

**ORLEANS PARISH**  
*2019-2020 CALLS FOR SERVICE, ARRESTS, AND  
INMATE POPULATION TRENDS*

**Metropolitan Crime Commission**  
**August 19, 2020**



# SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS



- ◉ Since January 1, 2020, the NOPD has received an average of over 30,000 calls for service each month. Homicides and non-fatal shootings are surging compared with the same time period in 2019. The large number of calls received in 2020 indicates that citizen demand for police services has remained high, despite the COVID-19 pandemic and recent police protests.
- ◉ There have been significant reductions in felony arrests in 2020, including violent and weapons-related felony arrests. Declining arrest rates despite the spike in homicides and shootings suggests a need for the NOPD to strategically target violent gangs. Every violent gang-related shooting or homicide that does not result in arrest increases the likelihood of retaliatory street violence, which fuels higher crime rates.
- ◉ The Orleans jail population snapshot confirms that a large majority of inmates are held in custody for felony pretrial offenses, primarily violent or weapons-related charges. Nearly all inmates held on misdemeanors are being held for violent offenses, primarily domestic violence-related charges. This finding shows that, when police do make an arrest for a crime of violence, those offenders often remain in custody pending trial.

**Based on the findings presented in this report, the MCC recommends the NOPD resume the use of centralized task forces, which will allow police to identify and target violent felony offenders who continue to pose a high risk to public safety.**

# Calls for Services Trends 2019-2020

\*All YTD as of August 16

**Exhibit 1: Total Calls for Service by Month\***

Month	2019	2020	% change
January	36,926	34,825	-6%
February	33,045	33,382	1%
March	37,696	33,278	-12%
April	37,432	32,688	-13%
May	40,402	34,722	-14%
June	37,427	33,952	-9%
July	39,353	33,815	-14%
August*	20,092	16,912	-16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>282,373</b>	<b>253,574</b>	<b>-10%</b>

- The NOPD receives an average of more than 30,000 calls for service each month
- Overall, there have been **10% fewer calls for service in 2020** compared with reported totals for the same time frame in 2019

**Exhibit 2. Monthly Homicide Incident Calls<sup>+</sup>**

Month	2019	2020	% change
January	10	15	50%
February	14	10	-29%
March	7	10	43%
April	8	18	125%
May	12	9	-25%
June	10	14	40%
July	11	22	100%
August*	8	7	-13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>39%</b>

+ Includes incidents with multiple victims

- Homicides have increased **39% over the past year**
  - There were 80 homicide calls for service between January 1, 2019 and August 16, 2019
  - As of August 16, 2020, there have been 111 homicides since January 1, 2020

**Exhibit 3: Monthly Shooting Incident Calls**

Month	2019	2020	% change
January	19	29	53%
February	10	31	210%
March	37	32	-14%
April	29	23	-21%
May	37	26	-30%
June	21	55	162%
July	20	58	190%
August*	9	36	300%
<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>63%</b>

- Aggravated battery by shooting calls have increased **63% over the past year**
  - There were 182 aggravated battery by shooting calls between January 1, 2019 and August 16, 2019
  - There have been 297 aggravated battery by shooting calls between January 1, 2020 and August 16, 2020



# Arrest Trends 2019-2020

\*All YTD as of August 16

**Exhibit 4. YTD Total Arrests by Type**

Charge	Year	N	% change
State	2019	6,294	<b>-38%</b>
	2020	3,886	
Warrant	2019	1,895	<b>-80%</b>
	2020	377	
Municipal	2019	1,183	<b>-47%</b>
	2020	626	
Traffic	2019	544	<b>-60%</b>
	2020	216	
P/P Viol	2019	104	<b>-46%</b>
	2020	56	
Total	2019	10,020	<b>-49%</b>
	2020	5,161	

- 2020 has 49% fewer arrests compared to the same time frame in 2019
  - Warrant arrests show the steepest decline, down 80% from 2019
  - State arrests, which comprise more serious offenses (e.g., felonies), showed the smallest 38% change

**Exhibit 6. Violent Felony Arrests**

Month	2019	2020	% change
January	195	164	-16%
February	148	132	-11%
March	187	152	-19%
April	158	136	-14%
May	199	157	-21%
June	241	135	-44%
July	182	150	-18%
August	128	90	-30%
Total	1,438	1,116	<b>-22%</b>

- Violent felony arrests dropped 22% over the past year
  - 1,438 arrests for violent felony offenses were made between January 1, 2019 and August 16, 2019
  - Since January 1, 2020, there have been 1,116 violent felony arrests

**Exhibit 5. Total Felony Arrests**

Month	2019	2020	% change
January	596	456	-23%
February	509	456	-10%
March	582	428	-26%
April	522	289	-45%
May	561	352	-37%
June	591	242	-59%
July	482	255	-47%
August	329	149	-55%
Total	4,172	2,645	<b>-37%</b>

- Felony arrests dropped 37% over the past year
  - 4,172 felony arrests were made between January 1, 2019 and August 16, 2019
  - 2,645 felony arrests have been made since January 1, 2020

**Exhibit 7. Weapons Felony Arrests**

Month	2019	2020	% change
January	77	17	-78%
February	66	13	-80%
March	69	13	-81%
April	63	7	-89%
May	60	5	-92%
June	63	6	-90%
July	46	18	-61%
August	28	9	-68%
Total	472	88	<b>-81%</b>

- There was an 81% drop in weapons felony arrests over the past year
  - At this time last year, 472 arrests had been made for felony weapons offenses
  - As of August 16, 2020, there were only 88 felony weapons arrests

# Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Inmate Population

## August 17, 2020

Exhibit 8. Most Serious Inmate Charges

N = 846

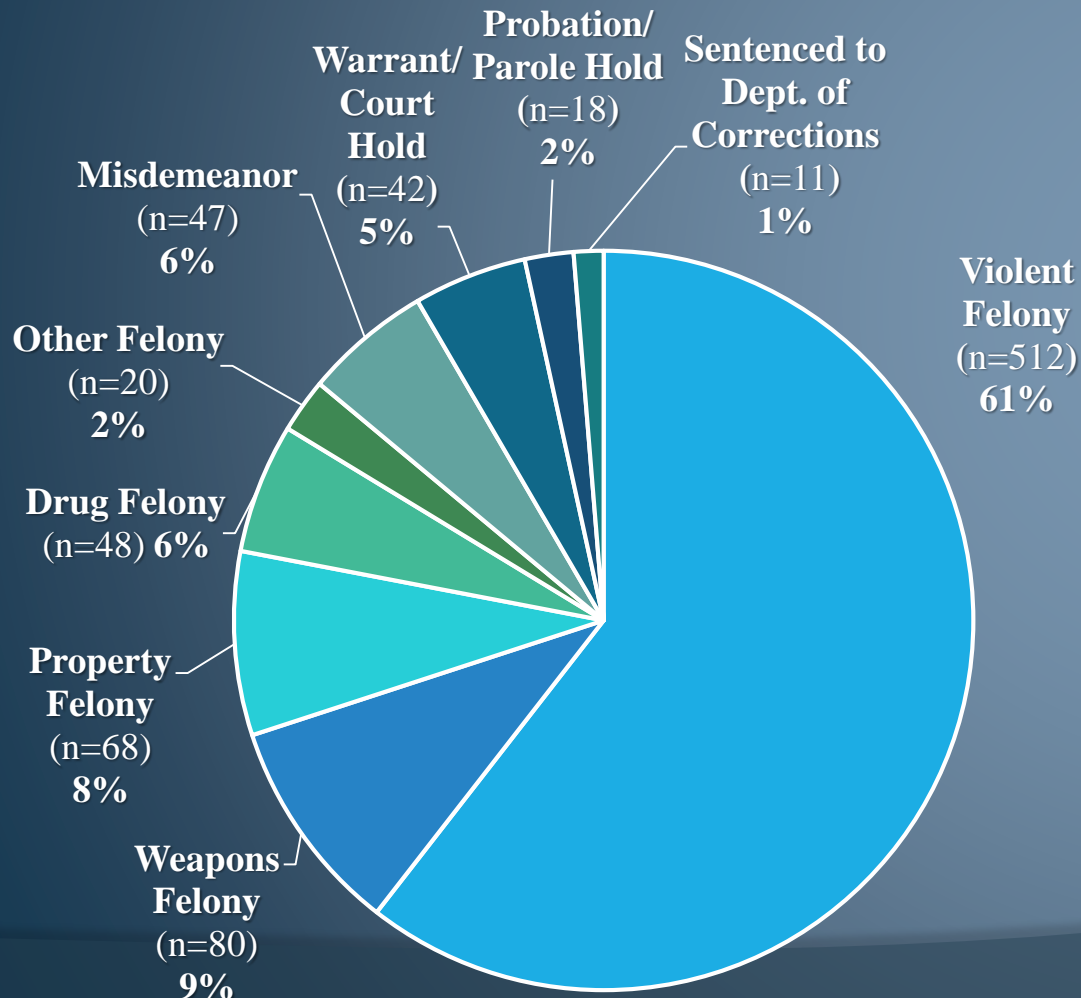


Exhibit 9. Pretrial Charges

Charge Type		Inmates
Violent Felony	Homicide	139
	Sex Offense	62
	Robbery	124
	Battery Assault	119
	Attempted Murder	58
	Other	10
Property Felony	Burglary	35
	Theft	23
	Criminal Damage	2
	Other	8
Drug Felony	Drug Distribution	31
	Drug Possession	17
Other Felony	Sex Offense	3
	Other	17
Misdemeanor	Violent	35
	Theft	4
	Property - Other	2
	Drug Possession	2
	Other	4

- An 86% majority of inmates are felony pretrial defendants
- Seventy percent (70%) of inmates currently in custody are being held on violent or weapons-related felony charges
- Sixty-one percent (61%) of inmates are currently being held on violent felony charges
  - Thirty-eight percent (38%) of inmates are being held for homicide, attempted homicide, or robbery charges
- Violent charges account for a 74% majority of inmates held on misdemeanor charges (35 of 47), most commonly related to domestic violence