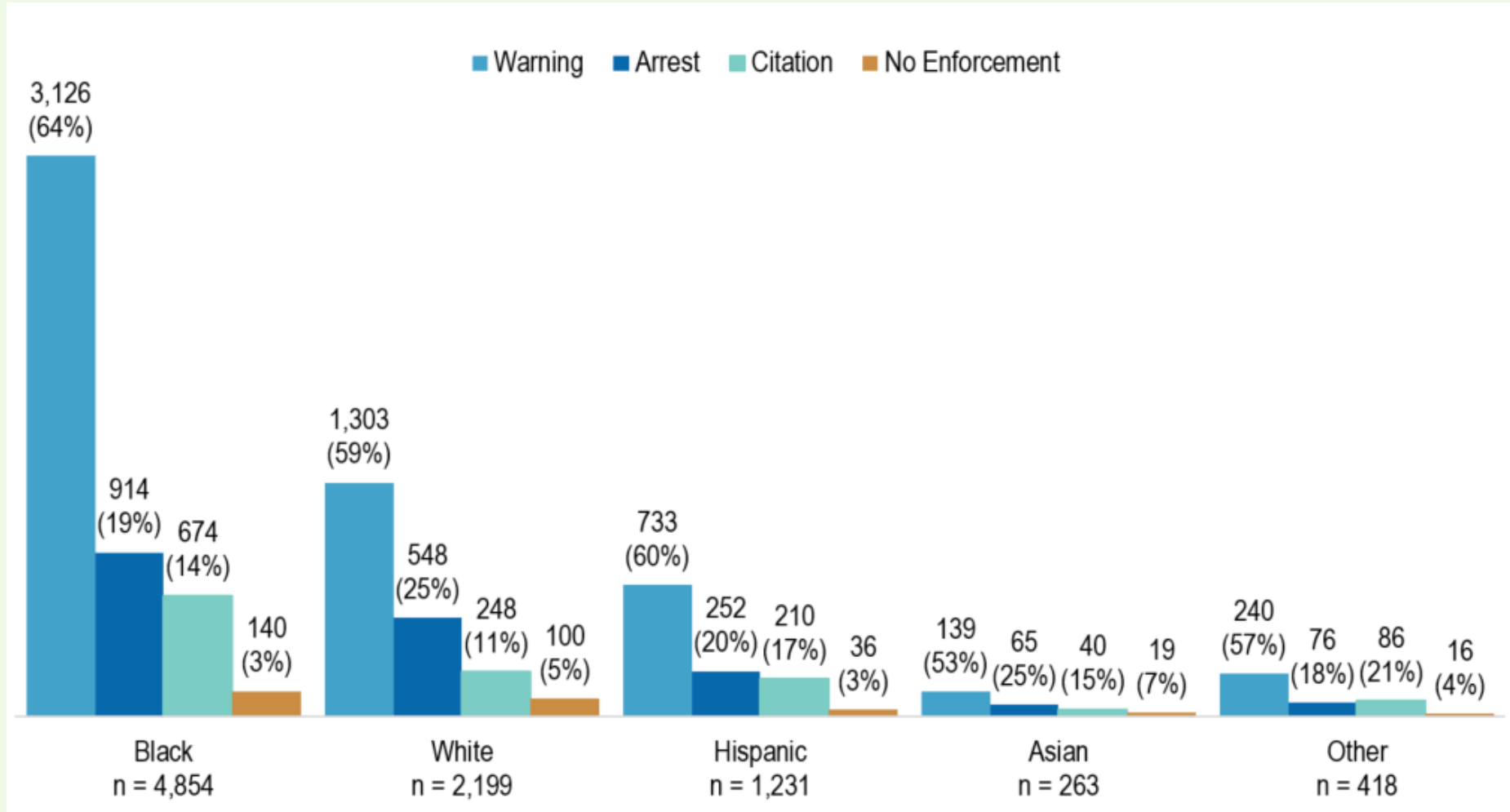
## Searches Resulting from Officer-Initiated Stops by Race





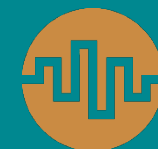
## CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFICER-INITIATED STOPS:

# Enforcement Outcomes of Searches Resulting from Officer-Initiated Stops by Race



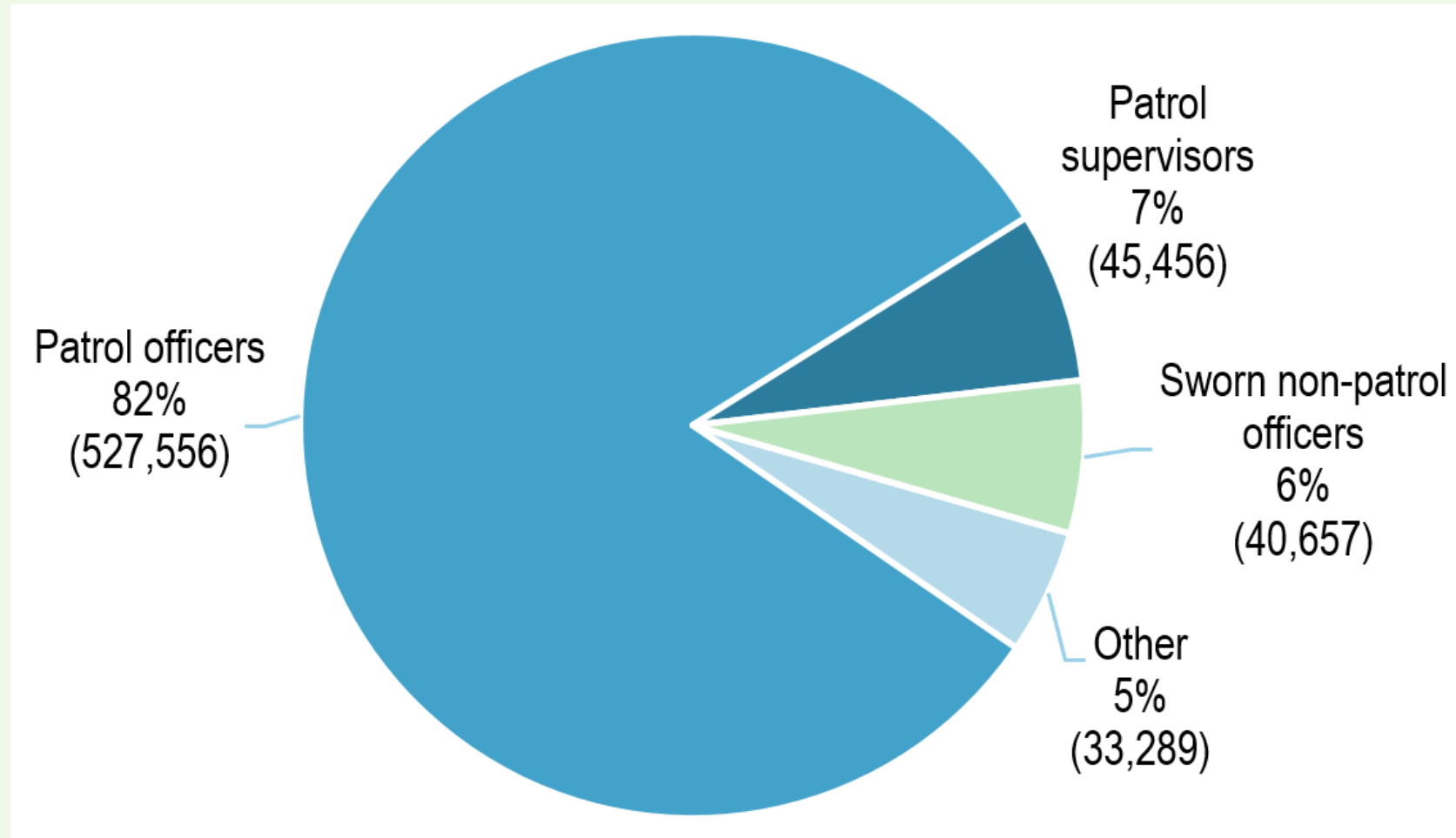
# Section V. Characteristics of Police Response

Report Page 43; Analysis of 646,958 responses



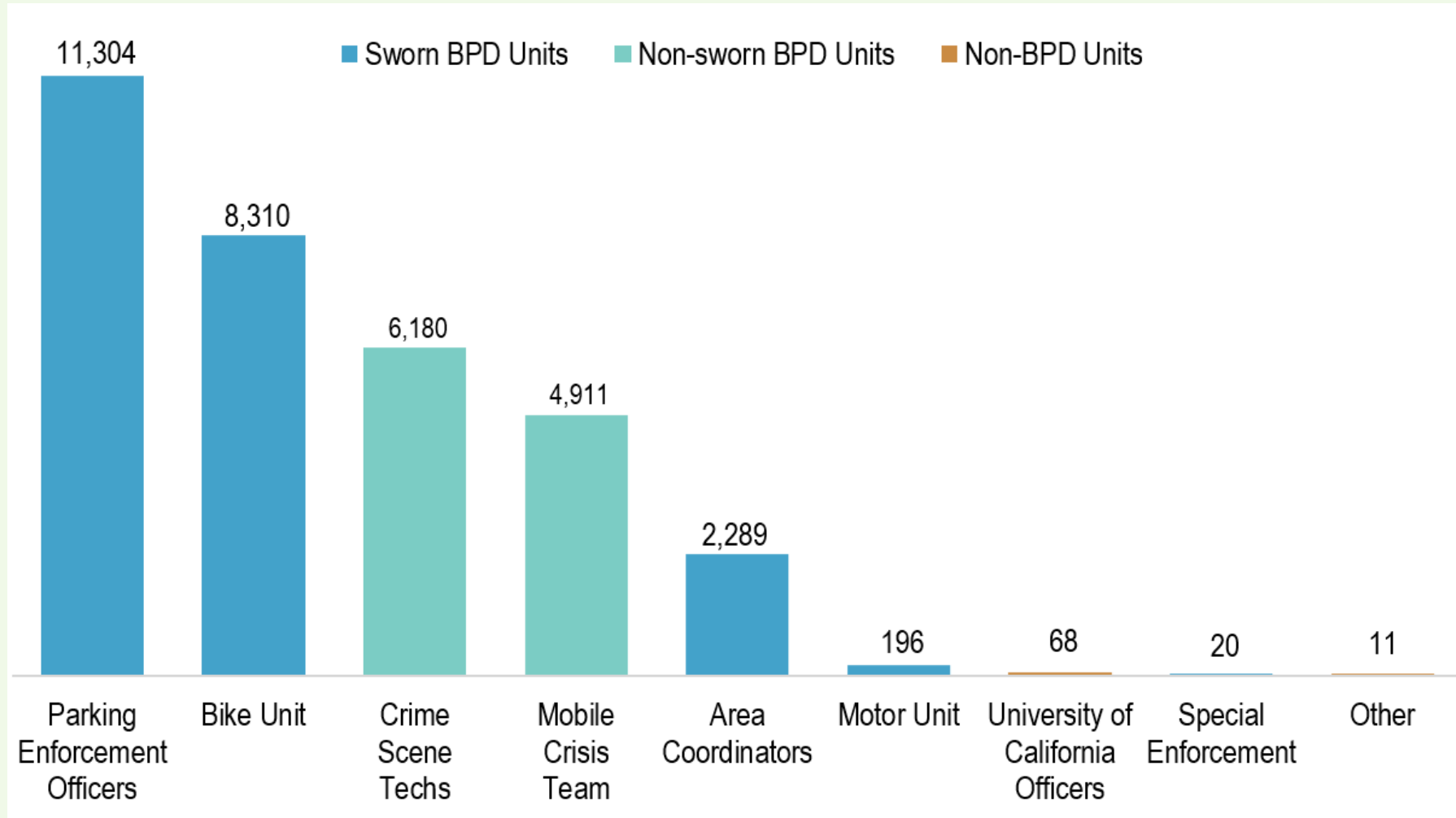
## CHARACTERISTICS OF POLICE RESPONSE:

# Percentage of Personnel Responses by Type of Unit



## CHARACTERISTICS OF POLICE RESPONSE:

# Responses to Events by Other Units



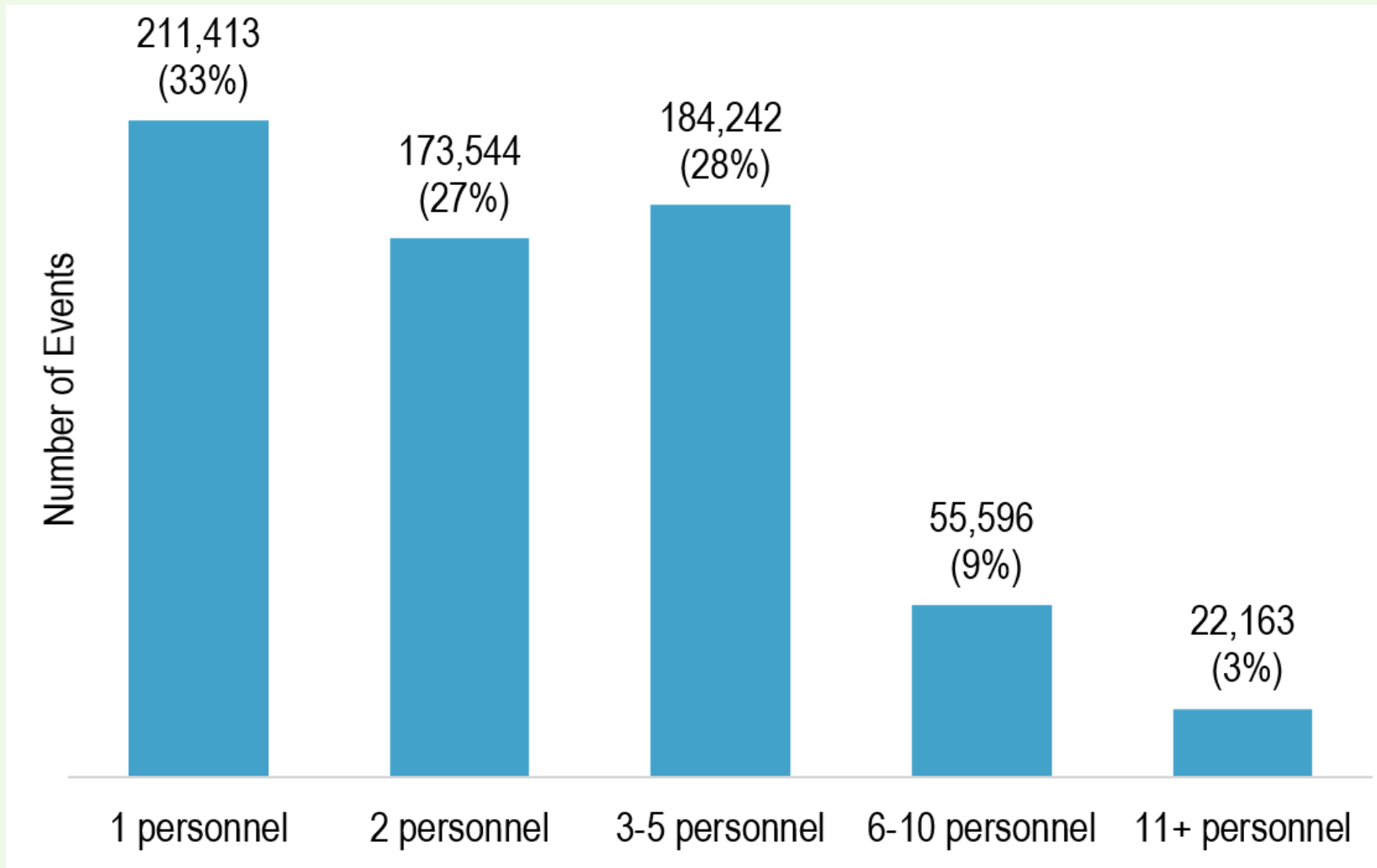
N= 33,300 personnel

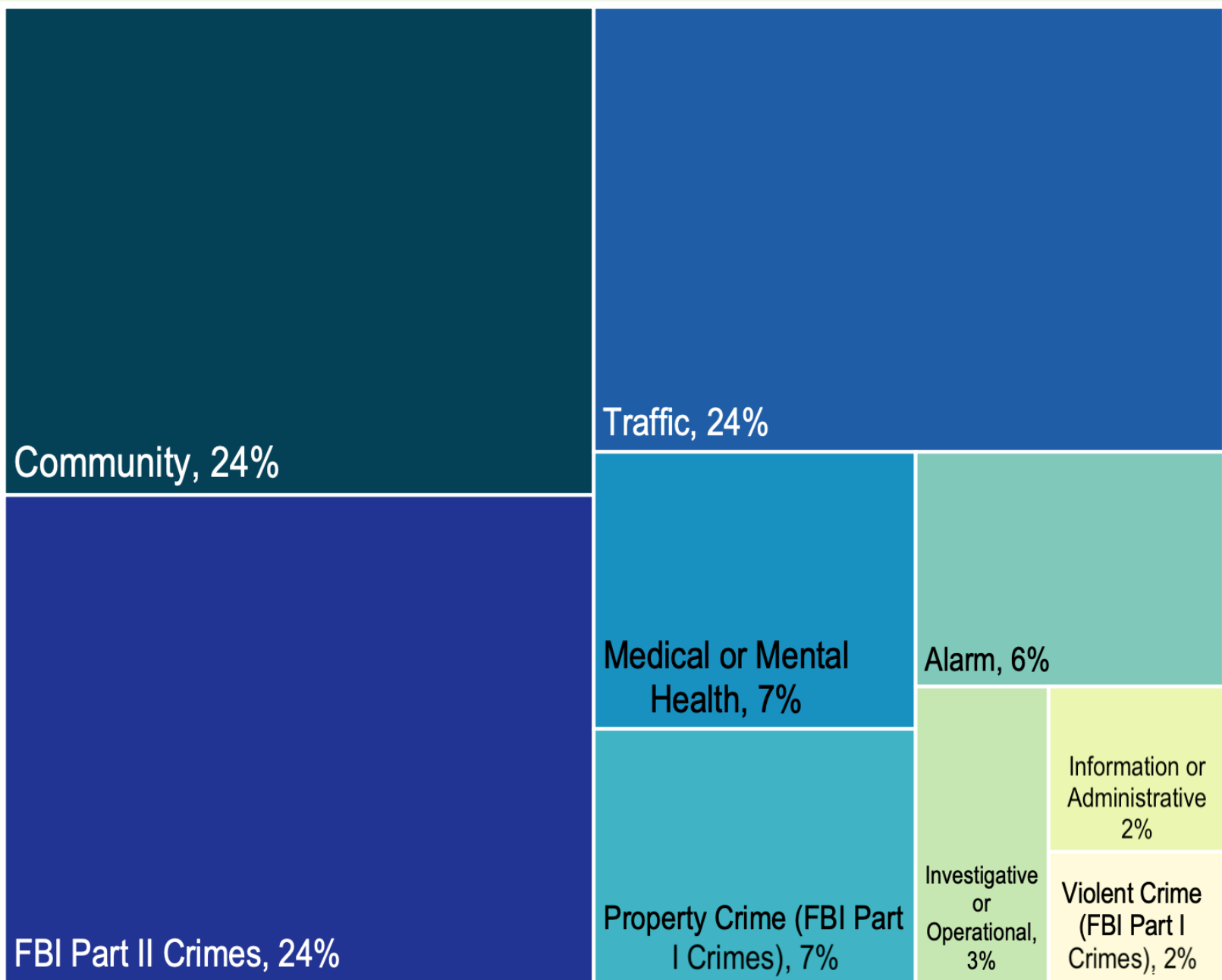


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## CHARACTERISTICS OF POLICE RESPONSE:

# Number of Personnel Response per Event





CHARACTERISTICS OF POLICE RESPONSE:

Time Spent Responding to Events Out of Total Time Responding to All Events by Auditor Classification



**Section VI. Finding 1: Berkeley Police  
Department can better track mental health and  
homelessness calls.**

**Report Page 53**



We could not determine the number of mental health or homeless related calls for service.

**Question:** Where did data on mental health calls come from?

**CAD:** Data does not readily result in number of calls related to mental health or homelessness.





To identify the number of mental health calls, we searched for:

**Mental health-related events in narrative reports**

**Events with an MH Disposition filed by an officer**

**Events with mental-health related call types**

**Events with response by Mobile Crisis**

**+**

**Total unduplicated  
count =**

**42,215 (11.7% of all events)**



To identify the number of homelessness-related calls, we searched for:

**Homeless-related events in narrative reports**

**Events with call type “lodging in public”**

**+**

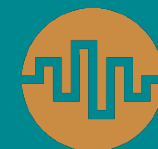
**Total  
unduplicated  
count =**

**21,631 (6.0% of all events)**



Section VII. Finding 2: The City can improve transparency of Police Department activity data on the Open Data Portal.

Report Page 59



## The City can improve the transparency of Police Department activity data on the Open Data Portal.

**Open Data Portal:** 2014, goal was providing non-confidential, public data for unrestricted use. BPD captures events in their calls for service data set on the portal.

**Limitations:** Portal data does not include all available data fields, all call types, and is limited to 180 days.



# Recommendations

1. Identify all calls for service that have an apparent mental health and/or homelessness component.
2. Expand the current calls for service data available on the City Open Data Portal to include all call types and data fields for as many years as possible.



# Management Response

Berkeley Police Department agreed with our audit findings, conclusions and recommendations, and provided an action plan to address our recommendations.



*We would like to thank the Police Department for their cooperation with this audit.*

*I also want to thank my team, Erin Mullin and Caitlin Palmer, Senior Auditors; and Ale Barrio Gorski for their effort on this audit.*

