

2020 Annual Report



Wickenburg
Police Department

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About Wickenburg, Arizona

Wickenburg lies in the foothills of the Bradshaw Mountains, along the banks of the Hassayampa River one hour from Downtown Phoenix.

Henry Wickenburg came to the area in search of gold. He was rewarded with the discovery of Vulture Mine (1863-1942), where over 340,000 ounces of gold and 260,000 ounces of silver were found. There are still relics around the area that stand as a tribute to these early adventurers, as well as a walking tour around Vulture City, which is adjacent to the present-day Vulture Mine.

Ranchers and farmers discovered the fertile flood plain of the Hassayampa River. The Hassayampa River Preserve lets you escape to a literal oasis with lush, streamside habitat that include many endangered birds and animals. Together, with Henry Wickenburg and the miners, they helped found the young community of Wickenburg in 1863. The Town of Wickenburg was incorporated in 1909.

To learn more about Wickenburg, it's wide-open spaces and why it's considered the roping capital of the world visit: <https://www.ci.wickenburg.az.us>

Type of Government:

Council - Manager

Year Established:

1863

Land Area:

25.9 square miles

Population:

8376

Median Age:

60

Maricopa County Population:

4,568,420

Yavapai County Population:

238,426

State of Arizona Population:

7,378,490

*Stats per worldpopulationreview.com

Mayor, Council Members and Town Manager



Rui Pereira
Mayor



Vincent Lorefice
Town Manager



Kristi Henson
Vice-Mayor



Chris Band
Council Member



Kristy Bedoian
Council Member



BG Bratcher
Council Member



Rebecca Rovey
Council Member



David Stander
Council Member

Message from the Chief of Police Les Brown



As the Chief of Police, it is my pleasure to present the Wickenburg Police Department's 2020 Annual Report.

Throughout the past year, the members of the Wickenburg Police Department have worked diligently to provide the highest level of service to our community. The Wickenburg Police Department has strived to exceed the community's expectations, while remaining steadfast in holding to our three principles of excellence; Pride, Valor and Service, in order to serve and protect both our community members and visitors alike.

The success of the Department can be directly attributed to the efforts of its dedicated men and women and to the extraordinary relationship of trust that has been created with our community members through transparency and mutual respect. As a professional organization, we are committed to build upon our successes by ensuring that our department continues to develop as an organization, one characterized by professionalism, transparency and accountability.

Within this document are a number of significant accomplishments achieved despite the challenges brought on by COVID-19. And while I commend the hard work and commitment of both our sworn, and civilian employees, it is important to recognize the hard work of our volunteers as well. I am confident that with the continued support of the Mayor, Town Council, Town Manager's office and most importantly the citizens of Wickenburg, we will continue to make Wickenburg one of the safest Towns in the nation.

Les Brown
Chief of Police

Wickenburg Police Department

Vision

The Wickenburg Police Department will be the model of an innovative, community-oriented police department, a recognized leader in law enforcement in the state of Arizona.

We are committed to professional excellence in the delivery of comprehensive law enforcement services. Our core responsibility is to prevent and reduce crime. All department members have an obligation, a duty, to pursue those who commit crimes.

We recognize the value of all our employees and partners, from professional staff and sworn members, to the many citizens who volunteer, assisting us in fulfilling our mission. We remain committed to the further enhancement of these partnerships. We will continually strive to develop the skills of our members and effectively and efficiently manage our resources to deliver the highest level of service to the public.

Mission

Is to partner with our community in order to enhance a peaceful and valued quality of life wherein the public feels safe and secure from crime, social disorder, and circumstances, which compromise their safety and well-being.

Values

We shall strive for a public perception that views police as trusted leaders in the community. Central to this mission are the values that guide our work. Our decisions will help us to contribute to the quality of life in the Town of Wickenburg. Our values and integrity, including but not limited to the list below, are qualities of worth and as such, they are nonnegotiable:

- **Pride** - Self-respect that contributes to departmental success.
- **Service** - Commitment to prompt, professional and courteous service, unbiased and effective in response to community concerns.
- **Valor** - Strength of mind or spirit that enables a person to encounter danger with firmness, courage in defense of a noble cause.

Wickenburg's **CORE** Values

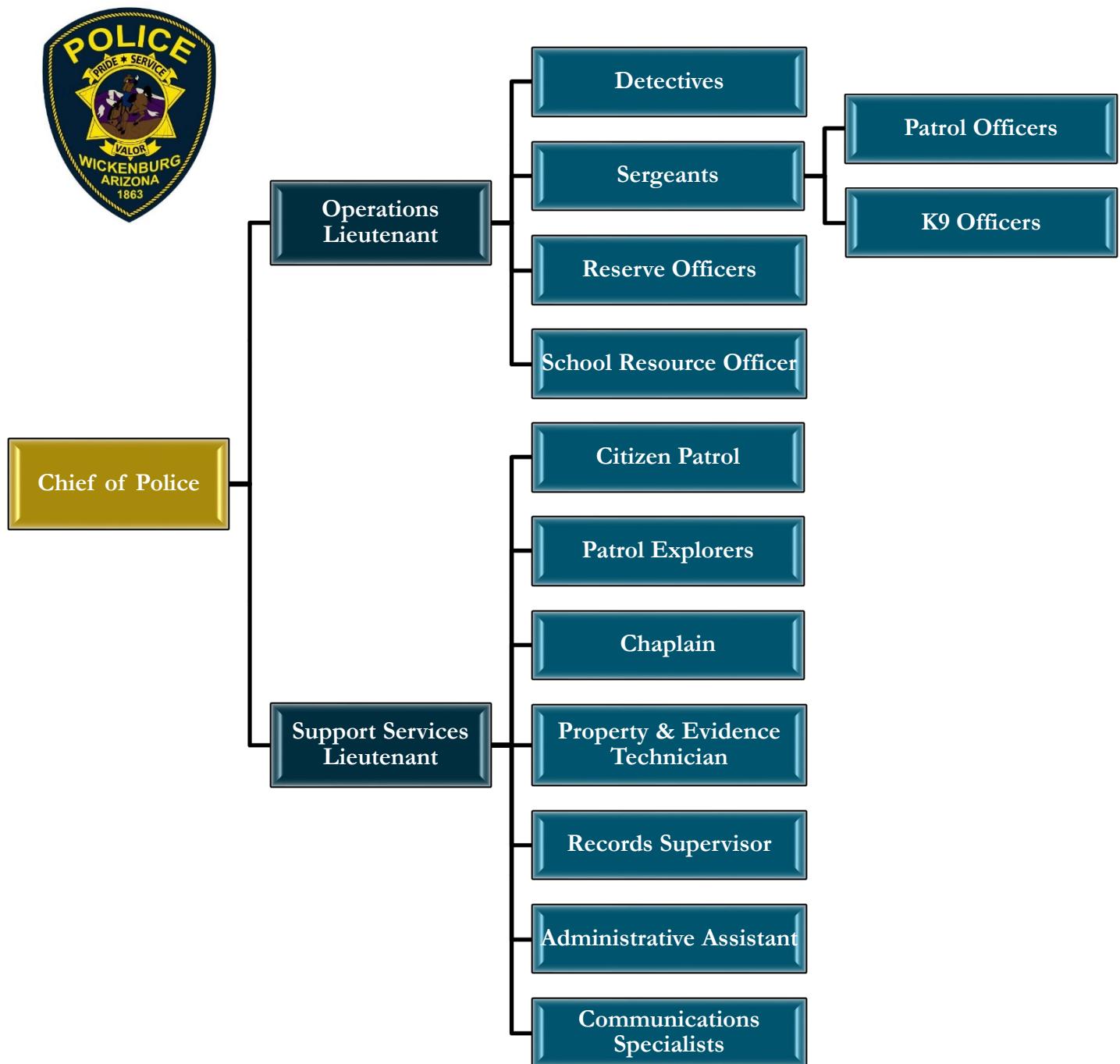
C – Contacts: Calls for service. This is the bread and butter of why we are here. Our public needs help, and we provide it. Also, with CONTACTS is focusing on traffic and drug issues, which are salient to us AND our community.

O – Observation: This is all of our proactive patrols. Proactive work leads to positive citizen contacts AND crime identification and prevention. Also, think of OBSERVATION as observing YOUR safety and those of our team, and our policies and procedures.

R – Rapport: This is our community engagement. The police are the people, and the people are the police. Only the police have been given the honor and responsibility to be chosen BY THE PEOPLE to devote their time and energy to protecting the community. We are the public, do not forget that. These are not my words, rather Sir Robert Peels (founder of modern LE), but they hold true today. We will be active in being professional at all times, and build relationships with our citizens through quality service and community engagement opportunities (Coffee with a Cop, Explorers, Cops Who Care, etc.).

E – Excellence: We will strive for personal excellence in all we do: Our reputations, how we present ourselves (verbal and dress), our understanding of laws and policies, our reports, our proactivity. Remember our reputation is EVERYTHING. It is almost impossible to get it back once you have tarnished it with one serious event. Build a reputation as a “Go to” person for your profession, one that know their craft and excels.

Organizational Structure



Total Employees: 29

Commissioned: 20

Non-Commissioned: 9

Total Volunteer Staff: 15

Reserve Officers: 2

Citizen Patrol: 13

Community Engagement

Citizen's Patrol



The Wickenburg Citizen's Patrol is a volunteer branch of the Wickenburg Police Department consisting of an average of 13 community members. In 2020, the Citizen's Patrol provided over 1150 volunteer hours (even with reduced hours due to COVID). Members conduct vacation watch on homes, assist with traffic during high volume events, work on special projects, conduct fingerprinting (prior to COVID), assist on patrol, and attend meetings and trainings. In addition, Citizen's Patrol members install and maintain the Medical Alert Program (MAP). The MAP allows people with medical problems to live alone with the benefit of a notification device that can contact the Wickenburg Police Dispatch if a medical necessity arises. As you can see, the Citizen's Patrol is an invaluable asset to the Wickenburg Police Department and the community.

Coffee with a Cop



Coffee with A Cop began in 2011 in Hawthorne, California as a way for local police officers to increase interactions with their citizens. The concept, simply, is for officers to create an open environment to meet with the public to encourage open conversations, outside of a crisis situation, over a cup of coffee. In most cases, police departments connect with local restaurants that support these meetings by providing the venue and coffee for all attendees to enjoy. Now, in 2020, Coffee with A Cop events are taking place in all 50 states in numerous cities all over the U.S. The Wickenburg Police Department first began holding these events on November 22, 2016. The Wickenburg Police Department attempts to hold this event quarterly, and rotates the venue with a variety of local businesses. The main advertisement for this event is on the Wickenburg Police Department's Facebook page.

Community Liaison Program (CLP)



The Wickenburg Police Department established its CLP in the Spring of 2017. The town was divided into eight neighborhoods based upon geographical locations. Each neighborhood was assigned at least two police officers as their "liaison". The neighborhoods were advertised with social media posts and door-to-door flyers. The initial meetings varied, from informal meetings at a park to grilled hot dogs on a city street. The goal was for citizens within the liaison area to meet their two assigned officers and exchange contact information. Not only were there discussions on needs and concerns in their neighborhood, but the communication channel was opened for them to contact officers as new things came up.

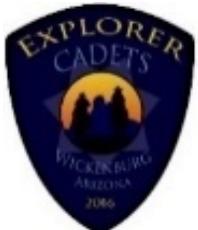
Community Engagement Continued

Cops Who Care



In 1982, a collection was taken by local officers that allowed the purchase of Christmas presents for 250 needy children. Following this event, in 1983 this charity was formally founded as Cops Who Care, a non-profit organization in Wickenburg that was comprised of law enforcement personnel from Wickenburg Police, Maricopa and Yavapai County Sheriff's Offices, and the Arizona Department of Public Safety. Over the years, this organization has increased its reach to include an annual Easter egg hunt for local children, several Christmas related events, funding for local youth sports, and financial scholarships for students graduating high school. Annually, several hundred children and youth from Wickenburg and the surrounding area are provided toys due to the generous donations from the community. In addition, the local Community Action Program (CAP) office provides food and other essentials to families at the same time. Cops Who Care is its own organization made up of Wickenburg Police Department personnel, but is commonly identified by members of the community as a police department program. The 2020 board was comprised of President Lt. Kenny Lutkiewicz, Vice President Officer Kristopher Pedroza, Treasurer Sergeant Aaron Hadley, and citizen member Steve Blodgett.

Explorers



The objective of the Law Enforcement Explorer Program, as sponsored by the Town of Wickenburg Police Department, is to provide young people with an opportunity to explore law enforcement as a possible career and to help serve the community in a positive manner. The organization and administration rank structure, duties, and actives are similar to those of Police Officers with obvious limitations. The advantages are reciprocating. Explorers gain experience and insight in police officers' line of work. The "Explorers," as a volunteer group working alongside police officers, administrators, detectives, and support personnel can perform many police related tasks. Many civil and non-profit organizations benefit from the assistance of the Wickenburg Police Explorers. We currently have three active explorers in our Explorer POST#1863.

K-9 Unit



The Wickenburg Police Department has maintained a K9 since 1996. Over the years, a variety of officers and K9s have protected the community. Currently, the Department has two K9s, Belgium Malinois "Bikkel" partnered with K9 Officer G. Fuentes and Belgium Malinois "Kai" partnered with K9 Officer J. Lemon. K9s provide a variety of functions including narcotic detection, suspect apprehension, building searches, tactical tracking, public demonstrations and community engagement (yes, you can pet them).



Community Engagement Continued

Medicine Cabinet



This program provides citizens a convenient venue for properly disposing of expired and/or unused prescriptions at the Wickenburg Police Department. The creation of this program illustrates our strong commitment to keeping all of our citizens safer, protecting our young people from the harmful misuse of prescription drugs, understanding the needs of seniors, and the environmental implications related to the improper or unsafe disposal of medications.

School Resource Officer (SRO)



The Wickenburg Unified School District was awarded a federal grant for a school resource officer (SRO) position at Wickenburg High School. In August of 2017 the position was staffed fulltime and has remained staffed ever since. In 2020, the grant was renewed for an additional three years, and also added an allotment of time to be used at Vulture Peak Middle School, which is the junior high feeder school for WHS. The current SRO, Joe Lahey, spends his days ensuring students' safety is maintained, and spends a great deal of time in a variety of classroom settings providing educational information that applies to law enforcement.

Citizen Complaints

| Internal Complaints Received | External Complaints Received | Total Complaints Received | Complaints Exonerated | Complaints Not Sustained or Unfounded | Total Complaints Sustained | Disciplinary Action Not Given or Warranted | Complaints Resulting in Disciplinary Action |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 4 |

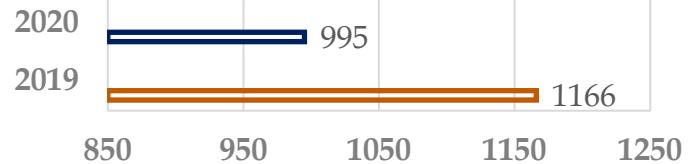
Patrol

What we do...

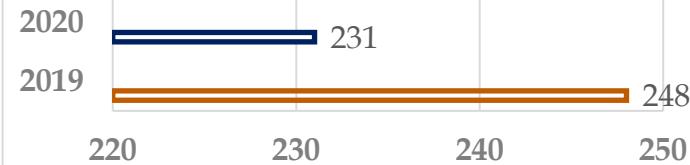
- Protect Life and Property
- Prevent Crime and Apprehend Criminals
- Conduct Preliminary Investigations
- Enforce Traffic Laws
- Impaired Driver Enforcement
- Traffic Enforcement for Civic Functions
- Enhance the Quality of Life for Residents and Visitors
- Proactive Policing
- Business Checks
- Build Relationships with Members of the Community



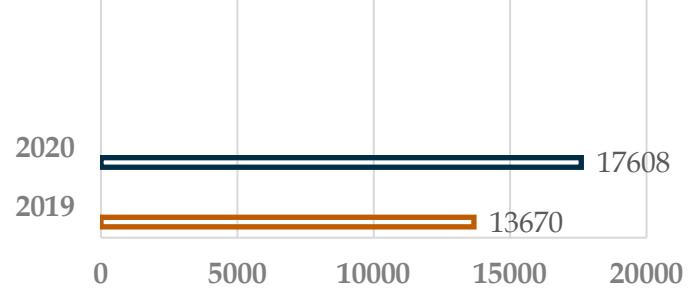
Traffic Tickets



Arrests



Calls for Service



Data presented in this report was obtained through our records management software system. This data has been collected on a calendar year, is based on imprecise source data, subject to change and is for general reference only.

Patrol Continued

| | Traffic Accidents | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | Difference | |
| Fatality | 0 | 1 | +1 | +100% |
| Injury | 54 | 31 | -23 | -43% |
| Non-Injury | 169 | 135 | -34 | -20% |
| Roundabout | 110 | 59 | -51 | -46% |
| Total | 333 | 226 | -107 | -32% |

Arizona participates in the FBI Uniform Crime Report Program/NIBRS which gathers offense data for violent and property crimes (referred to as Group A Crimes).

| | Group A Crimes | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | Difference | |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| Assault | 31 | 39 | +8 | +26% |
| Burglary | 43 | 53 | +10 | +23% |
| Fraud | 42 | 37 | -5 | -12% |
| Homicide | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| Larceny | 73 | 75 | +2 | +3% |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 24 | 14 | -10 | -42% |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| Sex Crimes | 14 | 13 | -1 | -7% |
| Total | 227 | 231 | +4 | +2% |

| | Group B Crimes | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | Difference | |
| DUI Arrests Total | 31 | 38 | +7 | +23% |
| DUI Drug Arrests | 4 | 8 | +4 | +50% |
| DUI Aggravated | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0% |
| DUI Extreme | 14 | 11 | -3 | -21% |
| Domestic Violence | 43 | 53 | +10 | +23% |
| Total | 95 | 113 | +18 | +19% |

Data presented in this report was obtained through our records management software system. This data has been collected on a calendar year, is based on imprecise source data, subject to change and is for general reference only.

Investigations / Detectives

What we do...

- Primary, Follow-Up, and Supplemental Case Investigation
- Crime Scene Processing
- County Attorney Liaison
- Departmental Representative for Grand Jury

The Wickenburg Police Department has two officers assigned to the Investigations division. These Detectives complete investigations, conduct follow up, coordinate reports, work as a liaison with the county attorneys, and testify in court proceedings. Our detectives receive advanced training and monitor incidents such as death investigations, sexual offenses, crimes against children, aggravated assaults, property crimes, and fraud cases. Our detectives must maintain an on-call status.

Calls for Service - 718
Investigative Reports - 122

Communications Unit

What we do...

- PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point)
- 911 and Text to 911
- Court Orders/Warrants
- Police and Fire Dispatch
- Customer Walk-Ins
- Utilize the following databases:
 - NCIC (National Crime Information Center)
 - ACJIS (Arizona Criminal Justice Information Center)
 - AZPOINT (Arizona Protective Order Initiation and Notification Tool)

Our communication center is comprised of six full-time communication specialists covering 24 hours per day. Communication specialists handle both emergency and non-emergency calls for service. A call for service generally refers to any call requiring action by the police department. A call for service can be initiated by the public or a police officer on patrol. Each "Call for Service" is assigned an Incident Number and logged into the Computer Aided Dispatch, or "CAD."

Currently, the police department and communication center are working with Motorola and RWC partners to upgrade our communication equipment to better serve our community.

In addition, our communication specialists help teach classes to our law enforcement Explorer program to expand their view in a public safety career.

| | 2019 | 2020 |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| Total Calls Received | 23,565 | 32,463 |
| Total Calls Dispatched | 13,672 | 17,073 |
| Total Radio Traffic (PD) | 62,937 | 88,394 |
| Total Radio Traffic (FD) | 12,425 | 17,528 |

Property and Evidence Unit

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------|
| <p>What we do...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Receives, stores, releases, disposes and maintains security of a variety of confiscated property, evidence and safekeeping and found property. ➤ Maintains property room. ➤ Safeguards and preserves the integrity of all evidence and the chain of custody in accordance with state laws, city ordinances, and departmental policies and procedures. ➤ Oversees the prescription take back program for the police department. | Total Items Impounded | 1,044 |
| | Guns Impounded | 32 |
| | Money Impounded | \$8,313.88 |
| | Items Disposed | 223 |

Records Unit

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>What we do...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Filing and Maintenance of Case Files ➤ Document Archiving and Security ➤ Public Disclosure and Records Requests ➤ Criminal Statistical Reporting ➤ Report Processing and Monitoring | <p>The Records unit is comprised on one (1) full-time employee who is responsible for the records management for the police department. Records management consists of proper storage, organization and security of all physical files including incident reports, supplemental paperwork, traffic citations and more. In addition, the records unit processes report-based public disclosure requests, criminal charge submittals at both the municipal and county level, and submits all legally mandated criminal statistics at the state and federal level.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">  <p>Records Requests Processed - 708 Cases Submitted - 202</p> </div> |
|---|---|

Statistical Analysis

Wickenburg Population Trends

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------|--------|----------------------------------|------|
| 2010 Census | 6,363 | 2020 Census (Est.) | 8,376 | 10 Year Population Growth (Est.) | 32% |
| 2019 Census (Est.) | 8,092 | 2020 Census (Est.) | 8,376 | 1 Year Population Growth (Est.) | 3.4% |
| 2020 Census (Est.) | 8,376 | 2030 Census (Est.) | 11,250 | Est. Population Growth Per Year | 3% |

*Census estimates supplied by <https://www.census.gov/> & <https://worldpopulationreview.com/>

Personnel Trends

| Year | Sworn Full-Time (includes command staff) | Sworn Reserve (*volunteer position) | Civilian Full-Time | Civilian Part-Time | Total |
|-----------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| 2010 | 16 | Unknown | 7 | 1 | 24 |
| 2020 | 20 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 31 |
| 2030 (anticipated needs) | 27 | Unknown | 9 | Unknown | 36 |

| Full-Time Officer Ratio Per 1,000 Residents | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| National (2019) | Geographic Region (Pacific) (2019) | Wickenburg PD (2020) |
| 2.4 | 4.3 | 2.4 |
| Full-Time Civilian Ratio Per 1,000 Residents (2019) (Estimated) | | |
| National (2019) | Geographic Region (Pacific) (2019) | Wickenburg PD (2020) |
| 1.1 | 2 | 0.80 |
| Full-Time Employee Ratio Per 1,000 Residents (2019) | | |
| National (2019) | Geographic Region (Pacific) (2019) | Wickenburg PD (2020) |
| 3.5 | 6.3 | 3.2 |

*National and geographical ratios provided by <https://ucr.fbi.gov/>. Table 70, 74.

Use of Force Overview

| | | | | | |
|--|----|--|----|---|---|
| Total Number of Incidents | 36 | Total Numbers of Reports Received * | 59 | Number of Incidents Outside of Policy | 0 |
| Below are a few examples of use of force incidents that are reported and the number WPD had for 2020 | | | | | |
| Suspect Injured - Outpatient Treatment | 5 | Officer Injured - Outpatient Treatment | 0 | K9 Deployment / Bite | 0 |
| Less Lethal Discharge | 6 | Suspect Armed & Threatened Officers | 3 | Suspect Active or Aggravated Resistance | 8 |

*More than one report can be received per incident

Training

2020 Training Events

All personnel received some of these trainings. Trainings are tailored to the individual needs of the officer(s) based upon Department needs and current assignments.

- Annual Firearms Qualifications (handgun, rifle, and less-lethal munitions)
- Decision-Making Qualifications
- Annual Taser Certifications
- Annual SWAT In-Service (Special Response Team (SRT) members only)
- General Instructor School (2 new instructors)
- AZDPS Drug Interdiction Training (40 hours)
- AZDPS Commercial Vehicle Inspector Certification
- AZPOST Field Training Officer Course
- Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Basic Detective Course
- Below 100 (current trends in preventable line of duty deaths and injuries)
- Riot Control
- Defensive Tactics
- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Interview Training
- Report Writing Training
- Advanced Forensic Interview of Children Training
- Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Training

Accreditation



For the past two (2) years, administrative staff have tasked themselves with the review, evaluation and rewrite of over 160 Departmental policies. In 2020, the Wickenburg Police Department completed this review to offer a consolidation of around 124 policies including an addition of over 10 brand new policies. This policy review and overhaul supports the Department's goal in earning our accreditation with the Arizona Law Enforcement Accreditation Program through the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police. The Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP) Arizona Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ALEAP) is intended to provide law enforcement agencies in the state with an avenue for demonstrating that they meet commonly accepted best practices and industry standards for efficient, effective, productive and quality operations. We anticipate earning our accreditation in 2021 and then we will go through a complete reaccreditation every four (4) years following.

2020 Accomplishments & Highlights

- Completed Phase I of New Police Facility
- Released Public Portal for CAD/RMS Crime Data System
- Continued State Accreditation Process
- Conducted Cross Training with West Valley Agencies on Riot Control Response
- Trained Additional K9 Kai
- Crisis Intervention Training Attended by 90% of Officers
- Obtained Police Vehicle Through GOHS Grant
- Hosted Law Enforcement Agencies for DUI Wet Workshop
- Major Arrests:
 - Stolen Vehicle with Drug Possession
 - Suspect with Warrant for Sex with a Minor
 - Possession of Fentanyl Pills Worth \$110,000 and \$7,000 Cash
 - Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Unlawful Flight
 - 21 Grams of Methamphetamine Located on a Traffic Stop by K9 Hiro
 - Aggravated Assault and Possession of Methamphetamine



Future Goals

- Complete Upgrade to Communication System
- Complete Phase II of Police Building/Communication Center
- Hire Two Additional Officers for Increased Traffic Control and Crash Reduction
- Install Two License Plate Readers on Highway 93 to Assist in Locating Amber Alerts and Transient Crime Apprehension

Awards

| | |
|--|---|
| Officer of the Year | |
| Jesse LaFon, Officer | |
| Distinguished Service Award | |
| Brandon Dalley, Sergeant William Foraker, Detective | Jesse LaFon, Officer (2 Awards) Kenny Lutkiewicz, Lieutenant |
| Chief's Commendation Award | |
| William Foraker, Detective | Zachary LaJeunesse, Sergeant |
| Firearm Proficiency Award | |
| Master Proficiency | Expert Proficiency |
| Lee Cox, Reserve Officer Brandon Dalley, Sergeant Zach LaJeunesse, Sergeant Kenny Lutkiewicz, Lieutenant Jesse Ranzau, Officer | Gabe Fuentes, K9 Officer Aaron Hadley, Sergeant Justin Lemon, K9 Officer Kris Pedroza, Officer |
| Volunteer of the Year | |
| Bob Jones, Citizen Patrol | |
| Civilian of the Year | |
| Jeana Johnson, Records Supervisor | |
| Town of Wickenburg, Excellence in Innovation | |
| Kathy Rogers-Ordway, Property & Evidence | |
| Town of Wickenburg, Excellence in Customer Service | |
| Bill Foraker, Detective | |
| Years of Service | |
| Justin Lemon, K9 Officer - 5 Years Brandon Dalley, Sergeant - 10 Years | Bill Foraker, Detective - 15 Years |

Promotions - New Hires - Retirements

Promotions

David Ceimo

Patrol Officer to Detective

Jeana Johnson

Administrative Assistant to Records Supervisor

Zach LaJeunesse

K9 Officer to Sergeant

Justin Lemon

Patrol Officer to K9

Aaron Urlaub

Detective to Sergeant

New Hires

Ezra Boone

Communication Specialist

Alika Guzman

Communication Specialist

Brenda Lomax

Communication Specialist

Lisa Marshall

Administrative Assistant

Kelsea Reed

Patrol Officer

Retirements

Shelli Zeigler

Records Supervisor



Shelli Zeigler retired from the Wickenburg Police Department after 23 years with the Department. Shelli started her career as the administrative coordinator and progressed through many jobs and responsibilities until retiring as the records supervisor. Shelli was a long-standing member and pillar for the Wickenburg Police Department, and though she will be missed, the Wickenburg Police Department family congratulates her on her well-deserved retirement.