

# Chapter 11

## Public Safety

Public Safety . . . . .	286
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency . . . . .	286
Summary of Services . . . . .	286
Operations . . . . .	286
Plans and Preparedness . . . . .	286
Special Events . . . . .	287
Interoperable Communications . . . . .	287
Grants Management . . . . .	288
Metropolitan Police Department . . . . .	289
Mission . . . . .	289
Guiding Principles . . . . .	289
MPD's Successful Crime Fighting Initiatives . . . . .	290
Working Together . . . . .	291
Looking Forward 2013 and Beyond . . . . .	292
Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department . . . . .	293
DC Department of Corrections . . . . .	295
Detention . . . . .	296
Youth Rehabilitation Services . . . . .	297
Summary . . . . .	297
Population Statistics and Trends . . . . .	297
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner . . . . .	300
Death Investigation and Certification . . . . .	300
Accidents . . . . .	300
Homicides . . . . .	301
Stillbirths . . . . .	301
Natural . . . . .	301
Suicides . . . . .	301
Undetermined Deaths . . . . .	301

# PUBLIC SAFETY

## HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

There is no greater responsibility for the District of Columbia than to protect the public. The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) helps to ensure the readiness of the City by coordinating the homeland security and emergency management efforts of the District of Columbia and the National Capital Region (NCR). HSEMA plans and prepares for emergencies, coordinates emergency response and recovery efforts, provides training and conducts exercises for emergency first responders, employees and the public, educates the public, and disseminates emergency information.

### Summary of Services

To accomplish its mission, HSEMA employs a highly dedicated and talented group of professionals who:

- Provide 24-hour emergency operations center capabilities.
- Oversee development of the City's plans and procedures ensuring emergency response and recovery capabilities for all emergencies and disasters.
- Provide training and conduct exercises for first responders, City employees, and the public to evaluate the effectiveness of response plans and policies.
- Coordinate and support responses to and recovery from emergencies.
- Provide public awareness and outreach programs ensuring residents, businesses, and communities are prepared to deal with potential hazards.
- Serve as the central communications point during regional emergencies.
- Coordinate all major special events and street closings.
- Obtain and manage federal homeland security funding for the District of Columbia and the NCR.

In carrying out its mission, HSEMA works closely with other agencies, including the Metropolitan Police Department, the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the Department of Health and other District,

neighboring and federal agencies, as well as with the major utility companies and non-profit and volunteer organizations such as the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

### Operations

HSEMA provides situational awareness, logistical and resource support, and field command operation to coordinate incident response, mitigation, and recovery for emergencies, severe weather conditions, disasters and other major events affecting the District of Columbia. HSEMA manages the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and works closely with Emergency Support Function lead agencies, which staff the EOC, in preparation for and during emergency activations. On a day-to-day basis the 24/7 Joint All Hazards Operation Center serves as the central hub of communications, where information is processed, analyzed, and disseminated to District, regional and federal partners, businesses, and the public. This information creates a common operating picture and provides relevant and useful information for preparedness and mitigation planning. HSEMA also provides a command and control element that supports District and Federal agencies during special events such as the State of the Union Address, Independence Day on the National Mall, Capital Pride, and the Presidential Inauguration.

**Table 11.1. HSEMA Operations**

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Number of partial and full Emergency Operations Center activations	8	13	8
Number of Heat Emergency Plan activations	43	27	25

Source: Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

### Plans and Preparedness

#### Community Outreach

HSEMA maintains a strong outreach program designed to educate and equip community residents and businesses to

deal with hazards and the potential for disasters. Outreach is conducted annually through a series of presentations, workshops and events provided to each of the District's eight wards. In FY 2012, HSEMA attended 226 outreach events including events throughout September during National Preparedness Month.

#### Planning

HSEMA facilitates comprehensive planning that promotes resiliency in government agencies, our communities, and critical infrastructure by developing and revising emergency plans to address an array of emergency management and domestic homeland security contingencies that ensure sustainment of essential functions during and after a disaster. Such plans include the District Response Plan, concept of operations plans for special events, and continuity of operations plans for District agencies.

**Table 11.2. HSEMA Plans**

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Number of plans created, reviewed and updated	36	35	39

Source: Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

In January 2011, HSEMA began the Community Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), a new community planning cycle that engaged various members of District of Columbia agencies such as the Executive Office of the Mayor for Latino Affairs, Asian Pacific Islander Affairs, and African Affairs, the Constituent Services Offices of the District of Columbia Council, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, neighborhood and civic associations, and the public. More than 100 community and government representatives participated in the community planning process to revise the plans. The CEMP provides a planning tool for residents and community members to assist with the coordination of neighborhood resources and organizations. Moreover, the CEMP includes plans for individuals who are ready to assist with a neighborhood response to an emergency or disaster. The plans were completed in July 2011. In 2012, HSEMA worked strategically with a community in Ward Eight to provide

technical assistance to Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus, a community cultural center that houses a variety of non-profit organizations. HSEMA, at the request of Building Bridges, set out to help the community undergo a planning process involving the organizations, which included six planning meetings, a presentation by the Office of Unified Communications on the Smart 9-1-1 program, and Neighborhood Watch training. In addition, as a part of the community planning process, there was a building safety walk-through, intended to identify and highlight any building safety concerns such as vulnerable areas that required additional lighting, security mechanisms, or personnel.

Training and Exercises

HSEMA spearheads the delivery of disaster management simulations and emergency preparedness trainings, seminars, and conferences to local first responders, emergency support function liaison officers, senior leaders, and public and private stakeholders, to enhance emergency management capabilities of the District of Columbia and NCR. Tabletop, functional, no-notice, and full-scale field exercises are also conducted to provide opportunities for applied training, as well as, practical evaluation of the District and NCR’s response and recovery capabilities.

In 2012, because of the August 23, 2011 earthquake that affected the City and NCR, the District wanted to ensure that residents, businesses, commuters, and other stakeholders in the City knew what to do in the event of another earthquake. On October 18, 2012, HSEMA partnered with the Central United States Earthquake Consortium, the

Table 11.3. HSEMA Trainings			
	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Number of trainings provided to first responders, District employees, and the public*	70	47	44
Number of individuals trained by HSEMA	1,834	698	680
* Includes training provided to foster parents, children, senior groups, neighborhood associations, colleges and universities, Business Improvement Districts, faith-based organizations, and deaf and hard of hearing residents, etc.			
Source: Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency			

Federal Emergency Management Agency and other regional partners in sponsoring The Great SouthEast Shakeout which was a regional opportunity to practice how to be safer during big earthquakes and “Drop, Cover, and Hold On.” 203,889 District of Columbia stakeholders registered that they participated in the 2012 Shakeout Drill.

Disaster Recovery

Following a federally declared disaster, HSEMA is responsible for the administration of post-disaster recovery, mitigation, and restoration programs involving public infrastructure. HSEMA also coordinates disaster related interstate agreements with neighboring states through the Emergency Management Assistant Compact and mutual aid.

Special Events

The District of Columbia Government provides essential municipal services in support of special events to ensure events occurring on public space in the District of Columbia are conducted in a manner that protects public health and safety. HSEMA manages the administration of the Mayor’s Special Events Task Group (MSETG), a body responsible for organizing the City’s public safety planning efforts for events requiring interagency coordination. The MSETG meets the second and fourth Monday of each month, except on government holidays, to review presentations of proposed special events. The organizers of proposed special events are required to present event proposals to the MSETG and receive the concurrence of the group prior to the issuance of permits or licenses by the permit-granting agencies.

HSEMA is also responsible for the administration of the Community Events Funding Assistance Program.

Table 11.4. HSEMA Special Events			
	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Number of Special Events that have been approved by the MSETG	100	113	104
Number of applications processed for assistance from the Community Event Fund	13	9	7
Amount of assistance processed from the Community Events Fund	\$350,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$130,000.00
Source: Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency			

The Community Events Assistance Fund provides limited financial assistance to District of Columbia community-based, nonprofit organizations that are engaged in programs fostering the development of quality activities in local communities. When these organizations conduct special events on public roadways under the jurisdiction of the District, they must be processed by the MSETG. Funding is for the exclusive purpose of offsetting some of the costs of city services required for conducting such special events, and is provided through direct reimbursement to city agencies providing public services that are necessary to protect public health and safety, as determined by relevant city agencies.

Interoperable Communications

HSEMA is responsible for coordinating emergency communications for the District of Columbia. Spearheaded by the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), HSEMA works with emergency response leaders from across all levels of state and federal government agencies in the NCR to implement and execute a district-wide strategic vision for interoperability. HSEMA manages and administers specialized applications in support of emergency voice, data, and video communications capabilities for the NCR. Some of these technologies include (but are not limited to) computer systems, radio, telecommunication tools, closed circuit television, and audio/visual systems. Among the significant emergency communications systems managed are:

- WebEOC: A web-based application used for the transfer and dissemination of information and creates a common operating picture. The application is used by HSEMA for both managing emergency activations as well as daily operations.
- Washington Metropolitan Area Warning System

(WAWAS): The National Warning System is a 24-hour continuous private line telephone system used to convey warnings to federal, state, and local government EOC's as well as the military. HSEMA is the Network Control for all users on the Washington segment of the system (WAWAS) and coordinates all requests for the addition of warning points being added to the system.

- **RSAN/Alert DC/RICCS Text Alerts:** The DC Alert (public) and RSAN (internal) systems are used to provide immediate text notification and update information during a major crisis or emergency. The systems deliver important emergency alerts, notifications, and updates on a range of devices including email accounts (work, home, and other); cell phone, pager, Blackberry, and PDA.
- **Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP):** The District of Columbia's 2012 SCIP is a comprehensive strategic plan dedicated to advancing interoperable voice and data communications. The SCIP provides a strategic look at interoperability and is used in conjunction with other plans (i.e., Field Operations Guide and Tactical Interoperability Communication Plan) in providing a comprehensive plan in moving interoperability forward.
- **Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) and Field Operations Guide (FOG):** HSEMA prepares the District of Columbia's TICP to document existing communications assets and policies/procedures related to interoperable communications during events. These events range from day-to-day operations to large-scale critical incidents. The FOG is used as a reference guide for public safety radio technicians and communications planners.

**Table 11.5. HSEMA Alerts**

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Number of Alert DC messages disseminated	4,405	3,361	5,770

Source: Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

## Grants Management

HSEMA serves as the State Administrative Agent (SAA) for the federal homeland security grant programs that are awarded to the District of Columbia and the NCR. HSEMA provides programmatic oversight to the numerous individual grants—funded homeland security projects in the District and the NCR to ensure that the projects are making progress, meeting milestones, and are in compliance with the applicable grant guidance. HSEMA tracks the financial status updates for these grant programs to local and regional governance bodies. Finally, HSEMA is responsible for writing and submitting to the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency annual grant applications for all local and regional federal grant programs.

**Table 11.6. HSEMA Grants**

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Homeland security grant dollars managed	\$330,149,608	\$318,976,519	\$268,284,524
Number of grant projects managed	523	349	518

Source: Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

# DC HSEMA App

The Must-Have Preparedness and Emergency App!

What To Do In An Emergency? *Be Prepared* in the event of an Emergency! Find information on the 18 most common hazards in the region and what you and your family should do in such an event.

Safety

Information

Mapping

Mobile App Features

- DC Evacuation Maps
- Find Police/Fire Station
- DC Emergency Shelters
- Weather Conditions

- Emergency Help Lines
- Real-Time Emergency Notifications
- Power Outages

- Report Suspicious Activity



# METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, commonly referred to as MPD, is the municipal police force of Washington, DC. Now one of the ten largest police forces within the United States, the MPD was officially formed on August 6, 1861, in accordance with the personal wishes of President Abraham Lincoln. The department's duties include the provision of police services to the city with its estimated 632,323 residents and to supplement the various uniformed federal law enforcement agencies including the United States Secret Service, United States Park Police, Federal Bureau of Investigations Police, and the United States Capitol Police in the city.

Since 2007, the Department has been headed by Chief of Police Cathy L. Lanier, one of the few female Chiefs among the major cities in the United States. The services of the department are provided by 3,869 sworn members and 463 civilian employees. Under Chief Lanier's leadership, the Department has continued to experience significant reductions in crime while being guided by the following Mission Statement and Guiding Principles.

## Mission

It is the mission of the Metropolitan Police Department

(MPD) to safeguard the District of Columbia and protect its residents and visitors by providing the highest quality of police service with integrity, compassion, and a commitment to innovation that integrates people, technology and progressive business systems.

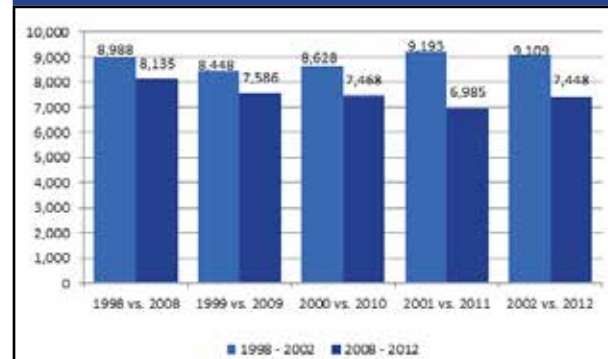
## Guiding Principles

- Reduce crime and the fear of crime in the community.
- Change the culture of the MPD from reacting to crime to building and sustaining safe neighborhoods.
- Position the MPD to be viewed and respected nationally and internationally as a model for how it serves the community.
- Build homeland security into the culture of the MPD and the community without creating fear.
- Make the relationship between police and neighborhoods paramount — tailoring policing to neighborhoods.
- Build on what the MPD is doing right.
- Focus on MPD's routine activities, fostering innovation and initiative, all the while maintaining fiscal accountability.
- Encourage teamwork and leadership at every level of the police Department and throughout the community.
- Emphasize that every MPD employee has the power to influence positive change — and encourage them to improve the service they provide to both the Department and community.
- Throughout the Department, focus on how the MPD can address youth issues.
- Enhance follow-up in all aspects of the Department to meet community needs.

Following these guidelines and successful crime fighting initiatives, the MPD has seen significant reductions in crime in the District over the past five years as compared with the same 5-year span a decade earlier. Table 11.7 presents the UCR breakdown for each category of crime during both 5 year time periods.

By the end of 2012, violent crimes have been reduced by 8%, a significant reduction when compared with the 1% increase that had been experienced between 1998 and 2002, a period when violent crime was on the rise. Figure 11.1 depicts the year by year comparisons of 2008-2012 with the year 10 years earlier.

**Figure 11.1. Ten Year Comparison of UCR Reported Violent Crime in the District, 1998-2002 vs. 2008-2012**



Source: Metropolitan Police Department

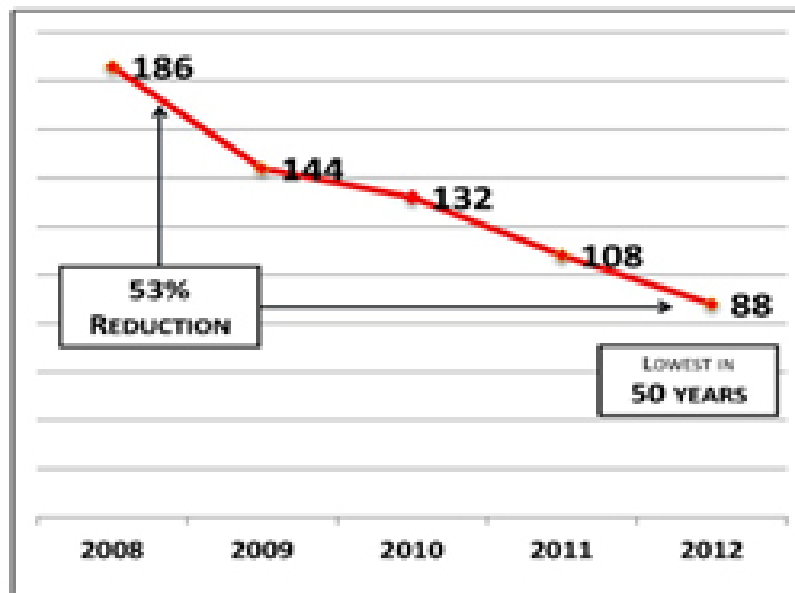
**Table 11.7. UCR Reported Crime Comparisons: 1998-2002 versus 2008-2012**

Offense	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Homicide	260	241	242	232	262	186	143	132	108	88
Rape	190	248	251	181	262	186	150	184	172	236
Robbery	3,606	3,344	3,553	3,777	3,731	4,154	3,998	3,914	3,756	3,725
Aggravated Assault	4,932	4,615	4,582	5,003	4,854	3,609	3,295	3,238	2,949	3,399
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>8,988</b>	<b>8,448</b>	<b>8,628</b>	<b>9,193</b>	<b>9,109</b>	<b>8,135</b>	<b>7,586</b>	<b>7,468</b>	<b>6,985</b>	<b>7,448</b>
Burglary	6,361	5,067	4,745	4,947	5,167	3,781	3,696	4,224	3,849	3,519
Larceny	24,321	21,673	21,637	22,274	20,903	18,787	18,012	18,050	20,124	22,196
Motor Vehicle Theft	6,501	6,652	6,600	7,970	9,168	6,191	5,299	4,864	4,339	3,549
Arson	119	105	108	104	109	51	55	49	61	50
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>37,302</b>	<b>33,497</b>	<b>33,090</b>	<b>35,295</b>	<b>35,347</b>	<b>28,810</b>	<b>27,062</b>	<b>27,187</b>	<b>28,373</b>	<b>29,314</b>

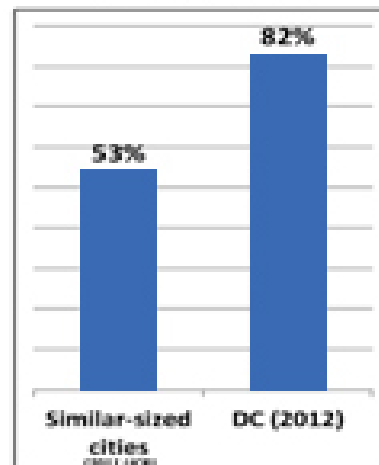
Source: MPD Official UCR Tables

Figure 11.2. Continuing Historical Reductions in Homicide

2008 TO 2012: ANNUAL NUMBER OF HOMICIDES IN WASHINGTON, DC



UCR HOMICIDE  
CLEARANCE RATE



Source: Metropolitan Police Department

Most impressive among the violent crime reductions was the successful reduction of homicides. The Metropolitan Police Department ended the year of 2012 with 88 homicides, a 53 percent reduction since 2008 (Figure 11.2). In four short years, the MPD saw a reduction of homicides by more than half, a level this city has not seen since 1961. This significant reduction in homicides is bucking a national trend seen in other cities like Baltimore, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, and others, where homicides have increased. Additionally, the MPD's homicide closure rate of 82 percent was again well above national averages. Our officers and detectives continue to send the important message that if you choose to take the life of another person, we will find you and hold you accountable.

## MPD's Successful Crime Fighting Initiatives

### Summer Crime Initiative

The focus of the 2012 Summer Crime Initiative was on building safe neighborhoods. Throughout the summer

months, the MPD held, coordinated or partnered on over 140 summer events and programs that reached over 19,700 members of the community, mostly youth and families. During the initiative, homicides in targeted areas decreased by 71 percent; robberies in targeted areas decreased by 15 percent; and burglaries in targeted areas decreased by 14 percent.

### GunStat

Through hard work and innovative community policing strategies and by leveraging technology and information-sharing capabilities with our criminal justice partners, we have been able to achieve substantial reductions in violent crime. In addition to our daily operations and activities, we utilize innovative strategies focusing on repeat offenders through various collaborative efforts, including the city's GunStat Initiative. GunStat, facilitated by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, is designed to reduce gun crime by focusing law enforcement, supervision and prosecutorial resources on repeat, violent offenders and by collecting and analyzing data on gun cases as they progress through the criminal justice system. Participat-

ing agencies identify the most dangerous repeat offenders in the District and focus attention and resources on those offenders and work together to implement interagency strategies to reduce the likelihood of repeat gun offenses. By responding appropriately and assertively to repeat violent offenders, the participating agencies are able to carry out their complementary missions of safeguarding all who visit, work, and live in the District of Columbia.

### Robbery Intervention Program

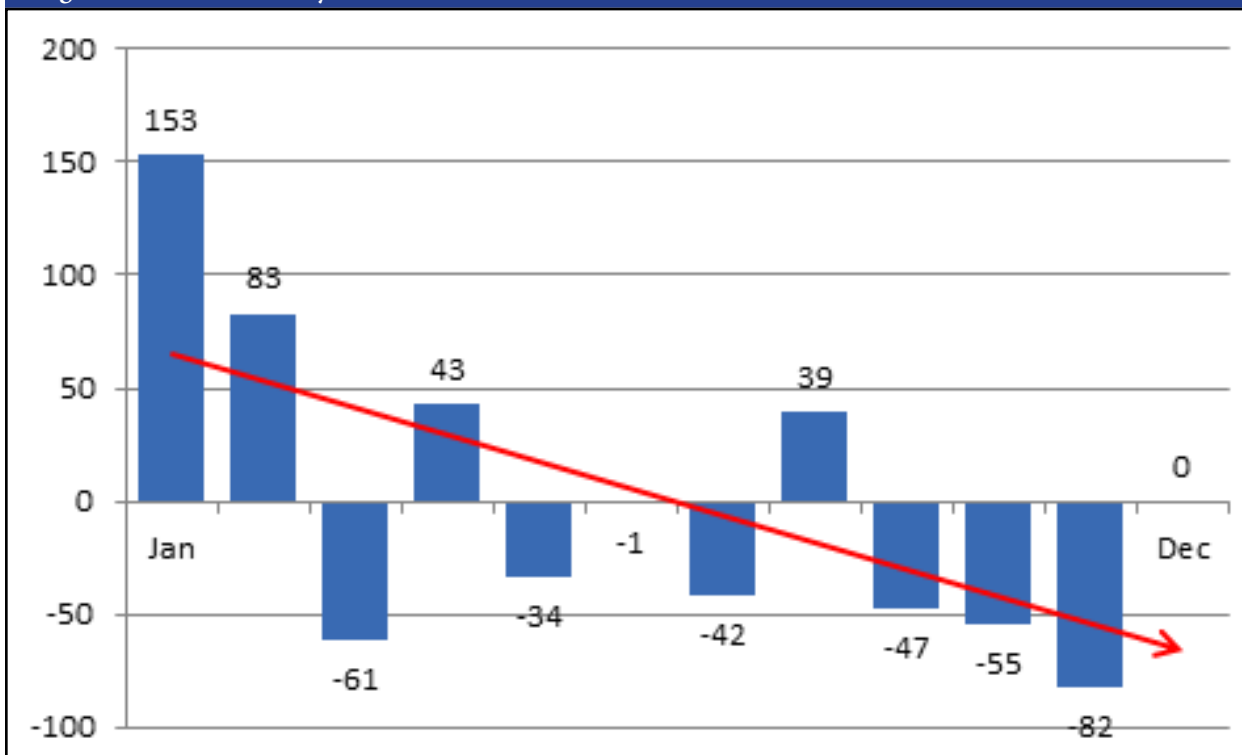
Similarly to other cities around the country, the District began the first couple months of 2012 with a nearly 50 percent increase in robberies compared to the same period in 2011. In 2012, the Metropolitan Police Department assembled a team of the best plain clothes officers from across the city to create the Robbery Intervention Program (RIP). Armed with the most up-to-date intelligence from the department's analytical team, the goal of this team was to address the growing concern about robberies in the District of Columbia. In just over three months, the members of the RIP team arrested over 220 dangerous offenders and recovered almost 40 illegal firearms. Over the course of 2012, there was a 13 percent increase in robbery arrests compared to 2011. Figure 11.3 depicts the monthly increases or decreases experienced each month of 2012 as compared with 2011, highlighting the positive impact of the Robbery Intervention Program.

### Implementing Change to Reduce Cell Phone Theft

The department worked diligently to address this challenge through a number of initiatives. Mayor Gray commended Chief Lanier and MPD for getting offenders off the street, shutting down illegal fencing operations and working with the cell-phone industry to reform their policies to stop allowing the reactivation of stolen phones. As a result, we substantially reduced the number of robberies in the last several months, so that we ended 2012 even compared to the previous year.

In 2012, the Metropolitan Police Department took major steps to fight cell phone thefts by reforming the industry. Chief Cathy Lanier worked closely with legislators, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and members of the cell phone industry to make important changes to the ways services are managed after a cell phone

Figure 11.3. 2012 Monthly Increase/Decrease in Number of Robberies



Source: Metropolitan Police Department

is reported stolen. The driving force behind almost any robbery is profit, and if stolen cell phones are inoperable and useless, they lose their value for thieves. Remotely deactivating a cell phone, or “bricking” it does just that. Today, the MPD is pleased that databases and procedures exist to prevent the reactivation of stolen smart phones.

## Working Together

The success of many of the above described initiatives can be attributed to shared interest and cooperation among multiple criminal justice agencies in the District as well as those in our neighboring communities. Likewise, the District’s vision of shared resources is also having an impact.

### Consolidated Forensic Lab

Washington, DC, has put all its forensic tools in one basket—the Consolidated Forensic Laboratory (CFL)—to create faster, more efficient service to the District of Columbia. The CFL has been years in the making, origi-

inating in 2005 with a needs assessment evaluation and programming development. Launched in October 2012, the CFL now houses 270 employees incorporating the main public safety functions involved in forensic sciences, including the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) and the newly created Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS) – made up of the former MPD Crime Lab and Public Health Lab (formerly part of Department of Health). The MPD Crime Scene Investigations Division (CSID) is also collocated within the building. The newly created DFS agency includes the Fingerprint, Firearms, DNA and Trace Evidence units along with the District’s Public Health Laboratory (PHL) under an independent and scientific management reporting to the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice. The MPD function of crime scene investigations was shifted to the responsibility of DFS. During 2012, the MPD’s Crime Scene Investigations Division (CSID) transferred its entire operation to the CFL, ensuring a smooth transition without a drop in service.

## Connecting to the Community through Technology

The Metropolitan Police Department is continually seeking new and innovative ways to connect with the community. While monthly PSA Community meetings continue to provide face-to-face interactions between concerned citizens and department members, more and more people are turning to the Internet for that connection. The Department uses text tip and gun tip lines to help us close crimes, is connected to over 16,000 subscribers on email list groups, and manages thousands of followers on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Pinterest.

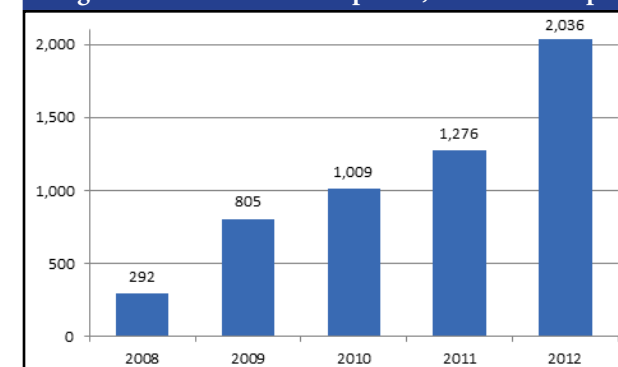
### Tips and Rewards

Since the MPD’s text tip line – 50-411 – was introduced in 2008, the number of text tips received has increased markedly as depicted in Figure 11.4. This past year, the Department received over 2,000 text tips, six times the number received the year the system was first launched. Members of the community have continued to provide us with vital information to help close cases. Monetary reward payouts this past fiscal year exceeded \$500,000 – more than double what was distributed in 2007. These are more than just symbolic numbers; these increases in tips and reward payouts represent actionable information that takes more illegal guns off the street and puts more dangerous offenders behind bars.

### Citizen Online Reporting Tool

The MPD’s new online crime reporting tool provides residents with a quick and easy way to report a variety of

Figure 11.4. 50-411 Text Tip Line, Number of Tips



Source: Metropolitan Police Department

non-emergency incidents to the police and to print a copy of the police report. Residents can now report incidents such as lost property, lost vehicle tags, theft of or theft from an auto, and destruction of or damage to property. Nearly two-thirds of the 2,326 cases filed online would likely have gone unreported prior to the release of this reporting tool. So, while the number of reports may have increased, the portal benefits the Department by allowing us to better track and more efficiently address those incidents in a cost-effective manner and responsibly allocate police resources.

## Increased Use of Video Recovery for Investigations

The District of Columbia has hundreds of cameras located throughout the city, which are used for homeland security, neighborhood crime prevention, and traffic enforcement. These devices have also become valuable tools in attempting to identify suspects who were recorded while committing crimes. Videos of suspects who committed burglaries, robberies, hit-and-runs, and other crimes are now regularly posted on the MPD's YouTube channel. Numerous cases were closed with the assistance of tips from viewers.

## Looking Forward 2013 and Beyond

### Economic Development Analysis

As the overall safety of the city has vastly improved, Washington, DC, is now experiencing a staggering amount of economic development and population growth. This welcome growth means more areas of shopping, restaurants, offices, and residences, all of which will require expanded police attention. The expanding demands on police services require more sworn members who can patrol the rapidly growing areas of the city. Continued planning and proper preparation will make us a fully-equipped, flexible, and modern police department that can face the many challenges that lie ahead. During the past year and half, we have conducted a comprehensive analysis of the planned and ongoing development throughout the city. By studying a myriad of factors, information, and data as experienced during the Chinatown development process, we were able to identify the following four stages of development:

- Stage 1: Catalyst (an opening of a major attraction/

anchor);

- Stage 2: Small business investments;
- Stage 3: Corporate business/night life/social activity investments (e.g., franchise restaurants, bars, movie theaters, pool halls, and bowling alleys); and
- Stage 4: Residential construction/development projects.

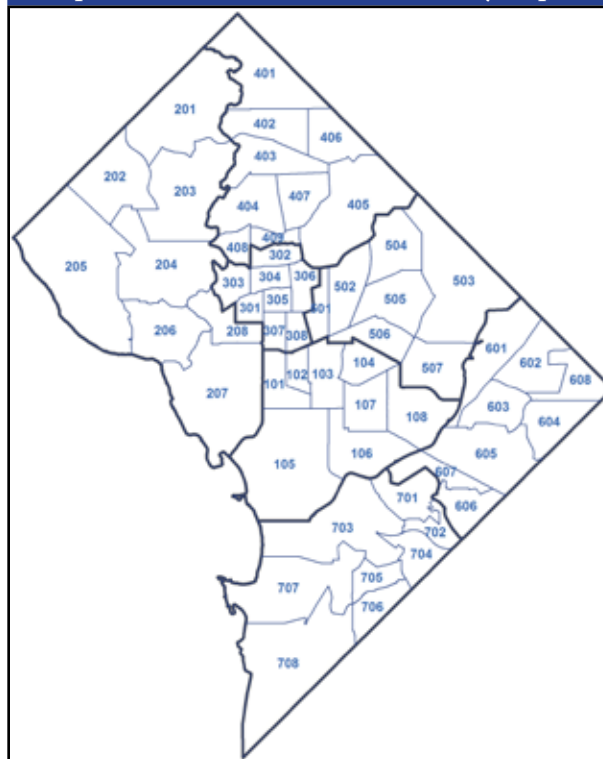
While this research is ongoing, several developing areas in the District of Columbia have been identified. With this information, the Metropolitan Police Department can begin to make future projections for needed resources in currently developing neighborhoods, make deployment changes in fully-developed areas, and discuss plans for pre-developing areas.

### District Realignment

The city is divided into seven Police Districts, each of which is subdivided into five or more Police Service Areas (PSAs). In 2012, to ensure that MPD continues to provide a high level of service in the community, Chief Lanier

implemented a realignment of patrol-service boundaries to address current and projected future imbalances in patrol-district workload. With increasing business and residential development and the thriving tourist and entertainment areas throughout the city, workload in the police districts had shifted significantly since the last boundary realignment done in 2004 and is expected to continue to do so. The realignment plan, which went into effect on January 1, 2012, was based on an evaluation of crime, calls for service, development and road-construction plans, community concerns and other factors. The new boundaries distribute crime and calls for service more equally among the districts. In addition, under the new boundaries, the largest PSAs were reduced in size, with the total number of PSAs increasing from 46 to 56. Map 11.1 represents the current District and PSA boundaries as defined on January 1, 2012.

Map 11.1. 2012 District & PSA Boundary Map



Source: Metropolitan Police Department





## FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department (F&EMS) is to promote safety and health through excellent pre-hospital medical care, fire suppression, hazardous materials response, technical rescue, homeland security preparedness and fire prevention and education in the District of Columbia.

With a commuter population of 540,000 workers and more than 17 million annual visitors, the District of Columbia's daytime population routinely exceeds 1 million people, including 157,000 Federal workers. F&EMS provides emergency medical services (EMS), fire suppression, homeland security and special operations response for the District of Columbia, including planned events and activities unique to the nation's capital. The Department is responsible for fire and life safety code enforcement, along with community based education and prevention programs. F&EMS is the lead first-response agency for managing consequences resulting from natural disasters or other catastrophic events impacting the national capital region.

F&EMS is one of the busiest fire and EMS departments in the United States. During 2012, the Department responded to more than 167,000 emergency incidents, resulting in more than 335,000 emergency vehicle responses (Ta-

**Table 11.8. Fire/EMS Department Incidents and Responses\***

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Total Incidents	162,440	161,781	167,940
Fire/Rescue	31,562	31,524	30,293
Medical	130,878	130,257	137,647
Total Responses	371,072	334,110	347,612
Fire Units	206,969	174,018	191,373
EMS Units	164,103	160,092	156,239

*\*Incident and response information is tabulated from computer aided dispatch (CAD) data provided by the Office of Unified Communications (OUC). An incident is one event. A response is one unit responding to an event. Most incidents require more than one unit to respond.*

Source: DC Fire/EMS Dept



ble 11.8). Services are provided from 33 neighborhood fire stations and a number of other buildings and locations. The Department operates 33 fire engines, 16 ladder trucks, 39 ambulances, three heavy rescue squads, one hazmat squad, a fire boat and a variety of command and support vehicles.

The majority of the Department's workload involves EMS. During 2012, more than 100,000 District residents and visitors were transported to local hospitals by ambu-

lances (Table 11.9). In 2012, the Department responded to more than 2,400 reported structure fire calls. As the primary agency responsible for fire and life safety code inspections and enforcement, the Department conducted more than 11,000 occupancy inspections during 2012 (Table 11.10).

Community outreach and education continue to be a major focus of the Department. Fire prevention education is provided to District residents through both school based

**Table 11.9. Medical Transports\***

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Total Transports	95,599	97,689	103,358
Critical ALS	26,667	27,564	30,599
Non-Critical BLS	68,932	70,125	72,759

*\* Transport information by patient service level (ALS-1, ALS-2 and BLS) is tabulated from billing data provided by a contractual billing company. Total transports, critical ALS and non-critical BLS represent patient accounts billed by service level during each fiscal year.*

Source: DC Fire/EMS Dept

and neighborhood level programs and more than 3,000 smoke alarms were installed in local homes during 2012. Also, the Department provided CPR instruction to more than 800 residents and installed more than 1,000 child safety seats in privately owned vehicles during 2012.

The Department operates a training academy, a fleet maintenance and repair facility, a logistics warehouse and a variety of other support services, all contributing to the public safety mission. The Department employs 2,000 personnel including 1,800 uniformed firefighters, emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics.



**Table 11.10. Fire Prevention Division Activities\***

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Total Inspections	15,193	14,231	11,120
Fire Scene Investigations	702	903	771
Structure Fires**	436	453	422
Auto Fires**	222	372	257
Junior Fire Setter Intervention	60	64	57
Smoke Alarms Given Away	1,250	1,408	3,475

\* Fire prevention, fatality and loss information is tabulated from data provided by the Office of the Fire Marshal. Fire loss information (in dollars) is estimated.

\*\*Structure and auto fires counts are tabulated from fire investigation reports provided by the Office of the Fire Marshal. Only fires that were investigated are counted.

Source: DC Fire/EMS Dept

**Table 11.11. Fire Fatalities By Ward**

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	Total
Ward 1	1	3	0	4
Ward 2	1	2	0	3
Ward 3	0	1	0	1
Ward 4	1	2	1	4
Ward 5	0	0	1	1
Ward 6	0	3	1	4
Ward 7	4	1	0	5
Ward 8	0	1	2	3

Source: DC Fire/EMS Dept

**Table 11.12. Fire Losses**

	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Civilian Injuries	50	81	60
Civilian Fatalities	7	13	5
Firefighter Fatalities	0	0	0
Fire Loss in Millions of Dollars	14.9	34.9	13.7

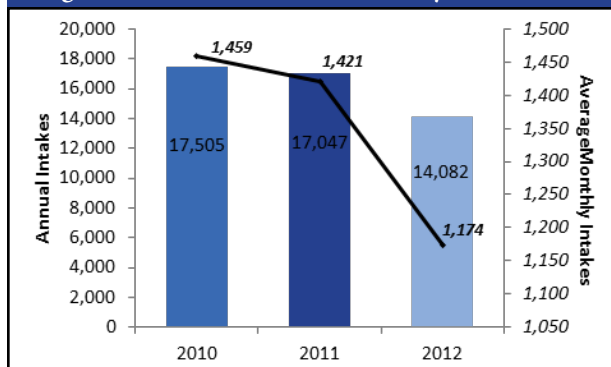
Source: DC Fire/EMS Dept



## DC DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

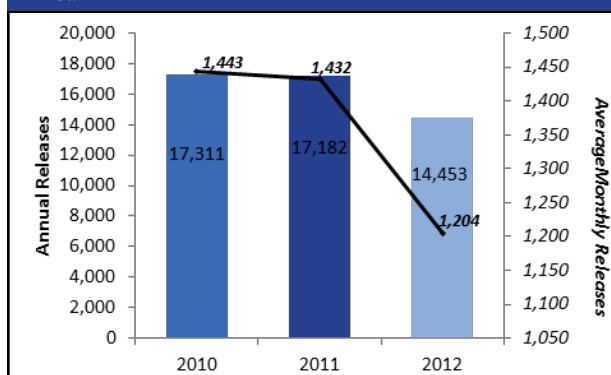
The DC Department of Corrections (DOC) is an integral part of the Public Safety and Justice system in Washington DC. The mission of the DOC is to ensure public safety for the citizens of the District of Columbia by providing an orderly, safe, secure, and humane environment for the confinement of pretrial detainees and sentenced inmates, while affording those in custody meaningful rehabilitative opportunities that will assist them to constructively re-integrate into the community. A small number of felons with sentences of 18 months or less are also housed, as well as parole violators awaiting hearing, inmates awaiting release to other jurisdictions (holds), and inmates incarcerated elsewhere whose presence is required to resolve legal matters under consideration in the District (writs).

**Figure 11.5. Annual DOC Intakes by Calendar Year**



Source: DC Department of Corrections

**Figure 11.6. Annual DOC Releases by Calendar Year**



Source: DC Department of Corrections

The capacity funded at the 6 facilities that comprise the DOC exists to serve the detention requirements of the residents of the District of Columbia in support of Public Safety and Justice. The Central Detention Facility is fully operated by the Department of Corrections. Contractually funded bed space exists at The Correctional Treatment Facility, an ACA accredited adult detention center operated by the Corrections Corporation of America, and 4 halfway houses: Efforts for Ex-Convicts, Hope Village, Fairview House for Women, and Extended House, each of which house individuals in a community setting.

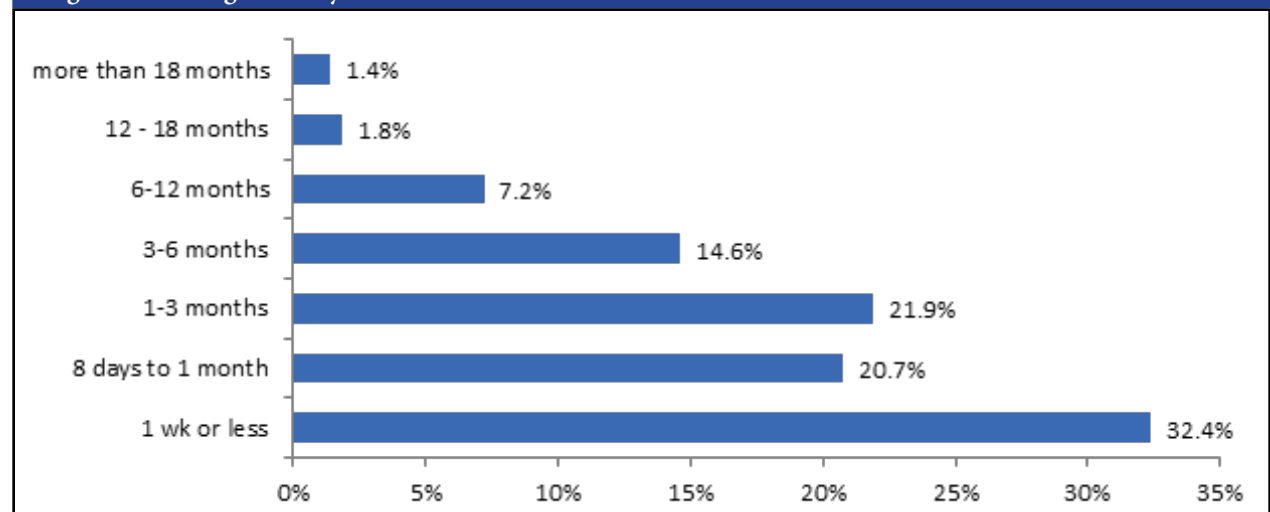
The DOC operates one of the nation's largest jail systems and has recently operated in the range of 85% capacity. Approximately 60% of DOC inmates are District residents, 20% are from out of state, and 5% declare themselves homeless. The remaining inmates offer incomplete or incorrect address information. Of District residents in custody, 50% hail from wards 7 and 8, and another 15% from ward 5. Approximately 10% each are from wards 4 and 6; and 7% from ward 1. About 7% of self-declared District addresses had no match on the DC GIS system and could not be geo-coded. The remaining District residents in custody are from wards 2 and 3.

Capacity utilization is a function of detention requirements determined not only by the volume and rate of US Attorney's Office originated litigation; but also by average

case processing time (which affects length of stay or the length of time for which existing bed space is occupied); enforcement policy of agencies such as the US Parole Commission (USPC); staffing levels at the Public Defender's Service, US Attorney's Office, and Courts; sentencing policy at the Courts, as well as bed space availability at other jurisdictions such as Drug Treatment Programs, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP). Bed space at the DOC exists to serve the public safety and justice needs of District residents. Roughly 40% of all intakes remain in custody a week or less; of those who remain in custody 30 days or more the average length of stay is roughly 240 days. Roughly 60% of all individuals who pass through DOC return directly to the community each year; another 23% are sent to federal facilities, and the remaining 17% are released to external jurisdictions. The 12 month re-incarceration rate for DOC inmates is 23%, and the 3 year re-incarceration rate is 46.5%.

Ninety percent of individuals in custody are male, ten percent are female; ninety two percent are black, 5% Hispanic, 2% white and 1% are Asian or other race. Over 50% of all individuals in custody have fewer than 12 years of formal schooling. Most are functionally illiterate. Inmates range in age from 18 – 80; the average inmate is 36 years old. One in three requires some form of mental health services.

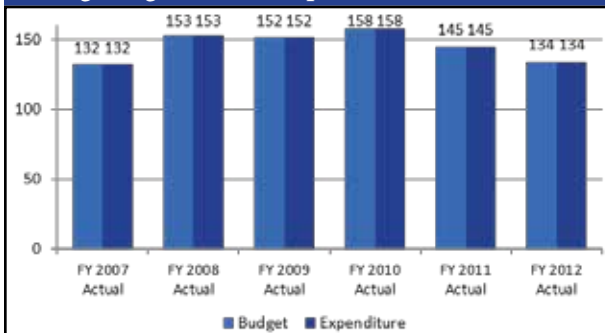
**Figure 11.7. Length of Stay Distribution for Inmates**



Source: DC Department of Corrections

One of the key strategies to reducing the community's detention capacity requirements is to act early to identify individuals with special needs and learning challenges to provide them with family based, faith based and community based means to living a productive, dignified, and community integrated life based on their skills and talents. By working together it is possible to expect 100% of young people to have the opportunity to live a happy, productive, dignified, and community integrated life as full contributing members of a vibrant and peaceful society.

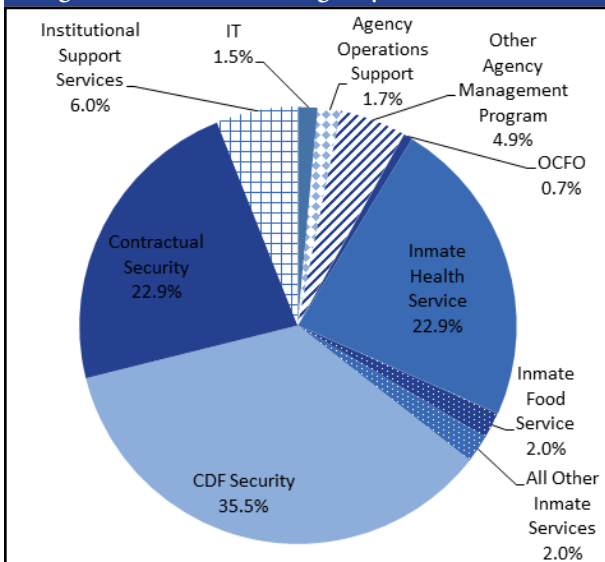
**Figure 11.8. DC Department of Corrections Operating Budget and Net Expenditure**



*FY 2012 data reflects revised budget and estimated expenditures*

Source: DC Department of Corrections

**Figure 11.9. FY 2013 Budget by Service**

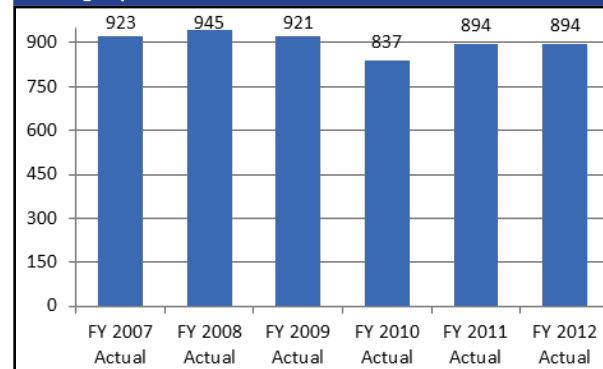


*Budget by service is estimated.*

Source: DC Department of Corrections

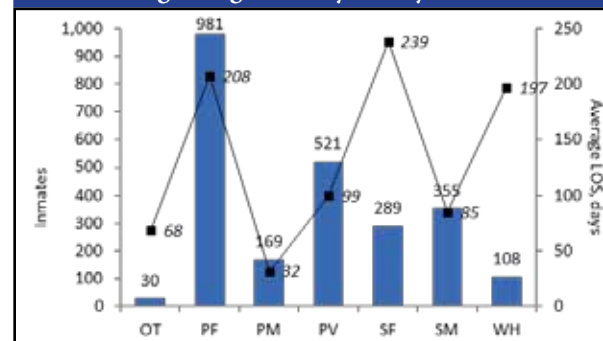
Information helpful to understanding the Department of Corrections' mission, service based budget allocation, and characteristics of the inmate population is presented in Figures 11.8-12.

**Figure 11.10. Department Of Corrections Full Time Employees**



Source: DC Department of Corrections

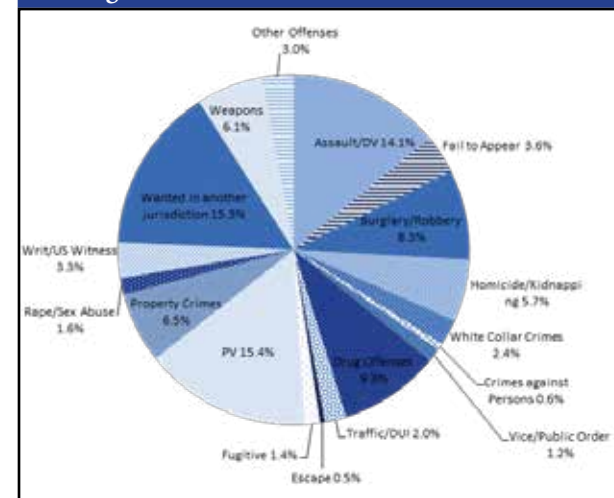
**Figure 11.11. Inmates in Custody by Legal Status and Average Length of Stay in Days**



*Pretrial means at least one unresolved legal matter exists and no sentences are being served.  
Sentenced indicates the inmate is serving at least one sentence.  
Felon indicates the most serious offense requiring detention is a felony.  
Misdemeanant indicates that the individual has no felony offenses requiring detention.  
Writ/Hold individuals may have other charges (typically in transit, fugitive) requiring legal resolution. Only 3% of all inmates are detained solely on a writ.*

Source: DC Department of Corrections

**Figure 11.12. Offenses by Most Serious Active Charge**

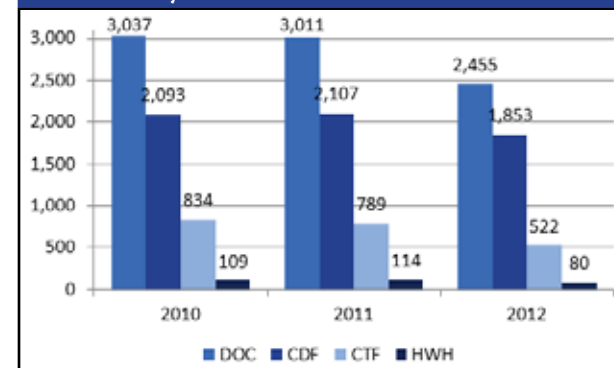


Source: DC Department of Corrections

## Detention

During calendar years 2010 through 2012 inmate population at all facilities decreased steadily over time from a 2010 DOC level of approximately 3,000 inmates, to a 2012 level of less than 2,500 inmates. The average daily population (ADP) at the Central Detention Facility, CDF, decreased from almost 2,100 to slightly above 1,850; at the Correctional Treatment Facility, CTF, the ADP decreased from nearly 850 to a little more than 500; and, at the halfway houses, HWH, from nearly 110 to 80 (Figure 11.13).

**Figure 11.13. Average Daily Inmate Population for the DOC System**



Source: DC Department of Corrections



# YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES

## Summary

Research shows that the best way to improve long-term public safety is to give court-involved youth the tools they need to become successful adults. To help prepare youth to succeed, every aspect of DYRS' culture—from staff training, to youth programs, to our methods of staying accountable—reflects the belief that youth can change. This approach is called Positive Youth Development because it puts the emphasis on youth becoming successful adults.

Using this approach, we are improving public safety and changing the lives of the youth in our care. Year after year, fewer of our youth are being re-arrested and re-convicted. These improvements are happening even as we meet our legal mandate to place youth in the least restrictive, most homelike environment consistent with public safety.

## Population Statistics and Trends

In FY2012, the average daily population of youth committed to DYRS was 850. This figure includes committed youth placed in secure facilities, in community-based residential facilities, and at home. The average daily population of detained youth was 115 (61 at YSC, 54 in community-based shelter homes). Throughout FY2012, DYRS served a total of 1,152 committed youth and 874 detained youth. Also in FY2012, there were 182 total new commitments to DYRS (Table 11.13).

**Table 11.13. DYRS Average Daily Committed Population FY2007-2012**

Fiscal Year	Average Daily Population
2007	418
2008	606
2009	826
2010	977
2011	1,005
2012	850

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

## Population Demographics

The demographic characteristics of new commitments has

remained relatively stable since FY2004. The percentage of newly committed females dropped slightly during FY2012, following a peak in FY2011 (Table 11.14).

**Table 11.14. New Commitments, Demographic Breakdown FY2004-2012**

Fiscal Year	Male	Female	Black	Latino	Other
2004	87%	13%	93%	7%	0%
2005	88%	12%	97%	3%	0%
2006	91%	9%	96%	3%	0%
2007	87%	13%	98%	2%	0%
2008	92%	8%	99%	1%	0.3%
2009	90%	10%	96%	4%	0.3%
2010	91%	9%	98%	2%	0.3%
2011	86%	14%	96%	4%	0%
2012	88%	12%	95%	4%	1%

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

The committed and detained populations are demographically similar, though the detained population has a higher percentage of females than the committed populations (Table 11.15).

**Table 11.15. Committed and Detained Populations**

	Committed	Detained
Male	88%	78%
Female	12%	22%
Black	97%	96%
Latino	3%	3%
White	0%	1%
<b>Total Youth</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>874</b>

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

## Population by Offense Type

Increasingly, the percentage of youth committed on a felony offense is going down. In FY2008 70% of all newly committed youth were brought to DYRS with a felony conviction, while in FY2012 only 44% of new commitments had a felony conviction (Table 11.16).

**Table 11.16. New Commitments: Committing Offense Breakdown FY2004-2012**

Fiscal Year	Felonies	Misdemeanors
2004	65%	35%
2005	62%	38%
2006	64%	36%
2007	68%	32%
2008	70%	30%
2009	57%	43%
2010	49%	51%
2011	47%	53%
2012	44%	56%

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

## Population by Placement Type

On any given day during FY2012, nearly half of all committed youth lived in the community, either at home or in a community-based residential facility, a foster home, or an independent living program (Table 11.17).

## Population at the Youth Services Center

During FY2012, the average daily population at the Youth Services Center was 77 youth (61 detained youth, 16 committed youth; overnight youth excluded). With a capacity of 88 youth, the Youth Services Center continued its trend of remaining below capacity after a population surge in FY2009.

After remaining fairly stable over the last three fiscal years, the average length of time that a youth stays at the Youth Services Center declined during FY2012, from 23 to 19 days. Over the past four fiscal years, the percentage of female residents at the Youth Services Center has risen from 13% to 20%. The population has also grown increasingly older, with the percentage of residents aged 18 or older rising from 7% in 2009 to 15% in 2012 (Table 11.18).

## 2012 Youthlink data

Since its inception, DC YouthLink has grown from serving fewer than one in 10 DYRS youth to serving approximately half of the total DYRS population. In its first three years, over 1,000 youth committed to the agency have

**Table 11.17. Placement Types by Average Daily Population, Average Length of Stay, and Gender FY2012**

		Average Daily Population	Average Length of Stay (days)	Male	Female
Community based Placements	Home	256	172	91%	9%
	Community-based residential facility	105	60	95%	5%
	Foster homes	27	179	66%	34%
	Independent living programs	21	144	52%	48%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>409</b>			
Non-Community Placements	Detention center or jail	122	119	97%	3%
	Residential treatment center	139	189	81%	19%
	Model Unit at New Beginnings	51	218	100%	0%
	Youth Services Center / Awaiting Placement	41	24	179%	21%
	Sub-acute care	4	32	63%	38%
	Psychiatric residential treatment facility	20	341	87%	13%
<b>Total</b>		<b>377</b>			
Abscondence	Abscondence	46	34	84%	16%

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

**Table 11.18. Youth Services Center Population by Demographics FY2009-2012**

Fiscal Year	Average Length of Stay (days)	Gender		Age					# of Youth
		Male	Female	14 and Under	15	16	17	18+	
2009	22.6	87%	13%	18%	21%	27%	27%	7%	1,573
2010	22.9	86%	14%	17%	22%	27%	27%	6%	1,367
2011	22.6	79%	21%	17%	22%	27%	24%	10%	1,149
2012	19.0	80%	20%	14%	18%	25%	27%	15%	1,385

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

**Table 11.20. DC YouthLink Service Connections by Type of Service FY2010 – 2012**

Type	FY2012		FY2011		FY2010		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Relationships	521	79%	518	81%	214	71%	800	85%
Work	324	49%	194	31%	62	20%	419	44%
Education	190	29%	253	40%	86	28%	387	41%
Health	278	42%	192	30%	75	25%	405	43%
Creativity	29	4%	13	2%	10	3%	41	4%
Community	65	10%	2	0%	3	1%	67	7%
Average Services per Enrollment	3.6		2.4	-	1.8	-	3.4	-

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

**Table 11.21. Average Number of Services Received by Discharged Youth FY2009-2012**

Fiscal Year / Quarter	Average Services Received
2009 Q1	0.21
2009 Q2	0.27
2009 Q3	0.51
2009 Q4	0.54
2010 Q1	0.50
2010 Q2	0.78
2010 Q3	1.25
2010 Q4	1.52
2011 Q1	2.30
2011 Q2	1.82
2011 Q3	2.95
2011 Q4	4.20
2012 Q1	4.10
2012 Q2	4.90
2012 Q3	5.60
2012 Q4	5.40

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

Table 11.19. DC YouthLink Enrollment Data FY2010-2012

		FY 2012		FY 2011		FY 2010		Total	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Engagement</b>	DC Youth Link (unique youth)	682	-	777	-	580	-	1,110	-
	% of Total Commitments		59%		61%		45%		63%
<b>Lead Agencies Enrollments</b>	East of the River Clergy Police Community Partnership	451	66%	514	66%	377	65%	987	68%
	Progressive Life Center	255	37%	294	38%	220	38%	123	39%
<b>Gender</b>	Boys	605	89%	689	89%	527	91%	946	89%
	Girls	77	11%	88	11%	53	9%	119	11%
<b>Age at Enrollment</b>	12	2	0%	2	0%	1	0%	3	0%
	13	6	1%	9	1%	6	1%	16	1%
	14	19	3%	24	3%	24	4%	42	4%
	15	52	8%	75	10%	55	9%	122	11%
	16	137	20%	163	21%	119	21%	257	23%
	17	211	31%	215	28%	146	25%	375	34%
	18	170	25%	186	24%	135	23%	327	29%
	<b>19</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>19%</b>
	20	68	10%	56	7%	27	5%	114	10%

Source: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

received services through DC YouthLink. In FY2012, YouthLink served more than half of all DYRS youth, most of whom are between 17 and 19 years old (Table 11.19).

In FY2012, DC YouthLink youth were connected to an array of services across the six Positive Youth Justice domains. More than three-quarters of youth were enrolled in relationship-building service, such as mentoring, while about half received job readiness training. Just under half of DC YouthLink youth were enrolled in behavioral or physical health services and more than a quarter received educational services (Table 11.20).

In the final quarter of FY2012, DC YouthLink youth were linked to ten times as many services as the youth in the fourth quarter of FY2009. Between the final quarters of FY2011 and FY2012, the average number of services received per youth increased from 4.20 to 5.40 (Table 11.21).

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

The mission of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), for the District of Columbia, is to investigate all deaths in the District of Columbia that occur by any means of violence (injury), and those that occur without explanation or medical attention, in custody, or which pose a threat to the public health. OCME provides forensic services to government agencies, health care providers, and citizens in the Washington DC metropolitan area to ensure that justice is served and to improve the health and safety of the public.

The OCME serves the citizens of the District of Columbia and the Metropolitan DC area in their most difficult moments by providing timely removal of decedents from homes and public areas thorough: death investigation and prompt provision of death certificates and proofs of death to family members allowing for rapid funeral arrangements and access to insurance and other death benefits. The agency provides service to the public seven days per week during core business hours. However, deaths are reported to the agency and the agency responds to and investigates these reported deaths 24 hours a day, 7 days a week including weekends and holidays. Autopsies are performed every day of the year and on occasion, it is necessary for the Medical Examiner to perform them at night. The agency has four divisions: Agency Management, Death Investigation and Certification, Forensic Toxicology, and Fatality Review.



As of November 2012, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) has moved to the D.C. Consolidated Forensic Laboratory located at 401 E St SW, Washington, DC 20024.

Table 11.22. 2011 Medical Examiner Cases by Manner of Death

Manner	Full Autopsy Examinations	Partial Autopsy Examinations	External Examinations	Review of Medical Records	Total
Accident	214	4	106	9	33
Homicide	125	0	0	0	125
Natural	343	50	135	15	543
Stillbirth	2	0	0	2	4
Suicide	42	0	2	0	44
Undetermined	47	0	3	0	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,099</b>

The table does NOT include the following cases; because neither an Autopsy Report or a Death Certificate is produced: "Non-Human Remains"

Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

## Death Investigation and Certification

The Death Investigation and Certification program encompasses following areas within OCME: Forensic Pathology, Death Investigations, Toxicology, Mortuary Services and Communications. During the Calendar Year (CY) 2011, 2,988 cases were reported to and investigated by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME). The OCME accepted jurisdiction of 1,121 cases, of which 827 cases were autopsied. The OCME declined jurisdiction of 1,811 cases, of which 39 became Storage cases. 56 of the reported cases were Storage Request only. However, one (1) accepted case became a storage case and 39

of declined cases became storage request, as a result; the agency had a total of 96 Storage Requests. The OCME also processed 2,349 cremation requests that were submitted for approval. Table 11.22 illustrates the 2011 Medical Examiner Cases by Manner of Death.

## Accidents

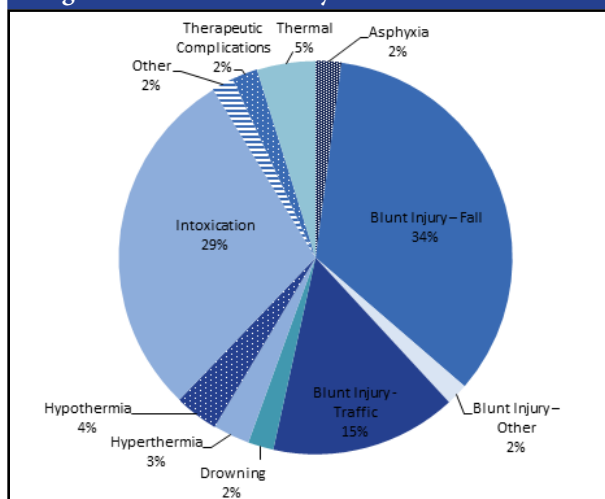
OCME investigated 333 accidental deaths in CY 2011. Of the 333 cases investigated, 51 were related to motor vehi-

Table 11.23. Accidents, 2011

Cause	Number of Deaths	% Of Total Accidents
Blunt Injury – Fall	114	34%
Intoxication	97	29%
Blunt Injury - Traffic	51	15%
Thermal	16	5%
Hypothermia	12	4%
Hyperthermia	10	3%
Asphyxia	7	2%
Drowning	7	2%
Therapeutic Complications	7	2%
Blunt Injury – Other	6	2%
Other	6	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

Figure 11.14. Accidents by Cause of Death



Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report



cle accidents. 96 of the Accidental deaths were the direct result of prescription and/ or illicit drug use. The majority of incidents occurred in June (Figure 11.14, Table 11.23).

## Homicides

The OCME investigated 125 homicides in the CY 2011. Table 11.24 and Figure 11.15 shows a distribution by cause of death. Death by homicidal acts is more prevalent in black males and in the age group 20 to 29 years. The weapon of choice is a firearm. The majority of incidents occurred in October.

## Stillbirths

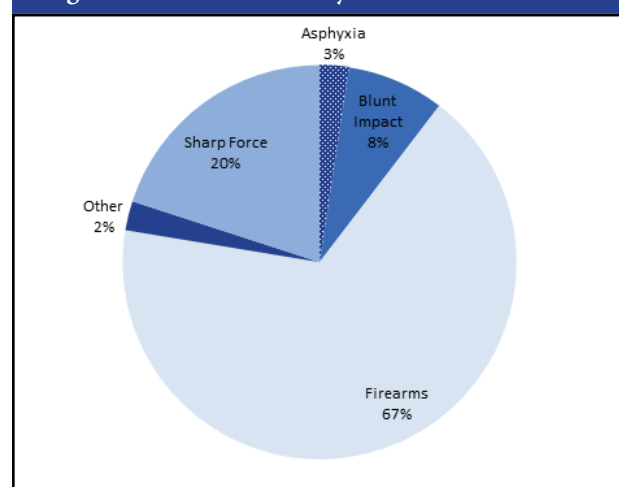
The OCME investigated 4 Stillbirth deaths in CY 2011.

**Table 11.24. Homicides, 2011**

Cause	Number of Homicides	% Of Total Homicides
Firearms	84	68%
Sharp Force	25	20%
Blunt Impact	10	8%
Other	3	2%
Asphyxia	3	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

**Figure 11.15. Homicides by Cause of Death**



Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

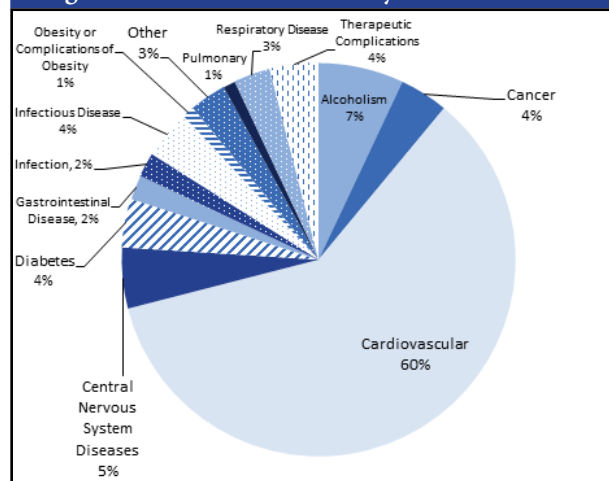
## Natural

The OCME investigated 543 Natural deaths in CY 2011. The report reveals that the leading cause of death in Natural cases is Cardiovascular Disease with 328 deaths, followed by Alcoholism with 39 deaths (Figure 11.16).

## Suicides

The OCME investigated 44 suicides in CY 2011, which represents a 5% decrease from CY 2010 at (N=46). Deaths

**Figure 11.16. Natural Deaths by Cause**



Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

**Table 11.25. Suicides, 2011**

Cause	Number of Suicides	% of Total Suicides
Hanging	13	30%
Blunt Impact Trauma	6	14%
Intoxication	9	20%
Firearms	8	18%
Suffocation (Plastic Bags over head)	3	7%
Thermal Injury	2	5%
Poisoning	2	5%
Sharp Object	1	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>100%</b>

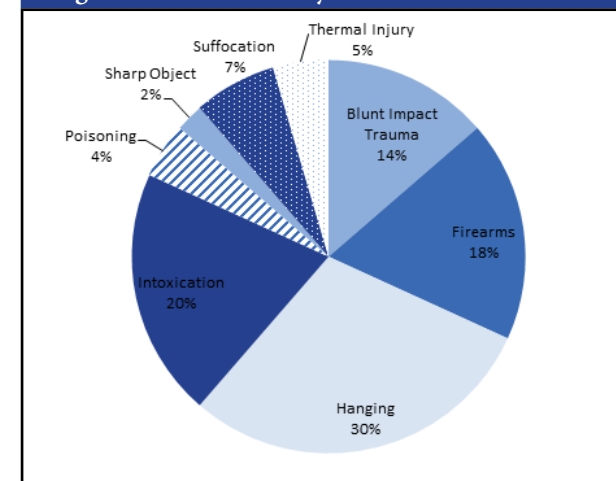
Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

by suicidal acts were more prevalent in white males and in persons between the ages of 40 to 49 years. Of note, suicides decreased by 50% in the age category. Hanging was the leading suicidal deaths. The majority of these incidents occurred in May (Table 11.25, Figure 11.17).

## Undetermined Deaths

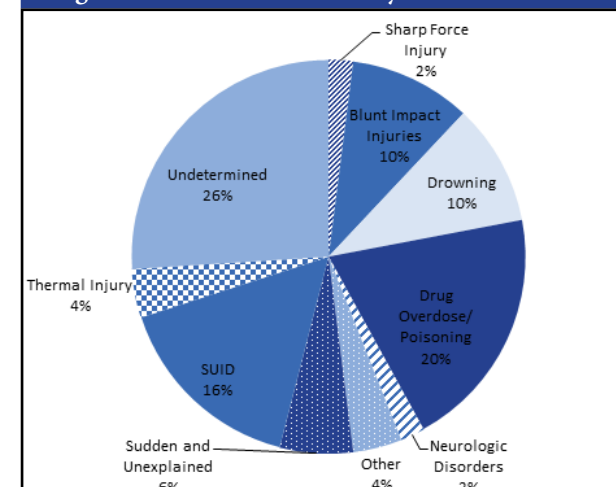
The OCME investigated 50 cases in which the manner of death was concluded to be "Undetermined," and of these 12 cases or 24% also had a cause of death classified as

**Figure 11.17. Suicides by Cause of Death**



Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

**Figure 11.18. Undetermined by Cause of Death**



Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report

“Undetermined.”

An “Undetermined” manner of death is quoted when there is inconclusive evidence or investigatory efforts as to the circumstances of the death. This manner of death can be changed as additional information is received as it infers a continuous investigation/search for clarification of the events surrounding the death. At times, the cause of death can also be certified as “Undetermined” when autopsy findings are not decisive. This is the case often in skeletonized or markedly decomposed remains.

A separate category of “undetermined” manner of death involved infants whose deaths are associated with bed/sharing inappropriate bedding, or other related similar circumstances. For whom no definite cause of death can be determined despite full autopsy, metabolic, microbiologic, viral or toxicological studies. Many of these deaths were previously certified as SIDS with Natural manner of death (Figure 11.18, Table 11.26).

**Table 11.26. Undetermined, 2011**

<b>Cause of Death</b>	<b>Number of Deaths</b>	<b>% of Total Accepted Cases</b>
Blunt Impact Injuries	5	10%
Drowning	5	10%
Drug Overdose/ Poisoning	10	20%
Neurologic Disorders	1	2%
Other	2	4%
Sharp Force Injury	1	2%
Sudden and Unexplained	3	6%
SUID	8	16%
Thermal Injury	2	4%
Undetermined	13	26%
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Office of the Chief Medical Examiner 2011 Annual Report