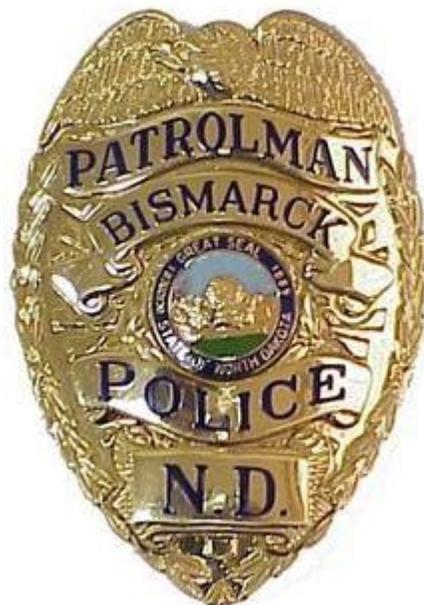


# BISMARCK POLICE DEPARTMENT 2021 CITIZEN SURVEY



OFFICER CAITY HORNE  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER



# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



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(This section is not released to the public due to only containing specific addresses listed as well as the possibility of jeopardizing any ongoing surveillance investigations in the listed areas.)

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# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report

## 2021 Citizens' Survey Report

### Introduction

The Crime Prevention/Community Engagement Section is responsible for conducting the biennial survey of citizens' attitude toward, and opinions of, the Bismarck Police Department. The input received from this biennial survey is used when amending or adopting police-community relations policies and procedures and for performance improvement and strategic planning.

Results of the survey are useful in department planning and training Bismarck Police Officers. Many Law Enforcement services and citizens' needs are established as a direct result of the data received.

Officer Caitly Horne and Officer Lynn Wanner were responsible for developing the survey on Google Doc. Officer Wanner was responsible for posting the survey on social media. Sergeant John Brocker coordinated the project.

### Survey Notice

All Bismarck and visiting residents to the Bismarck area were welcomed and encouraged to participate in the 2021 Citizen Survey. The public was made aware of the survey through media sources such as news, radio and newspaper, the Bismarck Police Department Facebook page, the City of Bismarck-Police page as well as paper copies were available at the Bismarck Police department and The Crime Prevention and Community Engagement Section advertised the survey at the Downtowners 2021 Street Fair.

### Survey Results

The Survey sampling size was set at 1000 responses and 362 were received. The survey was opened from September 15, 2021 to December 31, 2021. There was a total of 41 questions asked ranging from residency and demographics, community safety and security, community involvement, police/public contact and department operations/social media, public perception and narrative responses.

Disclaimer: All submitted responses are included as submitted with no spelling or grammatical errors corrected. Comments identifying individuals, personal information, addresses and inappropriate language have been redacted.



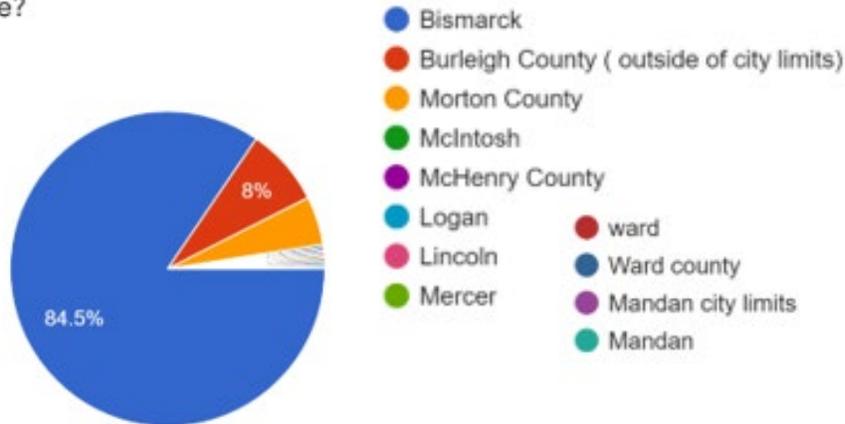
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 1:

Where do you live?

362 responses



Out of the 362 responses, 84.5% of participants answered Bismarck as the area of which they live. 8% of participants answered Burleigh County (outside city limits) as the area of which they live. 5% of participants answered Morton County as the area of which they live. 0.3% of participants answered McIntosh, 0.3% of participants answered McHenry County, 0.3% of participant answered Logan, 0.3% of participants answered Lincoln. 0.3% of participants answered Mercer, 0.3% of participants answered Ward, 0.3% of participants answered Ward County, 0.3% of participants answered Mandan city limits, and 0.3% of participants answered Mandan.

## Question 2:

If you are a Bismarck resident, what area of the city do you live in?

362 responses





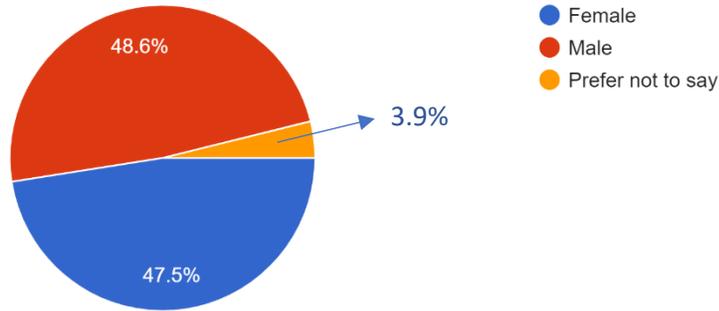
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



### Question 3:

What is your gender?

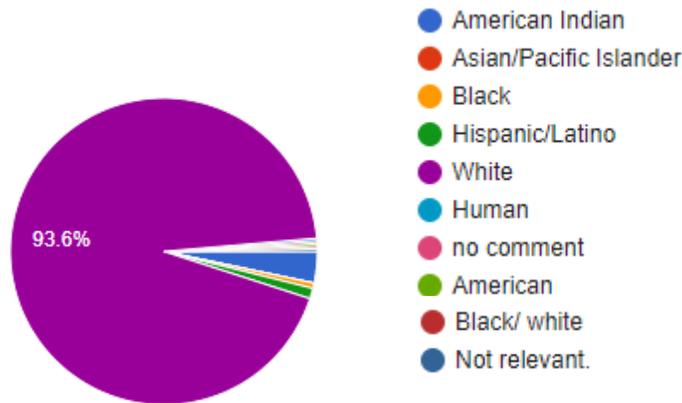
362 responses



### Question 4:

What is your race?

362 responses



Out of the 362 responses, 93.6% answered white, 3.3% answered American Indian, 1.1% answered Hispanic/Latino, 0.6% answered black, and 0.3% answered White, other/ American, other/ Black/White, other/Human, other/no comment and other/non-relevant.



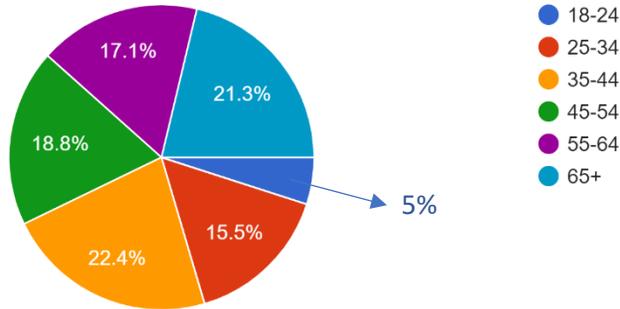
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 5:

What is your age?

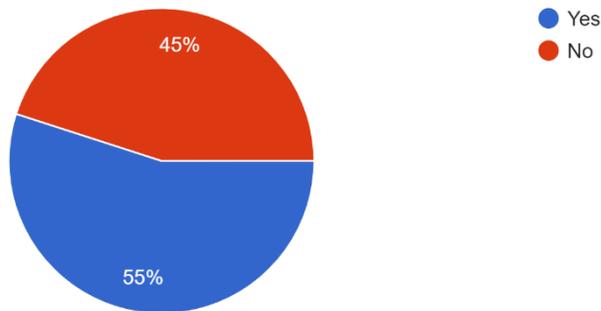
362 responses



## Question 6:

In the past 24 months, have you had any contact(s) with the Bismarck Police Department?

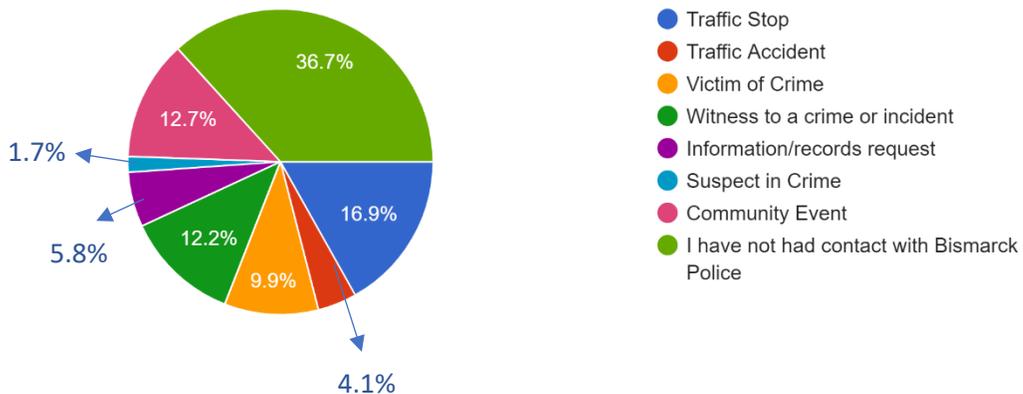
362 responses



## Question 7:

What was the nature of your most recent contact?

362 responses





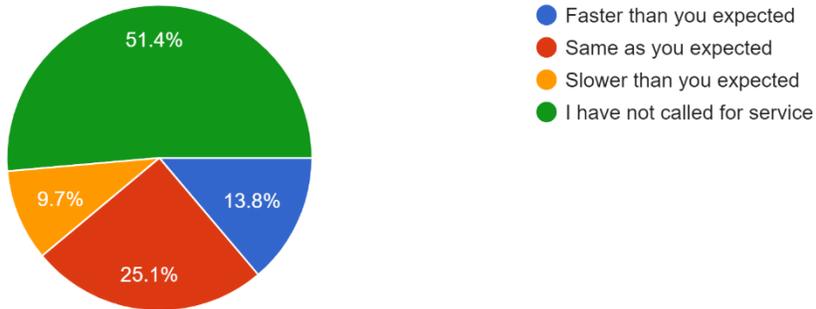
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 8:

If you have called the Bismarck Police Department for service, do you feel the response time was...

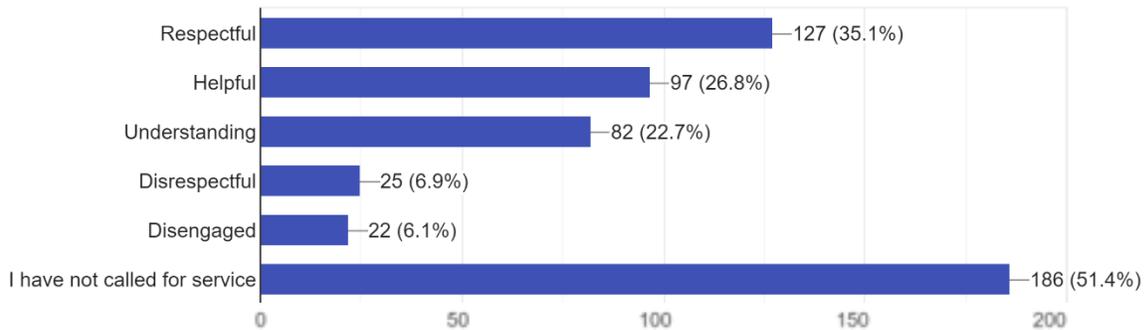
362 responses



## Question 9:

If you have called the Bismarck Police Department for service, how do you feel the officer(s) conducted themselves? (Select all that apply)

362 responses





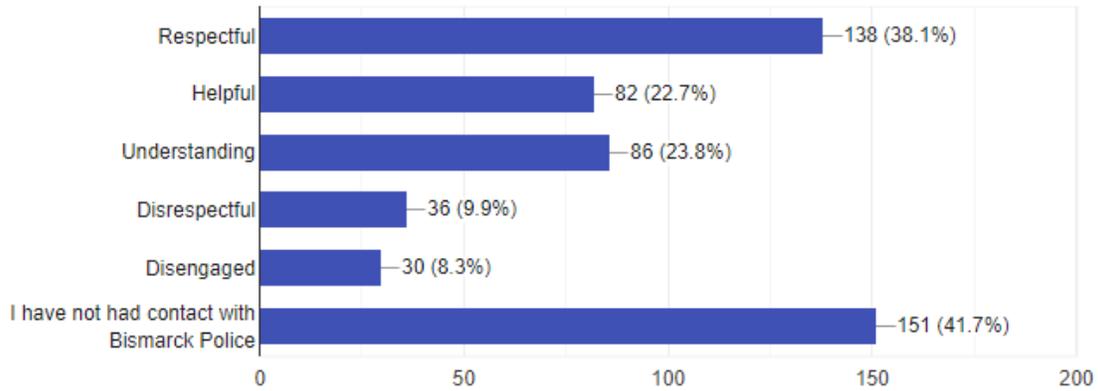
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 10:

If you have had contact with the Bismarck Police Department other than for a call for service ( i.e. Traffic stop, records requests, etc...), how do you feel the officer/employee conducted themselves? (Select all that apply)

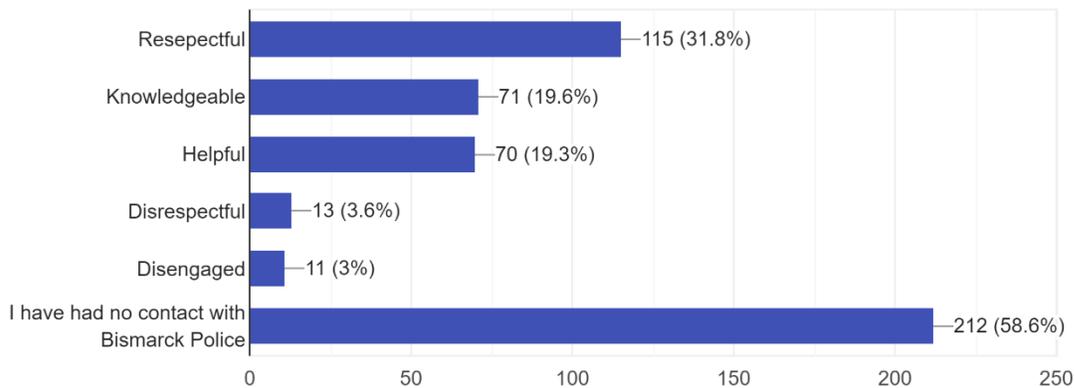
362 responses



## Question 11:

If you have participated in a community event (i.e. Tri- City Community Picnic, Iron Dog, etc...), how do you feel the Bismarck Police Department personnel conducted themselves? ( Select all that apply)

362 responses





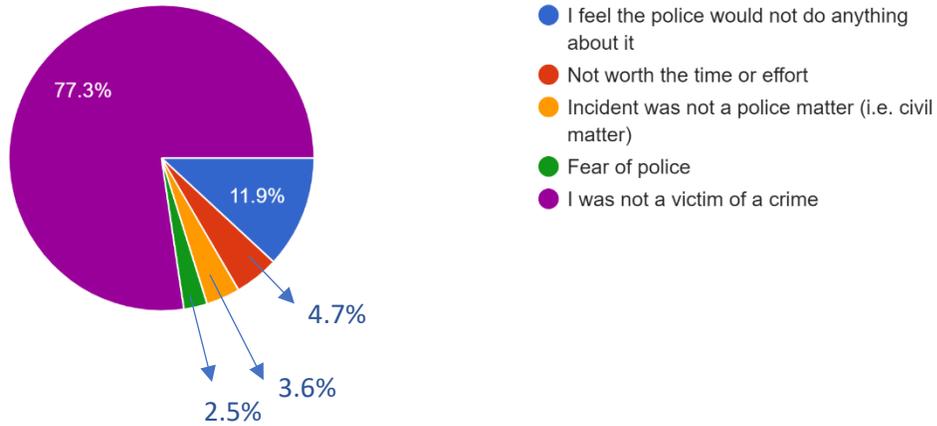
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 12:

In the past 24 months, If you were a victim of a crime and did not report it, why not?

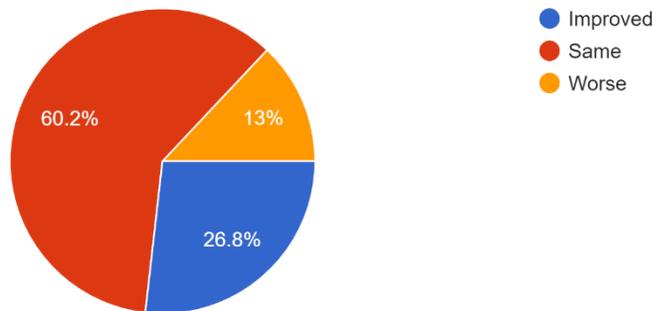
362 responses



## Question 13:

What is your opinion of the overall performance of the Bismarck Police Department in the last 24 months?

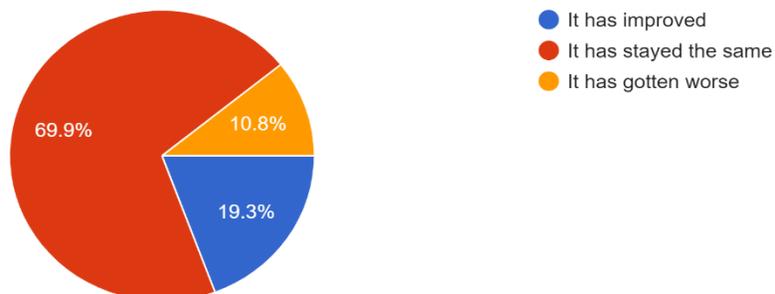
362 responses



## Question 14:

In the last 24 months, has your opinion on the status on race relations between the Bismarck Police Department and the community changed?

362 responses





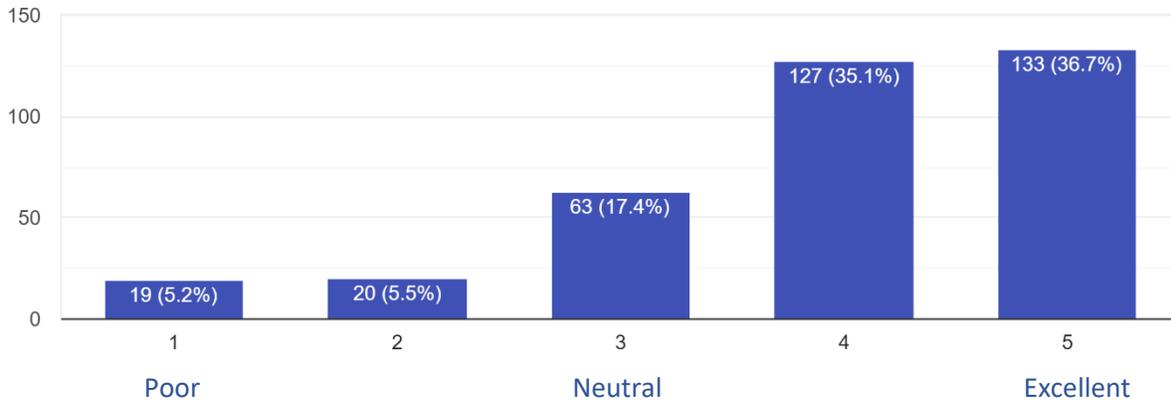
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 15:

How would you rate the image of the Bismarck Police Department in the community?

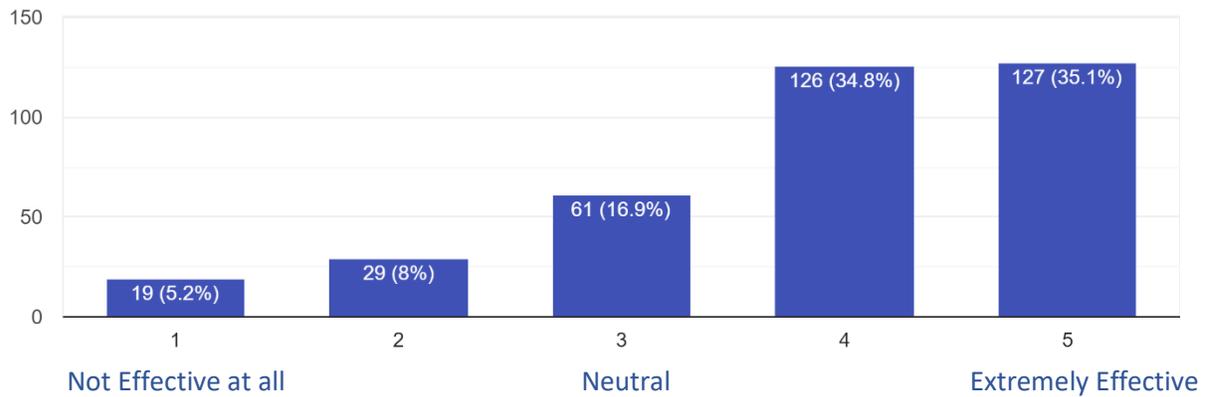
362 responses



## Question 16:

How would you rate the overall effectiveness of the Bismarck Police Department

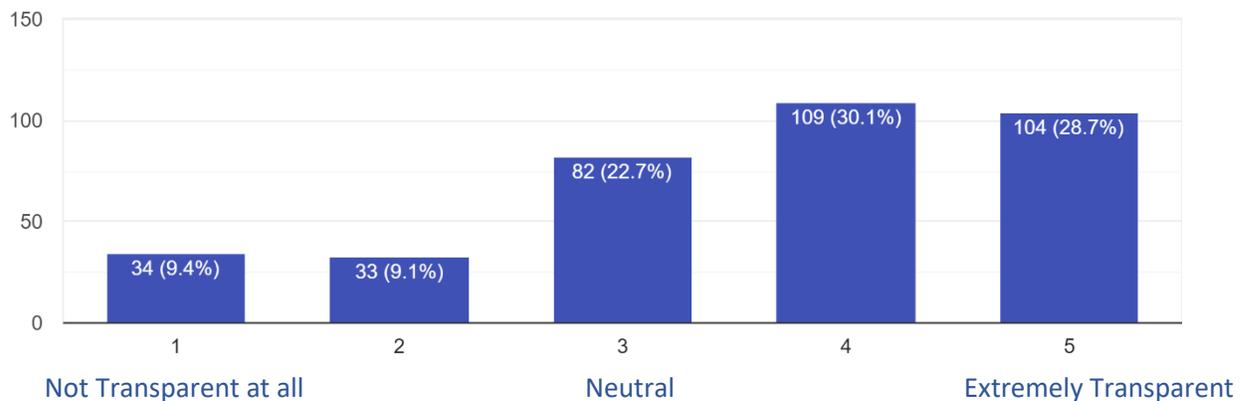
362 responses



## Question 17:

Do you believe the Bismarck Police Department is transparent with their citizens?

362 responses





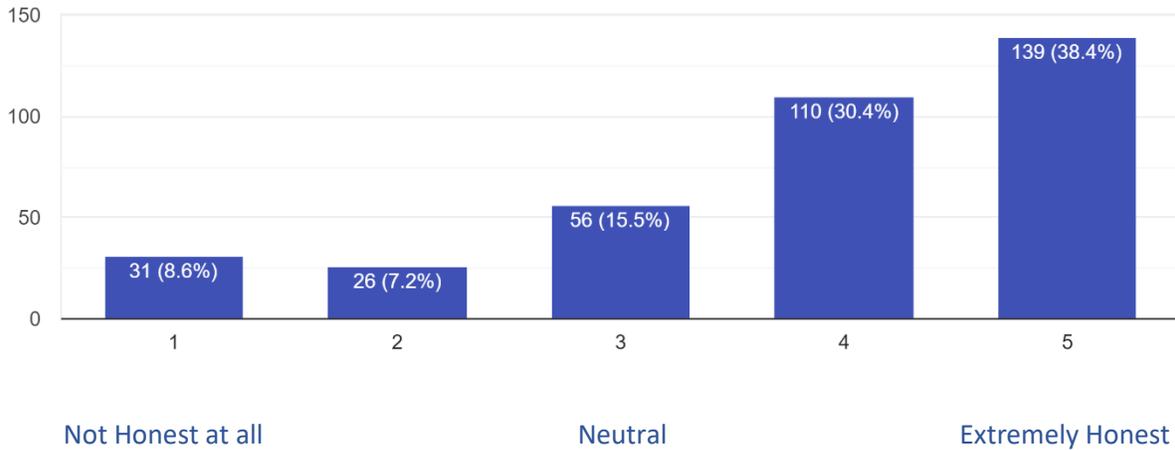
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 18:

Do you believe the Bismarck Police Department is honest?

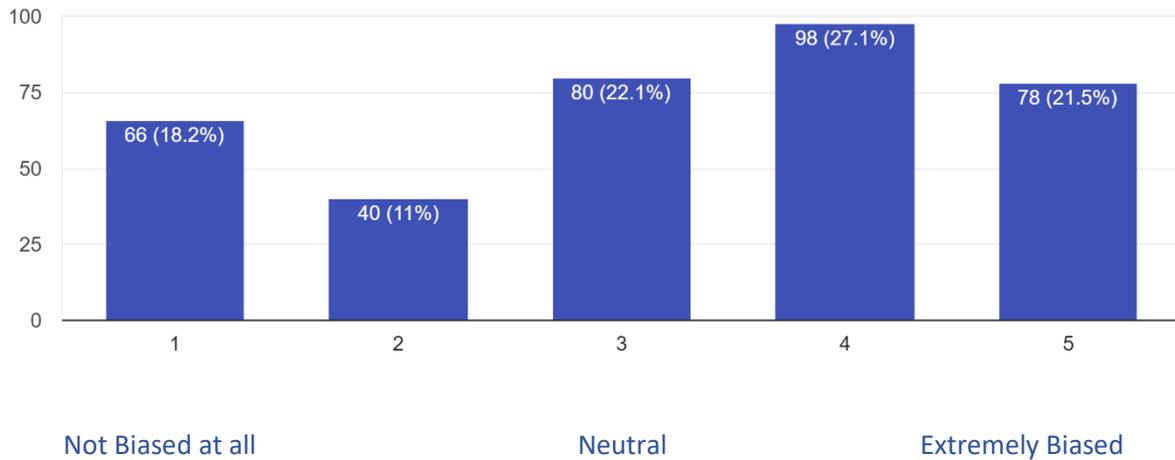
362 responses



## Question 19:

Do you believe the Bismarck Police Department is unbiased?

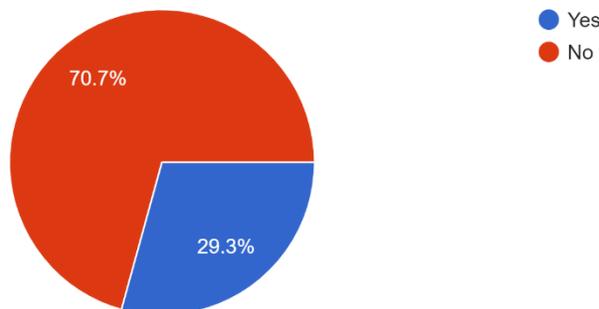
362 responses



## Question 20:

Do you believe you have a problem with crime in your neighborhood?

362 responses





# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report

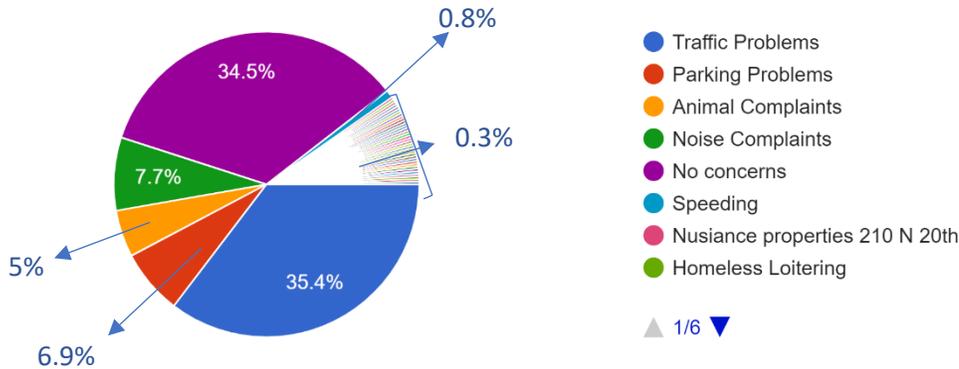


**Question 21** asked participants that answered yes to question 20, "what crimes (s) they believed were occurring in their neighborhood?" It's a narrative response and will be shown in Appendix A.

## Question 22:

What non-criminal issues are the biggest concerns in your neighborhood?

362 responses



Out of 362 responses, 35.4% said Traffic 34.5% said No concerns, 7.7% said Noise Complaints, 6.9% said Parking Problems, 5% said Animal Complaints. Responses who added categories are listed below.

0.8% said speeding.

0.03% said drug sales, smoking weed, I think a couple kids playing pranks and stealing inexpensive things in the years and lately a few people look for open vehicles, speeds and unsightly neighbors with junk in yard, police always sniffing around bothering people, dirt bikes, speeding vehicles, thief, nuisance properties 210 n 20<sup>th</sup>, not getting a bad mood cop, campers boats and trailers parked on streets for weeks without being moved, noise complaints and smoking in close proximity of buildings, speeding, distracted driving, drug related activity, littering a lot of liquor containers on road, High school kids driving fast on all streets around Legacy High School, we need stop or yield signs all over (Promintory North), Neighbors dog barking, Landlord fisputes, Single-family dwellings housing multiple residence, Speeders on n 19<sup>th</sup> Street, U guys don't help u make it woers, Drug sales and use, Race relations, Drugs,thefts, Texting and Driving (all over town), Homelessness, BUMS ( this one REDACTED walks around with his pants around his ankles and doesn't look like he's bathes in years, tired of seeing his stained undies!!!!), Downtown is scary, Gangs, Homeless people, and Drugs.



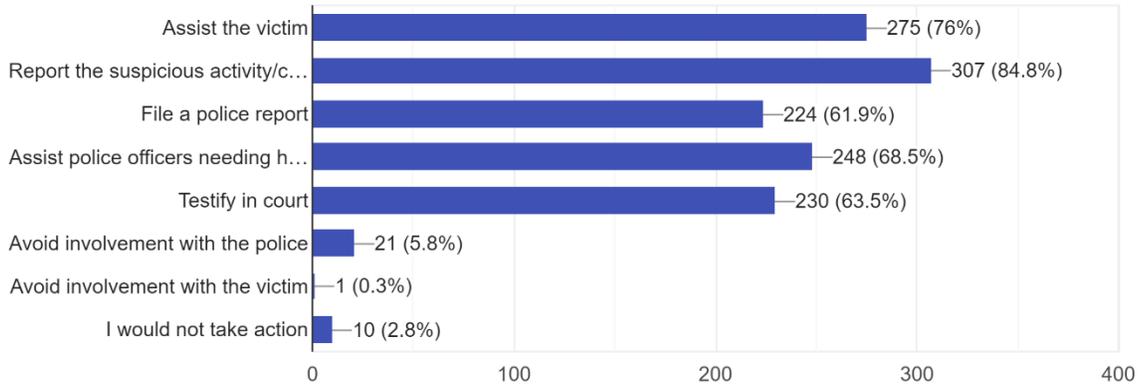
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 23:

If you were to observe a crime, what action would you be willing to take? (Select all that apply)

362 responses



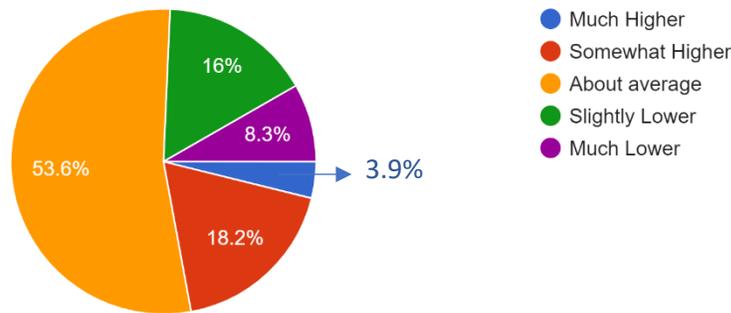
Cut off responses:

- Report the suspicious activity/crime
- Assist police officers needing help

## Question 24:

Compared to cities the same size as Bismarck, I believe crime in Bismarck is....

362 responses





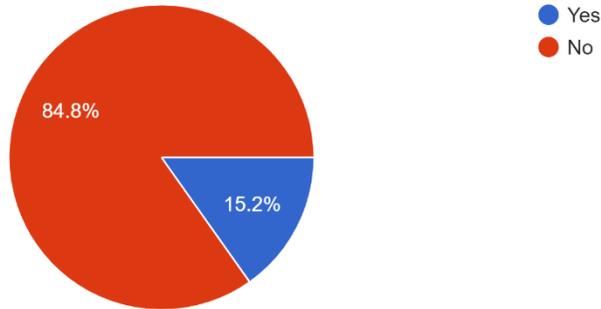
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 25:

Have you considered moving because you feel your neighborhood is unsafe?

362 responses

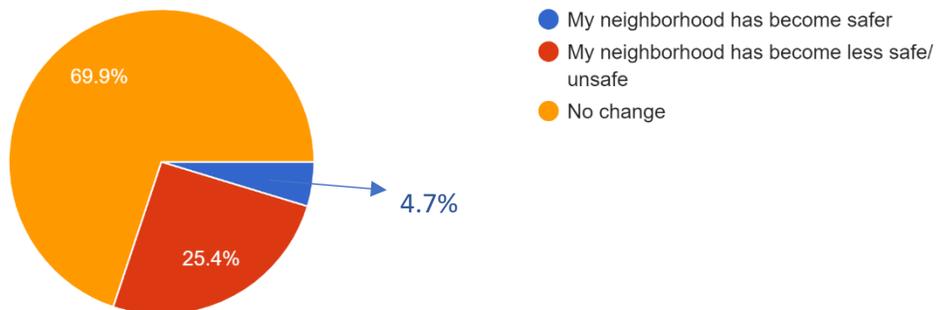


**Question 26** asked participants that answered yes to question 25, *“Please put the hundred block and street name you live on”*. This information is sensitive and will not be shown in this survey.

## Question 27:

Do you believe the safety in your neighborhood has changed over the past 24 months?

362 responses





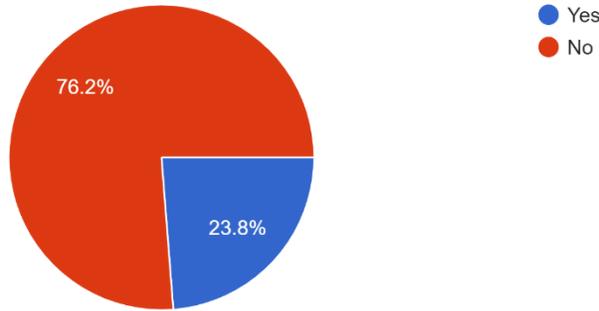
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 28:

Would you be interested in joining/starting a Neighborhood Crime Watch Team?

362 responses

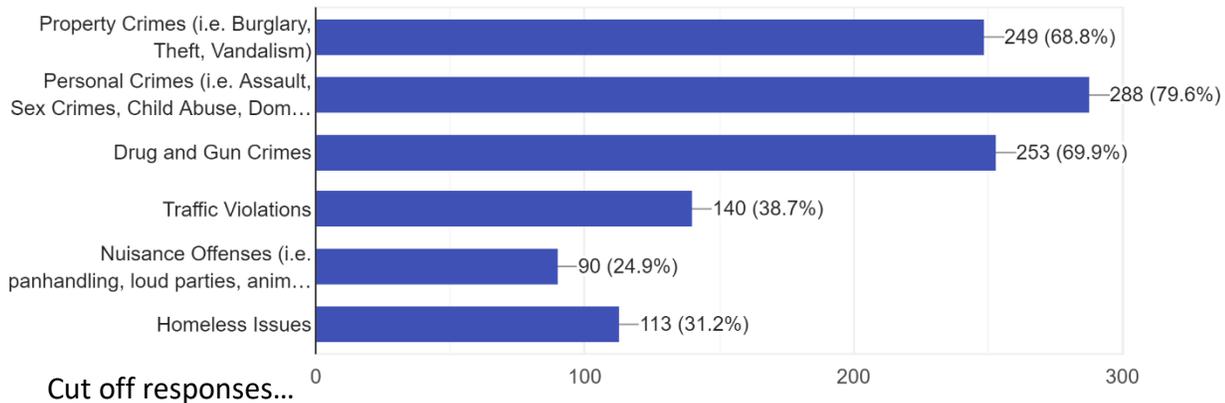


**Question 29** asked participants that answered yes to question 25, to give contact information so the Bismarck Police Department can contact them. This information is sensitive and will not be shown in this survey.

## Question 30:

Where do you believe the Bismarck Police should be focusing their attention? (Select all that apply)

362 responses



- Personal Crimes (i.e. Assault, Sex Crimes, Child Abuse, Domestic Violence)
- Nuisance Offense (i.e. Panhandling, loud parties, animal complaints)



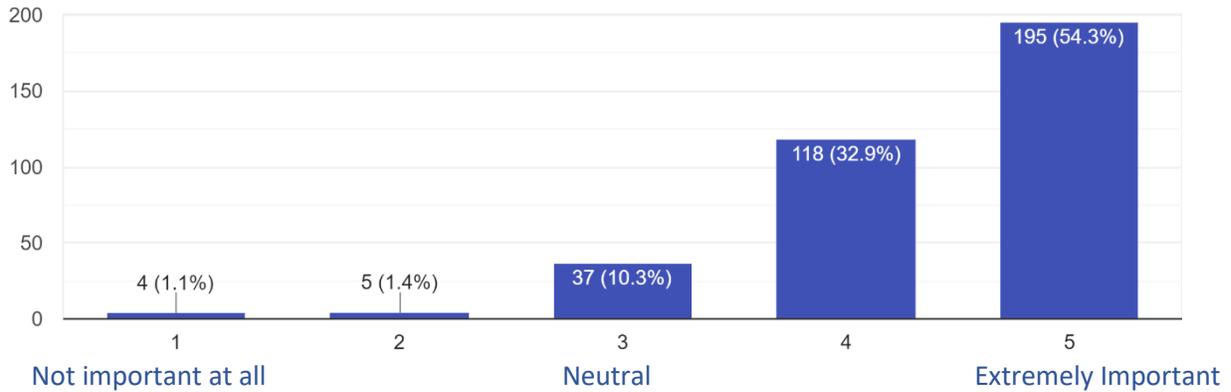
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 31:

How important do you believe Property/Personal Crime investigations are?

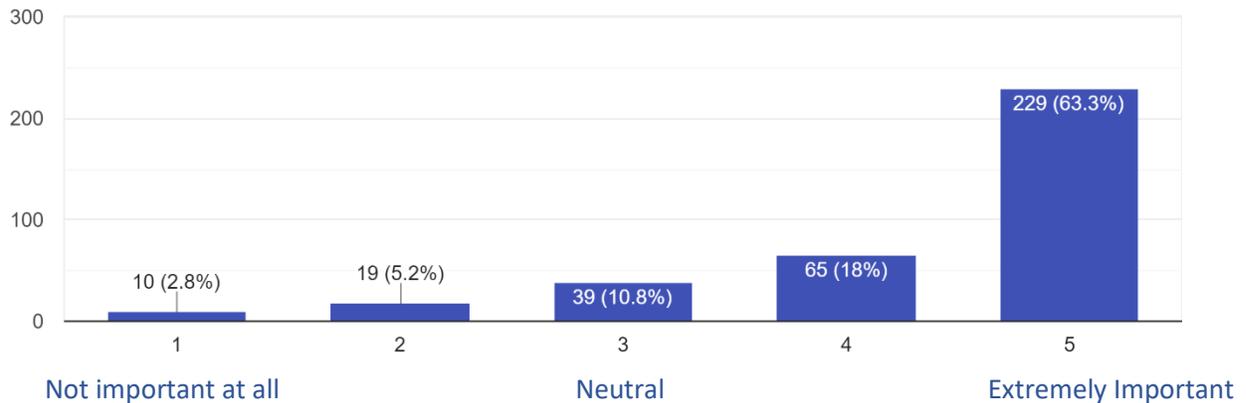
359 responses



## Question 32:

How important do you believe drug investigations are?

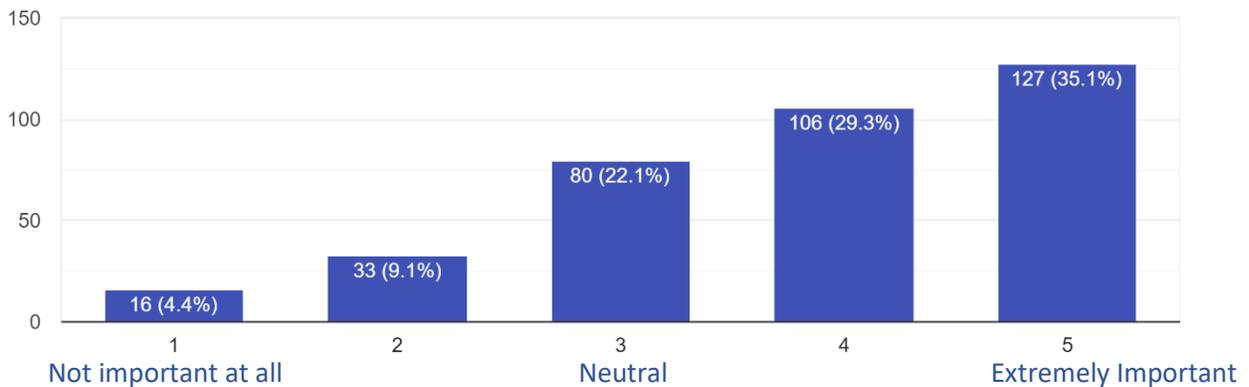
362 responses



## Question 33:

How important do you believe traffic enforcement is?

362 responses





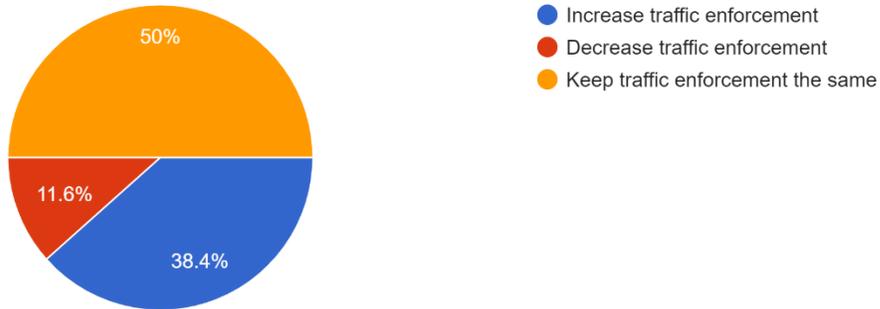
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 34:

When it comes to traffic enforcement, the Bismarck Police should...

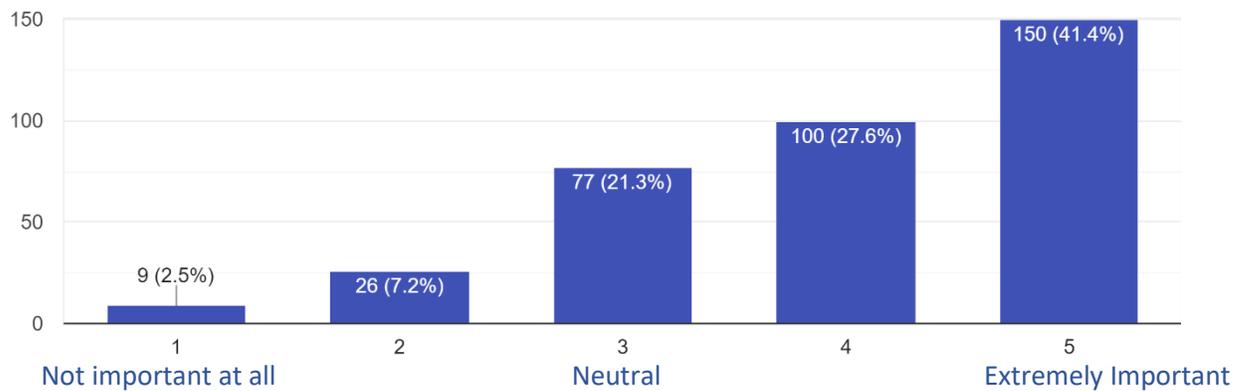
362 responses



## Question 35:

How important do you believe Crime Prevention Programs/Presentations are for the community?

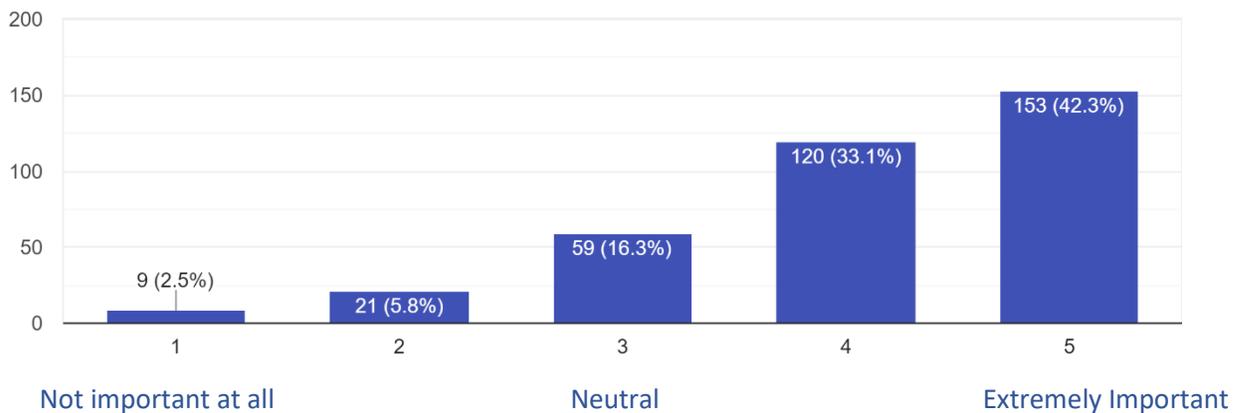
362 responses



## Question 36:

How important do you believe Community Engagement activities are?

362 responses





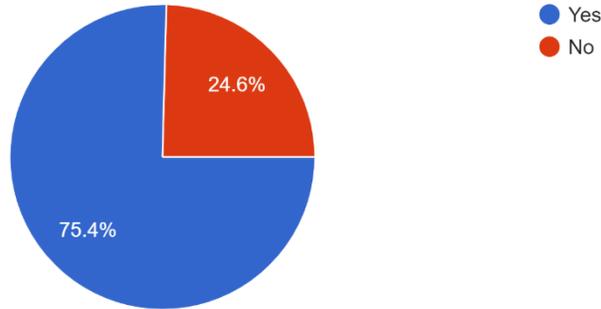
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 37:

Do you believe the Bismarck Police Department is actively engaging with the community?

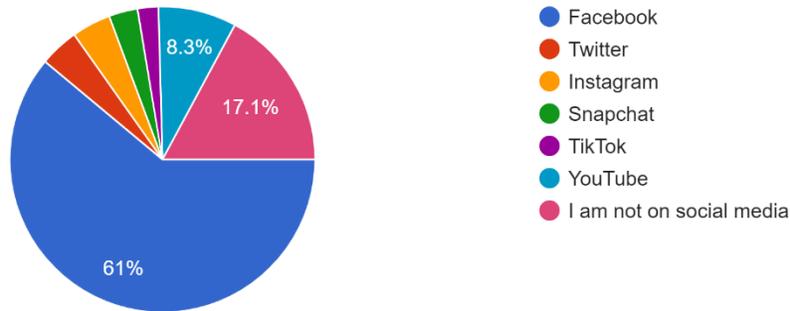
362 responses



## Question 38:

Which social media platform do you use the most frequently?

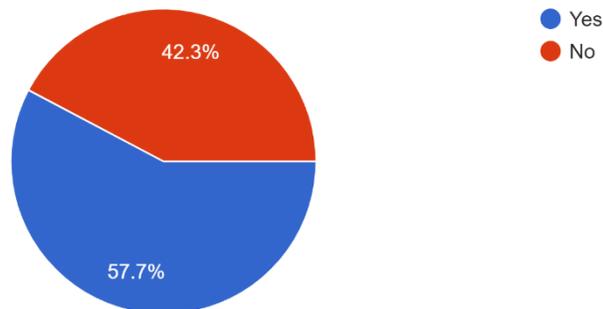
362 responses



## Question 39:

Have you viewed any of the Bismarck Police Department social media pages in the last 24 months?

362 responses





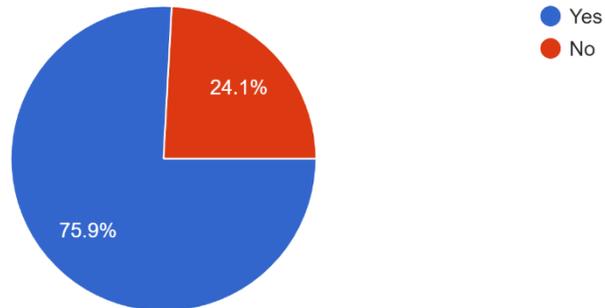
# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 40:

If you answered yes to the question above, did you find the social media pages helpful or interesting?

232 responses



**Question 41** gave participants the opportunity to add *any additional comments, concerns or suggestions that were not covered in the survey*. Responses will be shown below in Appendix C.



## 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



# Appendix A



# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 21:

***If you answered yes to question 20, what crimes (s) do you believe are occurring in your neighborhood?***

Out of 362 respondents, there were 100 responses to this question.

- Speeding theft and vandalism and more
- Unauthorized vehicle entry/break-ins
- Drug dealing in the area of REDACTED
- Vagrancy, property crimes like breaking into vehicles, public intoxication
- Excessive speeding
- Constant speeding
- Drugs being sold
- Selling drugs
- Washington St South is wild. Boom cards are less often but now have drag racing. Organized groups with scout cars
- There has been an increasing number of theft-related incidents
- To be honest I'm not sure. We've had some ringing doorbells, scruffy character sitting on our block that I called to report but very little crime so far!
- Drugs dealing/using
- Drugs, dogs at large, speeding/exhibition and loud vehicles/motorcycles
- Drugs
- Drug deals
- Theft
- Drug trade-weed
- Crystal meth
- Porch piracy, car break- ins, littering, vandalism
- Drugs
- Drugs
- Theft and drugs
- DR.
- Drug dealing in the neighborhood
- Homeless stealing things from our yards and vehicles
- Theft, trespassing, drugs
- Constant drug deals at REDACTED
- Drug related crime on Portland Avenue
- Drugs
- Neighbors have reported young people searching through unlocked vehicles at night
- A lot of minor theft and individuals looking for unlocked vehicles



# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



- Drugs being dealt out of homes
- Drugs
- Drug rings
- Drug activity
- Drugs, speeding, dog at large, homeless, graffiti, loud parties, barking dogs, motorcycle noise and speeding, local parking being used to store private items year around by private group, park looks bad
- Theft
- Neighborhood eye protection witness program
- Drug issues
- Drugs
- Littering and drinking while driving
- Narcotics and speeding
- Large generator, one was stolen from construction site south of my house, neither recovered
- Drug sales, property theft, violence
- Illegal drugs
- Lots of thefts in the area
- Theft and noise issues with teenagers in high school after hours and during the day
- Fraud. Police saying it's a civil case when the fact of the matter is that they are too **REDACTED** lazy to gill out the paperwork
- Theft, burglary, b&e, drug trafficking
- Drugs/graffiti/some violence
- Meth user across street from me
- Theft
- Drug use/selling
- Meth heads
- Noise, especially loud motorcycles speeding up 9<sup>th</sup> St
- Police extortion
- Drug use and breaking into vehicles
- Lots of drugs and shady people in the area
- Drugs, fighting
- Thefts
- Drugs
- Open visible drug activity at Lions Park
- Drugs, drunks
- Have had packages stolen from my stoop and mailbox has been gone through. People are constantly speeding down my street that is very narrow and no need to go 35 through there. Plus, it's a street with a school on it



# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



- Rugs/dealing drugs/break in
- Drugs
- Theft of motor vehicle parts and accessories, theft of property, burglary, drug offenses, illegal drugs sales by civilians
- Lion Park fights
- Drug dealing and lots of people from out of state stopping at a certain house
- We are fairly certain our neighbors are involved in mild illegal activity. They drive unlicensed vehicles, rummage through the alley at night, and steal water from our house.
- Theft and drugs
- Theft
- Break in to garages and vehicles, and being approached by homeless people a lot in the area items in cars stolen
- I'm a member of the Ring Cam community and there has been a lot of post about vandalisms, thefts, and generally shady and creepy people, creeping around someone's property.
- Dogs barking all the time
- Someone breaking into vehicles to steal, neighbors violating leash law for dogs and cats
- Property theft
- We're on the edge of the Cathedral District and I've personally witness drug use, people having sex in their yard in the middle of the day, and three nights ago a woman being beaten and through onto the pavement. All at or around **REDACTED**
- Speeding, vandalism
- Drugs, partying and domestic violence
- Theft
- Theft, vandalism
- Some thefts and a number of drug deals and usage
- Theft
- Theft of property
- Drugs, domestic, theft
- Not enough cops in the area
- Breaking into cars, hit and runs, drugs
- Drug trafficking
- Speeding and hit and runs
- Drug transactions
- Stolen vehicles
- Kids and vehicle break-ins
- Drug theft
- Drugs, theft, fights
- Various- I live hear Washington Courts



## 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



- Packages being stolen from porches
- I live in a relatively safe neighborhood. I think there are suspect houses around me through that feel like drug homes. I like to sit on my deck and watch the folks come in and out of those locations
- Theft, drug trafficking, speeding
- Speeding, no noise enforcement



## 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



# Appendix B

### Question 26:

If answered yes to question 25, *please put the hundred block and street name you live on.*

Out of 362 responses, 61 participants answered this question

[All Addresses Redacted](#)



## 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



# Appendix C



# 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



## Question 41:

**Add *additional comments, concerns or suggestions that were not covered in the survey.***

- Further teaching of culture and religion to all officers. Having a deeper understanding of the human condition will only help treat those they serve. Ensure excess use of force is minimized by using your words. Stop berating arrestees, when arrested. Treat all of your officers with respect and dignity, no good old boys club. Overall, keep up the good work, we thank you
- Thank you for your service to the Bismarck community!
- Speeding on Montreal St. is constant, especially between the hours of 3:30 to 5:30. Would like to see some enforcement done. Know it is hard to use personnel for traffic concerns but sometimes this is a dangerous situation.
- The scariest drivers are the police department. They stop in the middle of the road for no reason and flip u turns on busy roads with no lights on. They are usually on their computer too which is distracting.
- I am astonished at how many red-light running violations I see every day. I would like to see increased enforcement of that.
- Keep doing the good work you do. Stay safe.
- A great deal of the crime in our city is related to methamphetamine, opioids, and alcohol. Drug crime, gun crime, personal crime, property crime, homelessness, etc. Much of it is either directly caused by hard drugs and alcohol, or is a downstream effect
- I live on Knudsen Ave, directly across from Legacy High School. There is no posted speed limit on my street and I cannot believe how fast and reckless some people drive. I have a two-year-old and I do everything I can to keep her safe, but I have nightmares about her getting out somehow and running across the street and getting hit by a high schooler who is texting and driving 45 mph.
- Can we please get some speed limit signs installed? Possibly even a slowdown sign for children at play? Thank you for all you do!
- Thank you for surveying your community. It shows you are interested in serving the citizens and also that you are willing to make positive changes. I only wish Mandan was the same. The police in Mandan are overly aggressive. I am a middle-class woman -- never had any police issues at all other than a speeding ticket yet I was pulled over for expired tabs and the young man was caustic. Are there any warrants out for you? Are you on parole?? SERIOUSLY!! And then my son was driving home from a track meet this fall STILL IN HIS TRACK UNIFORM and the officer pulled him over for a brake light out and she called backup!! He was a nervous wreck! He said, "Mom, they kept asking me if I was on anything!" I know my kiddo --he is a very respectful young man. But that is



## 2021 Citizens' Survey Report



typical in our community sadly :- ( I notice when the Bismarck Police Department participates in classes on how to deal with people with autism, etc. but Mandan never signs up for classes like that. Kudos to your team.

- Traffic speeds -divide to simile school on 20th st are excessive 8:00-4:00. We are in full support of the Bismarck Police Department. You guy and gals have your hands full with idiots in this town. Keep up the good work. Proud of you all!
- How about training Bismarck cops not to be power hungry REDACTED Also hold them accountable. A Bismarck cop asking a guy if he wants fight is not ok, I don't care what the person did. A cop's job is to defuse a situation not escalate it. Never going anywhere in Bismarck without my phone so if a cop is thinks they are above the law it will be recorded.
- Police responded to a medical emergency in my home and were excellent!
- Would like to say thank you to the BPD for the service they provide to our community
- Have courage. Be kind. Do not become overwhelmed -or- complacent
- I cannot imagine the incredible burden of working in law enforcement in today's race relations climate, especially in such a conservative, white-heavy population. Especially when faced with the hard reality that \*systematic\* racism has created a vicious cycle of minorities being more likely to be in a negative interaction with the police, and therefore being more likely to enforce racist stereotypes, it will be incredibly easy to either A) become overwhelmed by the "impossibility" of finding unbiased equality, or B) to submit to the temptation to ignore injustice and find ways to justify it.
- Know that you are supported. Know that you are being prayed for. Know that you CAN make changes every day towards a more peaceful, connected community
- Have courage. Be kind. Do not become overwhelmed -or- complacent
- Keep up the great job. We support you and your hard work!!
- I wish the Police would start helping instead of making things woers arrest instead of talking things out then there week charges get dropped any ways remember ur there to help
- Please setup traffic cameras at Trenton and Centennial. Running red lights is very common. I pulled onto north state street from east Boulevard and car almost ran into the side of my car, honking, by going over the solid white line, cop little ways behind him did nothing. Scared me to death.
- People always run red lights police don't stop for people in crosswalk They basically never discharge the situation make it worse. They act as if they're better then the citizens. Serve & protect not the other way around. Pick on minorities & homeless. Don't need 2 talk down to people. I was profiled due 2 having old car & long hair. Got pulled over 3 times to check registration had temporary in window. Just a ploy to harass search car
- I support my tax dollars being used for body cams to protect both the officers and the other parties. They should be mandatory and required to be on at all times



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- Thank you for all You do to serve and protect
- A daily call sheet and outcomes report should be provided to the public, active warrants list needs to be updated daily with mugshots, long parked vehicles on streets need to be towed/moved (i.e. - REDACTED)
- When a Bismarck police pulls you over for a traffic ticket gives you a fine and then you pay the fine and he then has your license suspended until you take your permit and driving test over because he doesn't agree with something you said. Talk about abuse of power on his part, this should be totally illegal especially since I have a clear driving record and have been driving for 40 years,
- I think your officers are doing an amazing job. I don't have much contact with them but when I see them around they are very professional. Keep up the good work.
- I would just like to comment that I saw REDACTED address the Park Board and it was very eye opening to me. He should speak more to the citizens by doing question and answer sessions.
- I am very concerned about 2 incidents involving BPD officers. One is the incident where an officer used foul language and asked a person if they wanted to fight. It was shocking to me that a BPD officer would act in such a way. I do not think the incident was dealt with appropriately and the way it was handled gives credibility to those who claim the matter was swept under the rug. The individual involved may be a troublemaker but it was very unprofessional for the officer to treat him in that manner. The other incident was a car accident caused by an officer making a u-turn. I don't have all the facts, but once again, my perception is that something wasn't proper and it was not handled with transparency. I have always admired BPD and I have respected their professionalism. This is the first time in my 65 years that I worry something has changed and not for the good. Please be more transparent about dealing with mistakes on the part of officers so you maintain the integrity of the department.
- Keep up the good work.
- I think you need to greater enforce the texting and driving. At any given stoplight in town, I would say 30-50% of drivers are looking at their phones while driving through green lights. I've been nearly sideswiped every week by someone looking at their phones. It's getting really bad around town
- You are doing a great job, just please more traffic enforcement
- Great Job.
- I believe the Bismarck Police Department is doing a very good job
- They need to stop picking favorites and stop profiling and stop acting like they are better than you and stop lying
- Most cops I've came in contact with have acted like if they don't get to fight someone then the call was not worth it. I have only had one good interaction when I had to call regarding my neighbor threatening my dog that didn't do anything. The officer was respectful and you could tell he enjoyed he job



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- Chase after actual drugs like meth, cocaine and fantasy.
- Marijuana, weed. Etc is not harming the communities. Legalize weed, and watch the economy boom.
- Stay safe and thanks
- Keep up the good work. And Be safe.
- Thanks for the opportunity to provide input. You're doing an excellent job with the resources you have available, IMO. You could use more staff, though. Also, community willingness to embrace technology to deal with traffic offenses (e.g., red light violations) would be helpful to improve safety on our roads.
- Appreciate all that you do under the difficult circumstances few people are aware of. Let me know how I can help with the Neighborhood Watch program.
- I was involved in an incident in October 2020 where a man tried to enter my vehicle after I got off work at a local hospital. Luckily I was able to drive away with my doors locked as he was pulling at the door handle. I was hesitant to contact the police department since I didn't think anything would happen but I contacted the PD as recommended by my employer. The office that I worked was extremely respectful, helpful, and understanding. We were able to track down the driver of the pickup that the man drove away with and found out that the man was no longer a threat to me. This was one of my 1st experiences where I needed to contact the PD but afterwards I felt a sense of safety and well-being to live in Bismarck.
- Over all i feel the Bismarck PD does their job well
- The issue i have is seeing them break multiple traffic citation laws, speeding, not using turn signals, on the phone while driving, not fully stopping at stop signs, but than again i fully understand shiftwork, people are human and will at times make mistakes. at the end of the day, i fully support our LEOs, and am thankful for them doing the best they can to keep people, roads and communities safe!
- The whole city is like a speedway and we need to get people to slow down and pay attention. The distracted driving and speeding is out of control. Thanks
- Would like to be more involved with assisting law enforcement
- The Bismarck Police Department, in my opinion, does an incredible job. Being over 65, it is difficult to actively participate in a neighborhood watch sort of thing, but when we see increased suspicious drug activity in our area, what and when do we report when we can't say a crime has been committed, but the users are circling the block waiting to make a deal, traffic increases, etc.? However, I have to say when we start seeing this increase, it seems that in short order, the police department is on it and the problem is resolved, quietly, efficiently, and effectively. Just this week, officers made an arrest on our block at the house that we knew had become a drug house. Problem resolved. I proudly fly the Thin Blue Line flag on my flag pole. I say good job, Bismarck Police. We are truly a lucky community to have the quality of officers that we do. Thank you.



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- The Bismarck Police Department is doing a good job given the silly constraints that "woke" society has placed on it.
- More enforcement needs to be done during high traffic areas with speeding and more involvement and enforcement with the general area where there is prominent homelessness. Help the individuals don't ignore them and just do a drive by.
- I believe that Bismarck has become much noisier in the past year. The cars and motorcycles that run without mufflers, late into the night, are very disrupting. Bismarck has vehicle noise ordinances that are not being enforced. The summer of 2020 was noisy, but this summer has been even worse. On some evening is sounds like Main Avenue is a race track.
- You guys and gals are doing a great job and I will always support you keep doing what you're doing and thank you for protecting our city
- There has been a much larger increase in theft in Bismarck recently. And even if you get them on camera, nothing is done about it. We have had 3 theft cases in the last 12 months on East Front Ave. And not a single case has been solved. Not even worth calling the cops if nothing ever gets solved. Not sure if we need more detectives or what. Also, on cruise night, when people are out in the community having a good time, if someone revs their engine, the cops pull them over.... come on. Let them have fun. Now drag racing and speeding are not okay, but revving the engine.... just ridiculous. Just showing off their feathers and power in my opinion. There are so many more issues than traffic issues in Bismarck. And if you don't get the theft under control and the drugs we will be the next Chicago in percentage of crime per capita. I respect the work and sacrifice of police officers, but seems like the ones around (some of them) don't care or can't do anything. When **REDACTED** was sheriff I noticed less crime.
- I always enjoy seeing the mugshots of our melanin enhanced drug dealers from Detroit in the tribune. Great work! Keep it up!
- Sometimes, within neighborhoods (even good ones), there are simmering issues among the neighbors that could cause conflicts. Although definitely not high priority as outright crimes, I believe community officers skilled in de-escalation techniques deployed in such instances could calm and assure the neighborhood. We are in a divisive time, and many people think guns or intimidation or cameras are the way to deal with it. These attitudes can be dealt with at the roots.
- Thanks for all you do!!! You're appreciated!
- The top two reasons for any negative feedback - I feel there is a lack of active duty officers in Bismarck. Given the circumstances of the country, I do understand. I respect our officers and appreciate what they do as it's not a job I would do myself anymore. I also am not impressed with the internal politics of BPD. I feel certain groups and people in the community are protected that should not be as they are a danger to society. There are certain situations I know people aren't comfortable reporting or asking for help as they know these people are protected in town and it would put them at risk. I



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hope the police department will focus more on Personal & Drug Crimes rather than traffic enforcement. These crimes are affecting the health and well being of Bismarck's citizens and children. I worry for the safety of children especially in our community. Sharing out of concern. Thank you for all you do. I know you're all being tested to your limits and are worn out. Your work and involvement within the community while being short staffed is still seen and appreciated. I do in fact back the blue and always will. God Bless our police officers.

- The Bismarck Police Dept is doing an AWESOME job - keep up the great work. The definition of Police is 'civil force responsible for prevention/detection of crime & maintenance of public order'. It takes \$ to do this so this and I am for RAISING the funds available from my taxes to give the dept more opportunity to work on the prevention side. I mentioned that our neighborhood has had some problem youth activity. More mentorship programs between officers & at risk youth, visibility in the schools and community events and homeless intervention activities are where I would like to see increased funding for the dept. I think stress is also a big factor for all police staff and I am totally serious with my belief that this dept should have increased funding to deal with stress. Each officer should have a personalized stress relief program and funding to pay for the program. We, the citizens need to take care of the dept since we are asking them to put their life on the line to take care of us. Thank you again for all the training that you go through to do this most important job in our city.
- BPD is doing a great job overall. But traffic issues are ridiculous. Red light runners are apparently free to do as they damn well please. If BPD wants to generate billions (yes, exaggeration) in revenue, station a cop at every intersection on State Street full time. Jack the fine to \$500. Officers' salaries would be paid and then some. This town is full of distracted, self-centered shitty drivers. Traffic citations should be like shooting fish in a barrel.
- Great support for the few that take an oath for our safety. Big support thankyou Bismarck PD.
- Keep up the good work. My daughter lives near the George Floyd incident; Minneapolis is not a safe place to live.
- I think the BPD does a great job of keeping the community safe. Please continue your good work. I hope the BPD does not spiral down the path of wokeness or equity and instead continues its focus on impartial enforcement of the law
- The number one reason for my low scores is there needs to be more officers on patrol. They are seriously understaffed.
- How many times must the police be dispatched to a specific address before something is actually done? During commute times in the morning and evening normal people are just trying to go about their day. Please stop harassing them with traffic stops and snarling traffic even more. Please focus the energy on real crimes. The people going to work already pay enough in taxes. I've never got pulled over by BPD so I'm not bitter or



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disgruntled. When pulling someone over have them pull off onto a side street; people have places to be. More patrols around school zones. Drivers can't be distracted (phone, eating, etc.) but patrol officers can type on a laptop while driving?

- Officer **REDACTED** helped me about a year ago. He was absolutely incredible! He truly listened to us and pointed us in the right direction. I'm am extremely grateful for him. He conducted himself with the utmost professionalism, knowledge and excellence. He is a huge asset to our community and to your department. Thank you Officer **REDACTED**!!!
- just keep up the great work your doing.thank you.
- Thank you for all that you do!!!
- Keep up the good work! Thanks for all you do for our community
- Police officers have little to no knowledge of drugs in my neighborhood, and police refuse to investigate drug activity on my neighborhood, and police to allow aiding and em betting in my neighborhood, by not arresting a house owner who allowed drugs to be stored and used in there house!
- Please keep patrolling as much as possible stop the people from speeding!
- **REDACTED** is an excellent face for the Bismarck police Department. Kudos to him specifically!!
- There is a HUDGE homeless problem in downtown Bismarck. I am on edge every single time I walk to and from my car to my office building. I avoid the parks by the river for the the same reason. All the homeless make our community feel uninviting, filthy, and dangerous for women and children. I think drugs and alcoholism is largely to blame but I'm sure the PD already knows this....
- i strongly belive in neighbor community protection program takes the mcgruff partnership to stay clean off streets off drugs to kick habits clean dare for kids also dare to keep students drunk driving to call destinganted drivers for drunk drivers to prevent from being killed on the roads to save people lives matters. Also to prevent suicide hotline to call 1 800 suicidal hotline.com to prevent people lives from thinking suicidal thoughts programs to built a foudations including all above to set up homeless protection shelters for vetrans homeless to set more programs to built thriving out to reach peoples lives to help out others including first red bank cross homeless shelters to build foundations reach out to midwest to support handicapped accessibbles interpretations programs for devices for community buildings throughout midwest U.S.A. wide world to set up to spread the news to help out people lives to make good sakes with good deeds to adapt their inspirations to set their goals up higher grounds
- The extremely loud mototcycles at all hours of the night and often during the day
- The police are too busy with j walking and traffic tickets. They need something to do like cleaning the streets. They should be sent to Chicago to learn how to be a decent cop.



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- While I believe that officers have a difficult job, my interaction over the years has not been positive. Some interactions have been with officers indifferent to me or officers hostile and carrying too much ego.
- I admit that I was usually at fault, (i.e. speeding), I seemed to be the only one showing respect.  
Thankfully I have never needed police assistance for anything life threatening or a real emergency. This is my observation from the last 50 years, Thank-You.
- Bismarck Police have always been there when we needed them. Keep up the great work
- Fargo PD's FB page is great because they keep citizens informed even over little things. Would love to see BPD do the same. Also, would be nice for BPD to follow up with people who report issues to let us know if criminal was apprehended or still loose for peace of mind
- Legacy High is right next to our home. The kids are out of hand at night when the school is closed. Teens are in the parking lot squeeling their tires, yelling, playing loud music and once shot off fire works from the roof. I think BPD should monitor the High school areas more to teach teens to be good citizens by issuing warnings or contacting parents after an incident
- Too numerous to mention. I'm going to go lock up my **REDACTED** up before it gets stolen. I find out who did it and the police say it's a civil matter!!
- Not understanding why a roundabout was placed on 16th Street. Too small of space and will be a waste of funds/space.
- I have not had personal negative experiences with the police but some people in my social circles have felt unnecessarily harassed. Overall Bismarck seems quite safe to me and I feel like building more positive community connections is important.
- Keep up the good work!!
- have your officers read the constitution and quit violating our rights EVERY TIME you stop someone.
- I would pay more taxes to have more law enforcement because everyone wants to feel safe whether in their home, work place, places of business or worship or traveling on our streets. Thanks for all you do!
- Law enforcement is a tough job. I have work in this area before. So many terrible drivers in Bismarck. I have seen people run red lights, speed etc right in front of police officers and they never do anything about it. Most are looking down (even when driving) so they don't even pay attention to things around them
- We have reported a bad skunkweed odor in our apartment complex a few times to the BPD and it seems like over time, the BPD has become less able or less willing to actually take any action, like they are just going thru the motions of checking it out to appease us. People who smoke skunkweed stink up the whole building for the rest of us, plus it's a big fire hazard as pot smokers tend to be the most careless people, in my opinion



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- I find the BPD officers are doing very well with their work loads. All officers i have come into contact with were very helpful, understanding of my concerns, and treated me with respect.
- I believe that when officers see the same people doing the same crime they get pissed off at that individual and use more force then needed. I want to see more accountability for there actions. I once was in law enforcement. The fact it is us and them. People are stupid and like cattle. The won't stand up and fight back legally. Some officers a guilty of exactly what they are arresting the person for. I don't feel safe with any of the law enforcement here. Or people make mistake and so do fficers
- Wanted to take the survey to express my concern with how many unmarked intersections there are in town. They give me a lot of anxiety, especially when parked cars block my view of the intersecting traffic.
- High speeding, running red lights horrible. Moved here from larger city and shocked at traffic violations. Speed past Horizon Middle school especially bad
- Seems to be a lot of motorcycle incidents around town. We are supposed to be watching for them. Not possible in my opinion?
- I believe I'm hearing more sirens this summer than ever before. Please minimize use of sirens when possible.
- Please focus on serious issues such as nacent gangs, graffiti, drugs, domestic violence and alcohol-related stupidity, rather than unnecessary speed traps on Bismarck's safe streets. Focus speed traps on streets where truly excessive speeds are taking place, such as the motorcycles racing late every night on West Main Street toward the railroad bridge.
- I wish the BPD would use Social media MORE frequently to help keep the public informed, and to be more transparent in their actions.
- Catch the child molesters and murderers and leave everyone else alone
- Stop pointless and unuseful arrests used to inflate statistics
- Thank you for all you do for the community
- huge respect for the police,never understand why any one would want to do it
- Bismarck PD is outstanding
- Thank you for your service to the community! You are all greatly appreaciated.
- Keep up the good work
- Thanks for all the hard work keeping everyone safe
- I am thankful for BPD. I have a officer daughter in LF, its hard times for all of you... stay safe
- It's abundantly clear that the Bismarck police department is a "police for profit" organization. Beat cops more concerned about there pension and orders/suggestions then following the laws or refusing to enforce a unconstitutional law. They know the laws better then citizens using those laws to entrap should be conduct unbecoming and grounds for immediate dismissal. This would force them to uphold what this country was



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founded on not fall in line like a pretorian. More concerned about playing some movie hero and failing to verifying hearsay/ information before action. Some of this enthusiasm is important but not at the cost of another's liberty, especially when lives ARE NOT on the line. 500 guilty should go free that one innocent should not be wrongfully imprisoned, for a sec, min or day. Thank you

- Denver Avenue between 3rd St and University Drive is turning into a race track and there is little police presence. The loud vehicle noises at all hours of the night is ridiculous. You definitely need to increase traffic enforcement. When I tried to check that on this survey it would not allow me to
- Need to do more traffic enforcement. Especially up north where people seem to think they can drive anyway they want, as fast as they want. I understand drug enforcement is needed but it seems like the police are only interested in doing their job when it comes to drug related crimes. Other than that they act like they don't have time to do anything else. Also would like to mention how they abuse their power. I see cops turning their lights on to go through stop lights and then turning them off once they are through. I have also seen them call in more than one cop when they pull over a person of color for a simple traffic stop. Something that wouldn't happen if it was a white person. I am a white person stating this and seeing it happen
- I am quite impressed with the kindness and respectful nature of the Bismarck Police Officers that I have interacted with. I genuinely appreciate them and value their diligent service to our community. Thank you!
- Great job
- I find the negative media towards the police is deleted from the social media outlets after a short period of time with absolutely no answers for the public in regards to their behavior or to the matter at hand. If any answers are given, the entirety of the matter is deleted from public eyes soon after to eradicate police downfalls and shortcomings.
- Defunding the police is totally WRONG
- Traffic control; too many people run red lights. I watched a vehicle blow right thru a red light. I also witnessed a bismarck patrol car sitting at the same light in the turning lane and did nothing! Absolutely let this person operating vehicle get away with breaking law!
- Get the cars and campers OFF the street if they've been there for 5 months\_ the limit being 24 hrs. Why have rules if you don't enforce them. Our street is busy. We have a Mercury that has sat for 1 year and Chevy brown SUV that has been there for 8 years. Ridiculous.
- None that I can think of
- I believe main st in Bismarck at night is a nightmare everyone's speed racing their cars around. You barely dare to cross the streets fear of being hit.. The young kids go through red lights green lights they don't care. The McDonalds parking lot is a meeting place you



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can't hardly get in or out to get something to eat walking inside or the drive thru no where for customers to park.

- If you guys ever look at the Fargo PD's page, they know how to engage with their city and show they are approachable and have a sense of human. It makes them more human. I'm not saying full blown copy them, but some notes would do your page well.
- Officers tend to run radar in the same locations all the time. Speeding is routine on Montreal St. and yet there is no traffic enforcement on this street. Morning and evening rush hour are peak times for speeding.
- My serious concern is animal neglect and/or abuse. Also, the use of professional grade fireworks in my neighborhood. (Horizon Heights). People are not just playing with firecrackers anymore. The explosions are meant to be heard from a few hundred yards away, as a commercial show. Not over my rooftop. It literally sounds like I'm in a war zone. And it goes on for 5 or 6 hours on July 4th and New Year's Eve. There's no way to escape it. I hope they never legalize fireworks within the city limits. Thank you for your service.
- I'd guess you probably have a lot of area's you're busy with speeders and you're parked out here during the day, but every night around 10:30 (and sometimes around 2:30), there's the same one or two vehicles that speed down Wachter from Washington to University.
- Noise and firecracker problem around July 4<sup>th</sup>. Famous Dave's parking lot goes all night
- I was stopped on 8/18/2021 by Officer **REDACTED** for a stop sign violation at a four-way stop. The first thing Officer **REDACTED** said to me was, "I suppose you are wondering why I stopped you." This was true -- I was thinking it was possible that I might have had a turn signal light burned out although I felt that was pretty unlikely -- and he must have felt himself that the violation was marginal since he recognized that it wouldn't be clear to me why he was stopping me. My stop was within a fraction of being a "complete" stop at a four-way stop without a single other vehicle at that time...it was nothing close to a "rolling" stop. I would compare this fine to issuing a fine to a driver who was driving 26 mph in a 25 mph zone and I would be willing to bet money that this officer would not have stopped a male who was my age. I think the BPD should spend some time on stopping flagrant offenses and dangerous drivers. My life and those of other people's is in danger at times due to careless driving and serious offenses while this sort of traffic stop is being made. I guess Office **REDACTED** felt a need to flex his muscles and/or had a bad morning causing him to make this ridiculous stop. It had certainly tainted my opinion of the BPD which was previously pretty favorable.
- Traffic violations and noise from improper mufflers on motorcycles and vehicles are a large problem-follow the ordinance on noise. Example, just today on a trip to the clinic I observed 3 very obvious red-light runners. The noise ordinances are not being enforced-the Tyler-Century-Burnt boat area is often so noisy that we have to close windows to be able to hear theTV-especially in the evenings and on weekends. Century ave has turned



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into a 'racetrack' 45 mph is common, with the intersection of Tyler and Century being a problem-the 25mph is not even close to being enforced.

- I feel the dept. is doing a good job considering what they have to deal with. I realize they have a lot on their plate. In my area of Bismarck (Hitchcock Dr.) I am concerned about speeders and the heavy traffic. Seems it is the same cars everyday, and considering the number of children that live in the area I can worry that someone is going to get hurt. Thank you to all in the dept for their service.
- Please please please do something about the people at REDACTED! Your officers are awesome and I understand police can't evict anyone, but it's gotten to the point where I am scared for my children. Several neighbors are thinking of moving and the problem will only get worse if they do! I'm very interested in doing my part by learning about a neighborhood watch.
- I liked the speech by REDACTED that he gave to the park people. Very eye opening. Would like more.
- Arrests were not made during several months when COVID was rampant. I feel this put residents and officers in more danger than COVID because of repeat offenses
- Hurt by the fact the police are suppose to protect people. I understand that times are scary and everyone got to protect themselves. But it doesn't excuse the fact how rude and mean some officers have become bc they have a badge. The audacity of the new ones trying make a name for themselves
- Theft is increasing and the local Pd seems to be more focused on traffic tickets...
- I feel they do a great job overall
- Way too many people tecting and driving not to mention speeding
- We have a significant drug problem and it is increasing out crime problem
- Keep up the nice job!
- Traffic stops are great and helpful, but pressuring people in those traffic stops seems to be a common issue. Spending too much time investigating traffic and not enough time investigating more dangerous crimes or people
- I velieve population should not be the only factor driving staffing. The only way to address the issues in Bismarck is more officers. Community relations are important and also need morestaffing
- Keep up the good work
- Please do everything possible to pay, train and retain our officers. Community outreach/involvement/interaction from individual officers is more important than large organized community events. Keep up the good work
- It appears that the downtown area of Bismarck where I worked the past 10 years is getting dangerous. Drunk people walking around. No longer feel safe
- Do you have a PIO anymore? I don't see or hear any public service announcements coming out of that department REDACTED retired



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- **REDACTED** you inherited a sunken ship. Your command staff disrespect you behind your back. Please be the true leader you are and clean up the department so it can effectively sail. The actions your command staff does would cause them to be fired at agencies like West Fargo. Cigar parties on the PD roof, assaulting citizens, making any video that would get them in trouble disappear. Publicly saying an officer asking to fight is deescalation was an absolute disgrace to those who honorably wear the badge. Stop hiring back the corrupt problems and creating positions for them. Your being played **REDACTED** Please do what is right and fix the problems. I fear the day BPD makes National news for the unacceptable behavior that is allowed and hidden from you right now.
- **REDACTED**
- Attention needs to be directed to traffic law enforcement. Some streets at night become drag strips. Residential overtime parking seems to be ignored, sidewalks blocked, etc. Vehicle noise is excessive, too much exhibition driving. Mundane work, but necessary.
- **REDACTED** did a nice job on his presentation to the Park Board. He needs to do more of that.
- Traffic enforcement should concentrate on red light running, speeding and racing on Century Ave and North Washington St (north of Century Ave). Thanks for all you do - it's pretty much a thankless job but this resident appreciates you!
- There is still a need for more training on inherent bias. I would like to see even more partnering with mental health professionals.
- I would like to see BPD make a concerted effort to address the PERCEPTION of bias of police toward people of color. I don't know that there is or there isn't bias, but for communities of color, there is a perception that they are unsafe with police. I would love to see the chief of police and other members of the top administration be vocal about their commitment to being fair, unbiased, and professional while acknowledging historical issues of racism in North Dakota as well as the national mess of BLM vs 'All lives matter'. I don't understand why this hasn't happened so far. It would do some good and any risk of narrow minded people who have no interest in understanding their neighbor's fear and the issue of historical racism being offended doesn't matter, as those folks have no interest in learning anyway.
- There are a lot of fair minded people in Bismarck who don't fall on either side of the political spectrum. We're just not as vocal and obnoxious as the right and left wing dingbats. It also makes it harder for us to defend LE when there's no acknowledgment of the national issue. And I want to defend LE to the people who say that they are racist and that they kill people of color. Because I don't believe that to be true of you. You sacrifice your safety, time with family and mental health (secondary trauma) for us every day and I appreciate it. I want to be a good partner to you. This survey is an excellent step in the right direction, by the way. Good job.



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- I believe the Bismarck police department profile citizens and start harassing them based on their assumptions. Once they have established an opinion on an individual getting them to be understanding or helpful is impossible. I have seen people with zero criminal history be treated with utter disrespect because of having associations with people that have closed criminal cases. I feel that they are biased against addicts whom need support and treatment and not to be mocked and ridiculed. The police in Burleigh county do not follow laws as they should and bend the rules to suit their assumptions. I feel they should get higher education in addiction and human equality.
- Bismarck should have more homeless shelters. We need to help them as without help there will be more crime. We are all connected
- Any officers who ever need help, safety. A sandwich, bathroom, a cup of coffee.. ANYTHING. Pound on my door and it is open for all
- There is so much speeding on River road due to it being a short cut. drivers are going 45 mph if not faster depending on the day. we live by the jogging route and its hard to back out of our residence due to speeding vehicles but also joggers who are not paying attention. Maybe requesting a joint effort from NDHP to help with traffic enforcement as they are always seen in town running radar? Noise ordinance is a huge issue as well. no one is cited for loud exhaust. Maybe joining forces with Mandan as well and put out that enforcement is happening for specific violations. it will show the public that the Police are enforcing all violations.  
Thank you for the comment request.
- Officers need to get out of their patrol cars more and have more public events. The neighborhood signs have come down as well. The Media does releases after the events are completed. beforehand would help
- River Rd traffic is heavy and fast. Very few people drive the speed limit. The noise from the cars and motorcycle is a problem. I don't think people know realize this is a neighborhood. I am always happy to see people getting pulled over on River Rd. Thank you Police Dept for trying to help us out!
- I am proud of our police dept. Two officers came to my door and asked "how are things in your neighborhood"? That was a wonderful feeling for years.  
I believe in a deterrent for bad behavior. IT does discourage bad behavior namely, loud, fast and speeding vehicles. They should be cited. So their insurance company knows.  
Good Citizenship is a valuable trait and it is contagious.