

COMMUNITY SAFETY



Residents' sense of safety and belonging significantly impacts how they interact with the community.

Criminal behavior increases when residents don't have access to the family or community supports that they need.

To improve safety, a community must not just enforce its laws but also understand why they are broken.

Community Safety Subcommittee

Scott Parks, Chair	Marathon County Sheriff's Office
Becky Bogen-Marek	Marathon County Social Services
Brenda Christian	North Central Health Care Center
Melissa Dotter	Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse
Jane Graham-Jennings	The Women's Community
Jeff Hardel	Wausau Police Department
Ken Heimerman	Marathon County District Attorney
Tracey Kujawa	Wausau Fire Department
Craig McEwen	Marathon County Board of Supervisors
Jason Plaza	Marathon County Sheriff's Office
Dawn Perez	Marathon County Social Services
Phil Rentmeester	Marathon County Emergency Management

Keep in mind....

Responding effectively to emergencies and crises will reduce or prevent future occurrences. Community services that lead to a journey of recovery and resilience will improve results for individuals and prevent other adverse events.

Section Summary

Success and Progress

- Various community safety organizations in Marathon County are researching evidence-based practices to control the present recidivism rates of offenders in a variety of areas who are returning to the Marathon County Jail.
- Marathon County is employing lean process methods to plan and implement the most effective service delivery by identifying where processes are being unnecessarily duplicated.
- The consolidation of various emergency service agencies through Marathon County has led to better service at a lower cost to the communities.

Calls to Action

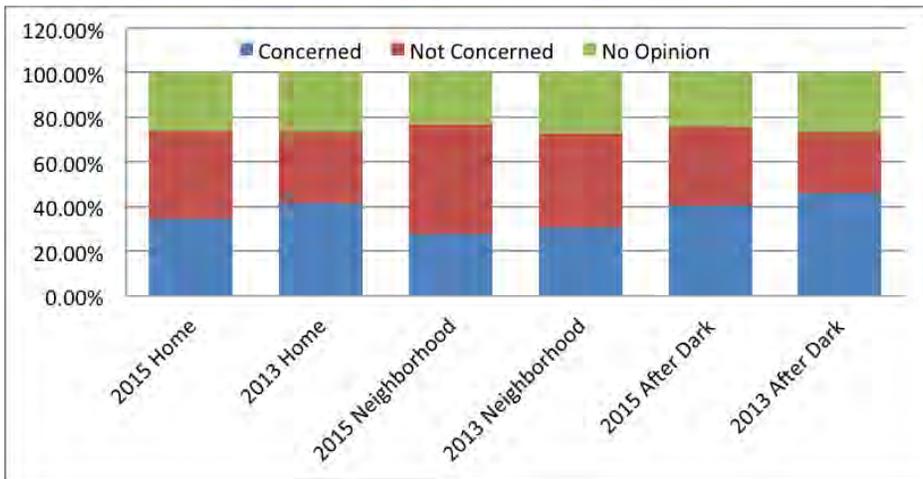
- Substance abuse (alcohol, illegal drugs, and prescription drug abuse) remains an immense and challenging problem for Marathon County. We continue to see rises in use and abuse, overdoses, and criminal behavior in support of substance abuse habits.
- Marathon County must commit to the basic safety of every citizen. To achieve this commitment, we must look for discrepancies of service and hold our government accountable for correcting those imbalances.
- Successful community safety requires partnership between residents and those tasked with their protection. Marathon County must continue to build trusting relationships between law enforcement and its neighborhoods and communities.

Opportunities for Action

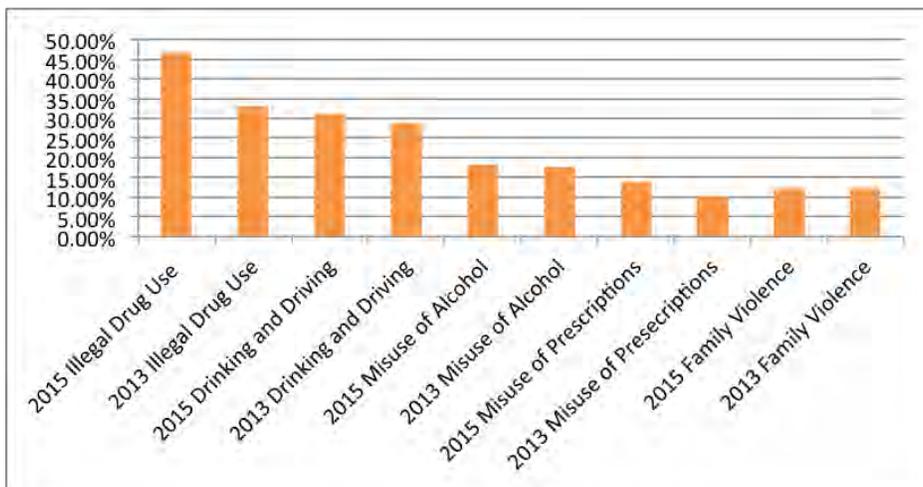
For Individuals	Work together toward the elimination of root causes of violence within our communities. Serve as a mentor, tutor, or volunteer at schools and youth serving organizations to support the healthy development of young people.
For Organizations	Engage in meaningful, trustworthy collaboration with all stakeholders. Seek out and use existing resources to learn about effective violence and crime prevention activities and programs.
For the Community	Implement uniform addressing in Marathon County. Make crime prevention a community priority. Praise good behavior and take immediate action to stop criminal activity when it occurs.



Key Measure: 2015 LIFE Community Survey Responses to Questions Regarding Concerns of Personal Safety



Key Measure: 2015 LIFE Community Survey Responses to Top 5 Concerns of Public Safety



COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Urban decay or neglect, volume and type of criminal activity, experience with crime, and availability of good paying jobs all contribute to perceptions of safety.

There is little difference in concerns of personal safety at home (34.6%/34.1%) and in neighborhoods (27.6%/28%) between metro and non-metro areas during the daytime. There is a noticeable difference in safety concerns after dark (42.5%/ 35.6%). People 65 and older were the most concerned about personal safety in their homes. The youngest reporting age group (18-24) depicted a 33.3% concern for daytime

neighborhood safety and a 50% concern for after dark.

The top safety concerns pertain to illegal drug use (the abuse and misuse of prescription drugs and alcohol) and family violence (abuse of adults and children). Community efforts are assisting law enforcement to impact these issues.

Marathon County is a central hub of activities and opportunities. People feeling comfortable in their homes and neighborhoods are more involved, establishing healthy communities that benefit business, commercial, and tourism opportunities.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- 70.7% of 2015 LIFE Community survey respondents were satisfied with the availability of safe places to walk and bike—compared with 67.7% in 2013. People 25-34 were most satisfied at 72.7%; people 18-24 were the least at 57.5%.
- Safety in one’s home is a higher concern among single people (32.2%), separated (37.5%), widowed (54.9%) and divorced (37.3%) than married (31.1%).
- Widowed people were also the most concerned about personal safety in their neighborhood both in daytime (39.4%) and after dark (53%).
- Single people reported nearly a 50% increase in concern about neighborhood safety from daytime (25.8%) to after dark (46.6%).
- An improving economy can deter criminal activity. In 2013, 87.8% of LIFE survey respondents were concerned about the availability of good paying jobs. In 2015, 75.3% were concerned.
- Alcohol and the controlled substances heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana are the substances most abused in this community.

SOURCES

- 2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey
- Marathon County www.co.marathon.wi.us
- Marathon County AOD Partnership www.aodpartnership.org
- Marathon County Sheriff’s Office www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Sheriff.aspx



DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- Wisconsin continues to experience the highest rates of drunk driving in the nation.
- The Center for Disease Control 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey found that, among high school students during the past 30 days:
 - * 35% drank some alcohol.
 - * 21% binge drank.
 - * 10% drove after drinking.
 - * 22% rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol.
- 33% of state, 22% of federal, and 36% of local inmates were under the influence of drugs at the time they committed their offense.

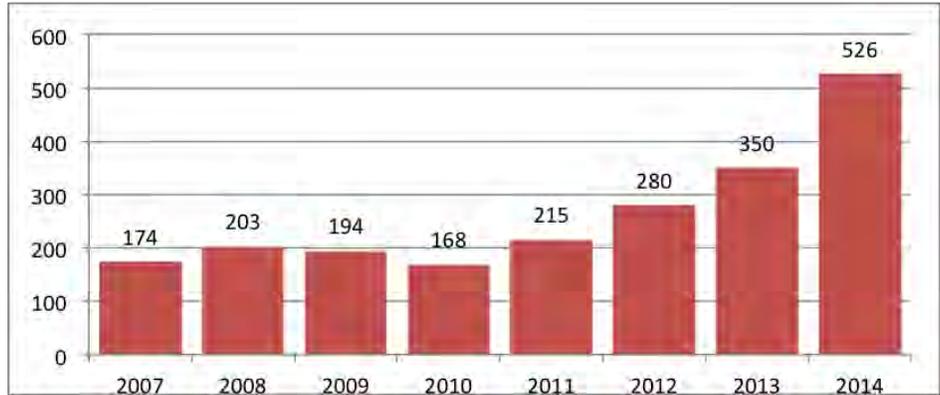
Of LIFE Community Survey respondents:

- 68.4% are concerned about misuse of alcohol
- 84.8% are concerned about illegal drug use
- 76.2% are concerned about abuse/misuse of prescription drugs
- 83.2% are concerned about drinking and driving

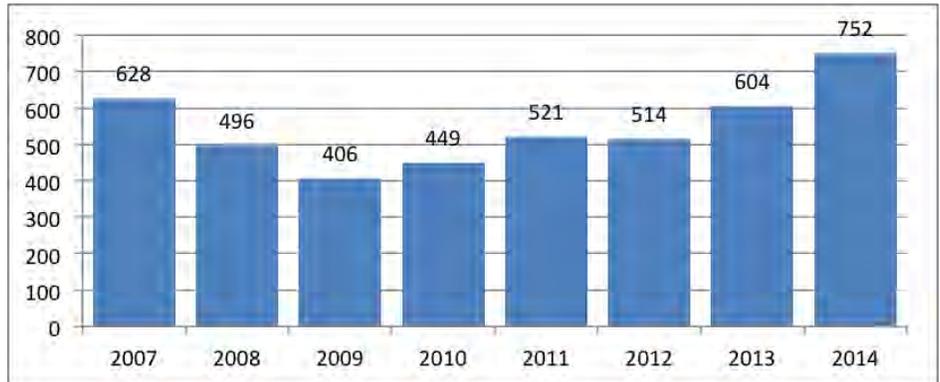
SOURCES

- **2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey**
- **Marathon County Sheriff's Office**
www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Sheriff.aspx
- **Wisconsin Department of Transportation Drunken Driving**
www.dot.wisconsin.gov
- **Center for Disease Control and Prevention**
www.cdc.gov

Key Measure: Felony Drug Charges in Marathon County, 2007-2014



Key Measure: Misdemeanor Drug Charges in Marathon County, 2007-2014



COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Marathon County continues to face challenges pertaining to alcohol, illegal drugs, and prescription drug arrests. Felony drug charges in Marathon County have nearly doubled since 2012. The illegal drugs most impacting this community are methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine, and marijuana. In addition, individuals involved with illegal drugs are prone to be involved in other criminal acts such as violent crimes against persons or property-related crimes attempting to gather the needed funding to support a habit. For many drug users, crime and addiction are closely intertwined.

In the first quarter of 2015, 152 persons were booked into the county jail for drunk driving. 113 of those bookings were persons who have been arrested previously for drunk driving with 2nd Offense Operating While Intoxicated

Marathon County Jail Bookings for Operating While Intoxicated, First Quarter 2015

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Other	0	1	0	1
1st OWI	6	10	22	38
2nd OWI	16	12	26	54
3rd OWI	5	11	11	27
4th OWI	6	7	6	19
5th OWI	2	5	5	12
7th OWI	0	0	1	1
Total				152

(OWI) being the highest volume of arrests at 54.

Currently, the criminal justice system offers a variety of interventions for persons incarcerated due to substance abuse issues. Marathon County has implemented and seen success with the diversion programs in place. Research continues into other substance abuse treatment programs which can help prevent disease and reduce crime.



Key Measure: Fatality Rates per 100 Million Miles of Vehicle Travel for WI and surrounding states, 2012



Key Measure: Crash Numbers in Wisconsin and Counties Comparable to Marathon County, 2012

	CRASH NUMBERS	FATAL CRASHES	DEATHS	INJURY CRASHES	INJURED	PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY
Marathon	2,802	15	17	615	813	2,172
Brown	3,541	12	13	1,023	1,394	2,506
Eau Claire	2,135	10	10	465	618	1,660
La Crosse	2,647	8	9	689	895	1,950
Outagamie	3,361	8	8	885	1,223	2,468
Wisconsin	109,385	535	601	28,453	39,370	80,397

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Marathon County is the largest of Wisconsin's 72 counties with an area of 1,584 square miles—larger than the state of Rhode Island. The Wisconsin State Patrol, Marathon County Sheriff's Deputies, and local municipal law enforcement patrol 3,270 miles of federal, state, and local roadways. Marathon County LIFE Community Survey respondents were fairly equal in their concerns about the maintenance of the streets, roads, and highways of Marathon County with 42.2% satisfied and 37.7% not satisfied.

Alcohol continues to be a contributing factor to traffic crashes with Saturday and Sunday mornings between 2:00am and 3:00am depicting the highest statistic for alcohol related crashes. A majority of traffic deaths in Marathon County occur on State highways while a majority of injuries from traffic crashes

occur on local streets or roads. Marathon County has participated in several statewide campaigns on drunk driving enforcement with the current campaign revolving around buzzed driving is drunk driving.

Safety belt use continues to lag behind the national average of 86% with a new all-time high of 83% of Wisconsin drivers and passengers buckling up in 2013. Consistent safety belt use is the most effective way to protect people from being ejected or violently thrown around inside a car during a crash. Marathon County participates in the "Click It or Ticket" campaign seeking to educate and enforce seat belt usage. Marathon County uses targeted speed enforcement and construction zone monitoring to further prevent traffic crashes.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- 83.2% of LIFE Community survey respondents were very concerned or concerned about drunk driving in their community.
- 31% of LIFE Community survey respondents ranked drunk driving in the Top 3 concerns for 2015. In 2013, 28.8% of respondents ranked this same concern in the Top 4.
- 7.3% of LIFE Community survey respondents admit to driving under the influence of alcohol in the last 30 days. 75.5% assumed most other adults have driven drunk in the last 30 days.
- On every day of the week the most alcohol related crashes resulting in injuries or deaths occurred between the hours of 2:00am and 3:00am.
- In 2012, Marathon County had 145,991 vehicles registered and 97,954 licensed drivers.
- In 2012, economic losses from traffic deaths and injuries in Wisconsin cost nearly \$2 billion.

SOURCES

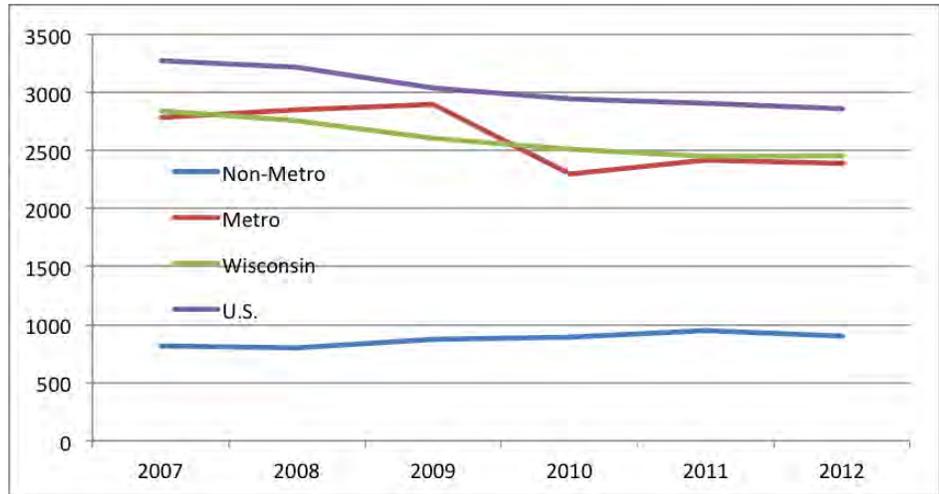
- **2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey**
- **Wisconsin Department of Transportation**
2012 Crash Facts
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/crashfacts/crashfacts-archive.htm>
- **Marathon County Sheriff's Office**
www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Sheriff.aspx



DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- 139,102 property crimes were reported in Wisconsin in 2012, compared with 138,901 in 2011. Marathon County reported 2,250 property crimes in 2012.
- 74% of property crime is theft.
- Statewide property valued at more than \$141 million was lost due to burglary, theft and motor vehicle theft. Property valued at more than \$7 million was lost due to arson.
- Identity theft includes unauthorized use or attempted use of existing credit cards, of other existing accounts such as checking accounts, and misuse of personal information to open new accounts or loans.
- Cyber-attacks consist of computer viruses, denial of service attacks and electronic vandalism or sabotage.
- Cyber theft includes crimes where a computer is used to steal money or other things of value, which includes embezzlement, fraud, and theft of intellectual, personal, or financial data.

Key Measure: Property Crime Rate Per 100,000, 2007—2012



Key Measure: Property Crimes in Marathon County by Type, 2012—2013

PROPERTY CRIMES	Metro '12	Metro '13	Non-Metro '12	Non-Metro '13
Burglary	339	322	134	147
Theft	1,322	1,192	353	303
Motor Vehicle Theft	50	42	18	17
Arson	34	5	0	2
Total	1,745	1,561	505	469

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

The FBI Uniform Crime Report defines property crime as four offenses: Burglary, Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson. Property crime rates per 100,000 Wisconsin residents decreased from 2,761 in 2008 to 2,454 in 2012. The Marathon County metro area (Wausau, Everest metro, Rothschild, Mosinee, and Kronenwetter Police) followed this trend with 2,852 in 2008 dropping to 2,391 in 2012. The non-metro area (all other municipal law enforcement including the Sheriff's Office) saw an increase from 800 in 2008 to 905 in 2012.

arsons being investigated by Wausau Police in 2012. The remaining counties in the region reported 32 arsons total.

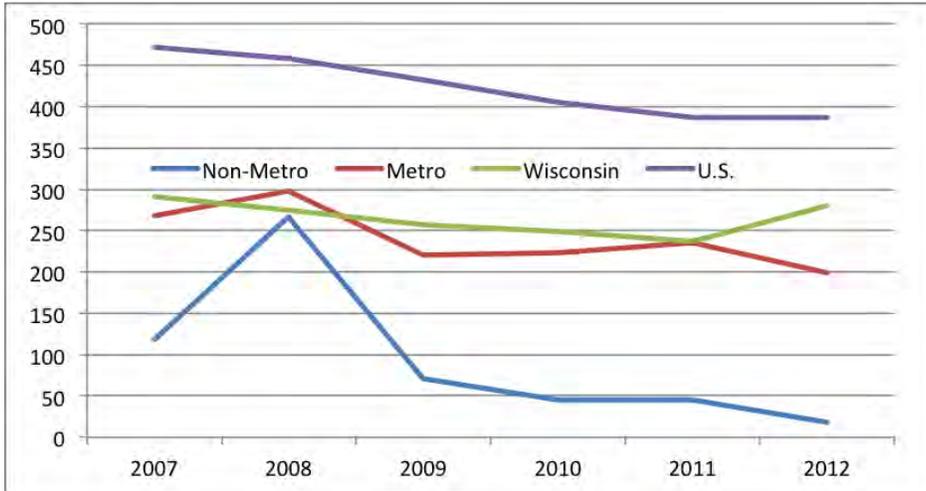
Seasonal patterns and environmental conditions factor into property crimes rates throughout the year. Motor vehicle thefts tend to be lower in the spring than in the summer. Substance abuse also impacts rates as individuals attempt to support abuse habits through stealing and selling other's property.

The North Central region of Wisconsin, which includes Marathon County, has the lowest population of all regions. For this region in 2012, burglaries increased by 5%, theft increased by 1%, motor vehicle theft declined by 2%, and arson increased by 110%. The 71% increase in the arson statistic is attributed to 29

SOURCES

- 2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey
- Marathon County Sheriff's Office www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Sheriff.aspx
- Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Statistics <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/crimestats>
- Wisconsin Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Information & Analysis www.doj.state.wi.us
- U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics www.bjs.gov/index.cfm

Key Measure: Violent Crime Rate Per 100,000, 2007—2012



Key Measure: Violent Crimes in Marathon County by Type, 2012—2013

VIOLENT CRIME	Metro '12	Metro '13	Non-Metro '12	Non-Metro '13
Murder	2	2	0	0
Forcible Rape	25	16	3	1
Aggravated Assault	96	71	7	14
Robbery	22	16	0	1
Total	145	105	10	16

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Violence is a serious public health problem that affects people in all stages of life. Survivors of violence suffer physical, mental, and/or emotional health problems throughout the rest of their lives. The FBI Uniform Crime Reporting definition for violent crime includes four offenses: Murder, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault. For the period of 2008 to 2011, Wisconsin experienced a 15% decline in violent crimes, but 2012 saw an increase of 11.2% with 15,969 violent crimes reported. Of these 53% were cleared by arrest and 62% were classified as aggravated assaults. This rise in violent crimes fits a Midwest trend, which depicted a 1.3% increase in violent crime, driven by 3.3% increase in murders and 2.7% increase in aggravated assault.

The North Central region has the lowest violent crime rate among all the

Wisconsin regions. In 2012, the violent crime rate was 120 per 100,000 residents, which remained fairly consistent with the 2011 rate. In Marathon County, the 2012 metro violent crime rate was 199 per 100,000 and the non-metro was 18 per 100,000. These figures remain well below the rates for Wisconsin and the United States.

Human trafficking is another form of violence with individuals coerced, threatened, physically and emotionally abused while being forced to participate in sexual encounters or labor trafficking. Wisconsin and Marathon County are committed to stopping violence before it begins.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- Marathon County Metro law enforcement agencies reported 145 violent crimes in 2012. Non-Metro agencies reported 10. In 2013, Metro reported 105 and Non-Metro 16.
- There were 15,969 violent crimes reported in Wisconsin in 2012.
- The 2012 Wisconsin murder rate increased by 19.4% and aggravated assaults by 18.3%. Almost half of this increase can be attributed to three multiple person homicides that occurred in southeastern Wisconsin.
- Human trafficking is a diverse and hidden crime where people profit from the control and exploitation of others.
- Human traffickers use violence, threats, blackmail, manipulation, and debt bondage to trap vulnerable individuals in horrific situations.
- The SafeWise Report listed the Village of Kronenwetter as Number 9 in the 50 Safest Cities over 5,000 population in Wisconsin.

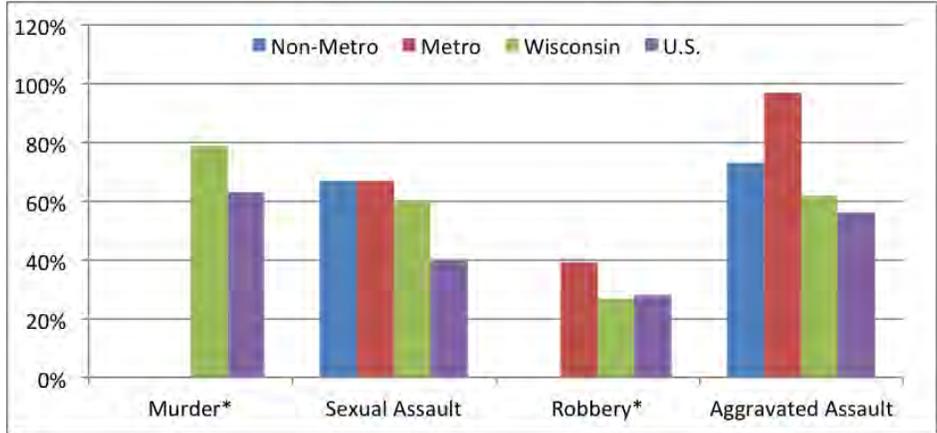
SOURCES

- **Marathon County Sheriff's Office**
www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Sheriff.aspx
- **Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Statistics**
<http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/crimestats>
- **Wisconsin Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Information & Analysis**
www.doj.state.wi.us
- **National Human Trafficking Resource Center**
www.traffickingresourcecenter.org
- **SafeWise Report**
www.safewise.com

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

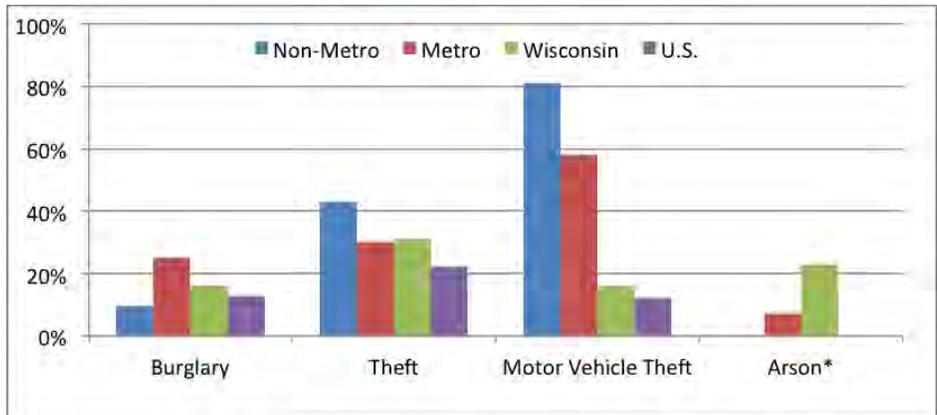
- In 2012, Wisconsin had 340,893 total arrests, which was a 0.2% increase over previous years.
- There was 5.9% decline in arrests for crimes against society such as disorderly conduct, driving while intoxicated, and liquor law violations.
- Violent crime arrests were up 6.7%; property arrests up 5.8%; and drug arrests up 7.3%.
- 71% of arrestees were male and 80% were adults. 37% of persons arrested for property crimes were female.
- Diversion and alternative programs help individuals avoid engaging in future criminal activity, which helps control the costs of the criminal justice system.
- On average, the Marathon County Jail has a daily inmate population of 300.

Key Measure: Clearance Rates of Violent Crimes (Percent), 2012



*Marathon County had no murders and the non-metro had no robberies in 2012.

Key Measure: Clearance Rates of Property Crimes (Percent), 2012



*National clearance rates for arson in 2012 were not available.

SOURCES

- **Marathon County Sheriff's Office**
www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Sheriff.aspx
- **Federal Bureau of Investigation Crime Statistics**
<http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/crimestats>
- **Wisconsin Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Information & Analysis**
www.doj.state.wi.us
- **Marathon County Justice System**
www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Administrator/JusticeAlternatives.aspx

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

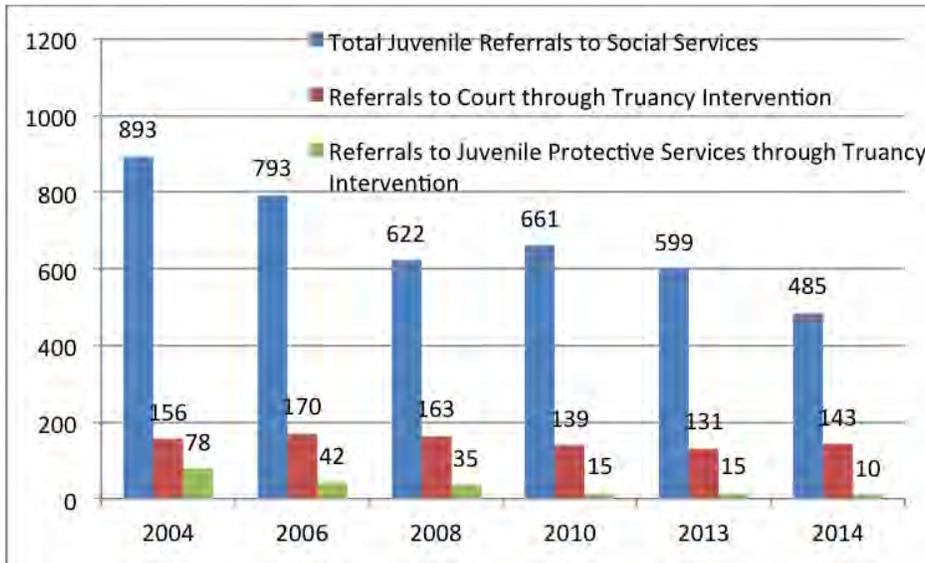
The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting program permits law enforcement to clear or close offenses one of two ways: by arrest or by exceptional means. Three specific conditions have to be met before an offense can be cleared by arrest or solved for reporting purposes. The three conditions are that at least one person has been arrested; charged with the commission of the offense; or referred to the court for prosecution. For an agency to clear a case exceptionally, four conditions must be met: offender is identified; enough evidence is gathered to support an arrest, make a charge and turn over for prosecution; the offender's exact location is identified; and a circumstance has been encountered outside of the control of law enforcement (e.g. death, victim's refusal to cooperate, no extradition) prohibiting arresting, charging, and prosecution. Nationally, the clearance rate for violent

crimes was 48.1% and 19.7% for property crimes. Marathon County had a clearance rate of 68.6% for violent crime and 36.2% for property crimes. The clearance rate for violent crimes in Midwest States was 42.7% and 19.2% for property crimes. Marathon County exceeded national, regional, and state clearance rates in all categories except for burglary incidents in the non-metro areas, which was at 10%.

Marathon County is directing efforts to reduce the recidivism rate through pre- and post-conviction diversion programs for repeat offenders. Efforts are underway to better understand area criminogenic needs in order rehabilitate offenders and lower recidivism rates. Participants are selected based on their criminal history, the offense committed and the likelihood of successful completion of the programs.



Key Measure: Juveniles Referred to Social Services, Court, and Juvenile Protective Services in Marathon County, 2004—2014



COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Violence can occur anywhere and too often after a tragic incident the statement “I cannot believe that happened here” is heard. Denial is human especially when it comes to our youth. Social media has changed how we communicate. Instant information or misinformation, impulsive actions, along with bullying and threats are easily and quickly sent and shared. Bullying is something that is being addressed not only locally but nationally in the attempts to identify the signs and behaviors more quickly, along with interrupting the actions of the youth. As a community we also acknowledge the rising mental health issues among our youth. The number of youth who are struggling in our schools indicates that these youth need a different form of intervention that does not necessarily mean criminalizing their behavior.

Building strong relationships is essential to assisting youth in developing to their full potential. Youth respond to people, not programs. Kindness cannot be mandated, but it can be nurtured through communication, collaboration, cultural awareness and caring.

Communities and human service organizations are focused on being innovative and providing programming that has proven to be effective while building relationships with youth and families. Priorities are focusing on early intervention, matching programming to the youth’s risk for recidivism, and ensuring youth who are low risk are not paired with high risk youth which has a negative impact on low-risk youth.

Marathon County is focused on collaboration through multiple coalitions and committees whose goals are to provide better outcomes for youth, families, and our communities. Additionally, the State of Wisconsin is focused on collaborative effort among juvenile justice practitioners, key advocacy programs and individuals, along with community stakeholders. The purpose of this collaboration is to promote, support, and advance effective practice statewide in working with youth and their families who are in or at risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- 54% of the youth with whom Social Services work are considered to be moderate to high risk of relapsing back into criminal behavior. This has increased by 20% from 2012.
- Total juvenile referrals for delinquent behavior in Marathon County have dropped by nearly 50% since 2004.
- 70% of delinquency referrals received by Marathon County DSS from 2012 – 2014 were from youth age fourteen or under.
- 48% of the youth who received delinquency referrals identified themselves as having special educational needs.
- 70% of the youth report not being involved in structured recreational activities.
- 27% of the referrals indicated that youth did not believe that they had a positive adult relationship outside of school or their family.
- 18% of youth reported that their parent(s) have a history of alcohol abuse and 16% of youth reported that their parent(s) have a history of drug abuse.
- 39% of the referrals indicated that someone living in the family home had been in jail or spent time in prison.

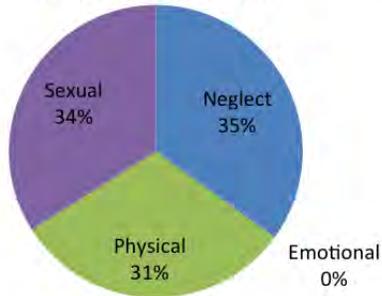
SOURCES

- **Marathon County Social Services Juvenile Justice**
<http://www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/SocialServices/JuvenileJustice.aspx>
- **Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance**
<http://oja.wi.gov>



DATA HIGHLIGHTS

2013 Marathon County Child Maltreatment by Type

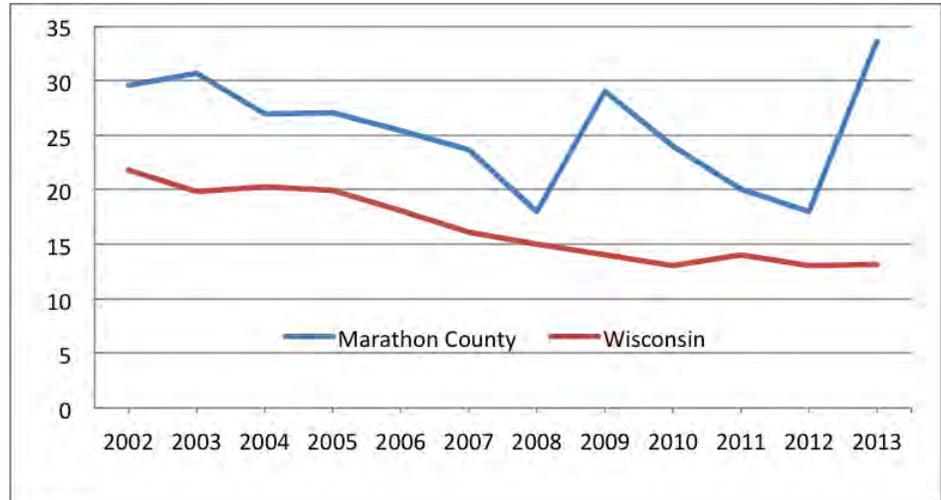


- In 2013, the Marathon County population included 32,058 children. 118 (0.37%) were in out-of-home placements.
- Marathon County had 113 victims of child maltreatment in 2013, which equates to a rate of 3.5 victims per 1,000 children. The overall rate for the State is 3.7.
- Neglect is the most frequent form of substantiated maltreatment in Marathon County. Sexual abuse is the most frequent substantiated maltreatment for Wisconsin.
- At 18.1%, educational personnel are the most frequent reporters of child maltreatment followed by law enforcement (16.3%) and social service workers (14.1%).
- Between 2012-2015, there has been a 19% increase in child protective service reports that must be responded to.

SOURCES

- **Marathon County Social Services**
Juvenile Justice
<http://www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/SocialServices/JuvenileJustice.aspx>
- **Wisconsin Department of Children and Families**
dcf.wi.gov/

Key Measure: Substantiated Cases of Child Maltreatment, 2002—2013



COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Children raised in abusive or neglectful environments are more likely to experience physical and emotional health issues and to display social, cognitive, and behavioral impairments. Child maltreatment does not impact the child alone. Abused and neglected children have both immediate and long-term costs for hospitalization, mental health services, educational supports, and legal intervention that often fall to the community.

Marathon County strives to support children and families through the child protective services system. Between 2003 and 2012, Marathon County saw a decrease in rates of substantiated cases of child maltreatment from 30.7% in 2003 to 13% in 2012. There was a spike in substantiated cases in 2009, which experts link both to the recession and to increases in street drug use. The subsequent downswing in 2013 is likely a byproduct of the county's adoption of the Alternative Response program, which engages families to develop positive plans for improvement in lieu of the traditional child protective service response.

In 2013, Alternative Response cases were

removed from the data included in calculating the maltreatment rate. The result of this change appears to show a sharp increase in the substantiation rate in Marathon County. If Alternate Response cases were put back into the data, the substantiation rate for the county in 2013 would be 19.4%.

Mandated reporters are those individuals who are required by law to report any suspected child maltreatment seen in the course of their professional duties. However, anyone who suspects child maltreatment may make a report. Persons making referrals in good faith are immune from criminal or civil liability. Wisconsin's Child Protective Services (CPS) delivery system encourages any concerned individual to report suspected child maltreatment to the local CPS agency or law enforcement.

Key Measure: Wisconsin Deaths Related to Domestic Violence Homicide, 2000—2013

Year	Homicide Deaths	Suicides	Total
2013	43	12	55
2012	48	4	52
2011	34	3	37
2010	51	7	58
2009	52	15	67
2008	36	10	46
2007	41	10	51
2006	28	8	36
2005	40	6	46
2004	28	5	33
2003	45	16	61
2002	38	11	49
2001	33	9	42
2000	33	8	41

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Intimate partner violence, sexual violence and stalking are serious, preventable public health problems in the United States. On average, nearly twenty people per minute are victims of physical violence by an intimate partner. Intimate partner violence is defined as physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse. This type of violence occurs among heterosexual or same-sex couples and does not require sexual intimacy.

During the time period, 2000 to 2013, Wisconsin reported 674 deaths related to domestic violence. The victims and perpetrators were either current or former spouses and partners, adults with children in common and adults or teens that had been in a dating relationship. During this time period, Marathon County experienced twelve homicides. Violence starts early with 79% of female victims reporting being sexually assaulted prior to age 25 and 28% of male victims reporting being sexually assaulted when age 10 or younger.

Sexual assault and domestic violence have consequences of far reaching health

issues with 27% of female victims and 12% of male victims reporting significant short or long term impacts, such as post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms and injury. The Center for Disease Control estimates the costs of intimate partner violence and sexual assault to exceed \$5.8 billion each year with nearly \$4.1 billion for direct medical and mental health care services.

33.3% of LIFE Community Survey respondents were satisfied with the accessibility of services for adults and/or children who are victims of family violence or abuse. The Women's Community and other victim forums have been using media and other events to make the community more aware of the services they can provide and/or offer. The Women's Community is creating a new position that will be dedicated to helping victims and educating the public about sex trafficking. Local law enforcement conducts frequent Internet Crimes Against Children operations. Everyone deserves a life free of violence.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- 73.2% of 2015 LIFE Community Survey respondents were concerned about family violence or abuse of adults and children.
- The Women's Community provided support services to 506 sexual assault victims (285 women, 164 children, 57 men) and 1,629 domestic violence victims (1,178 women, 300 children, 150 men, 1 transgendered) and their non-offending family in 2014.
- The Women's Community provided shelter to 85 women and 91 children in 2014.
- In 2012, 79 victims of sexual assault reported to emergency departments in Marathon County.
- Nearly 3 in 10 women and 1 in 10 men in the U.S. have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by a partner that impacted their functioning.
- Abusive people are controlling and may use techniques to monitor computer and internet activities to gather data for manipulation.

SOURCES

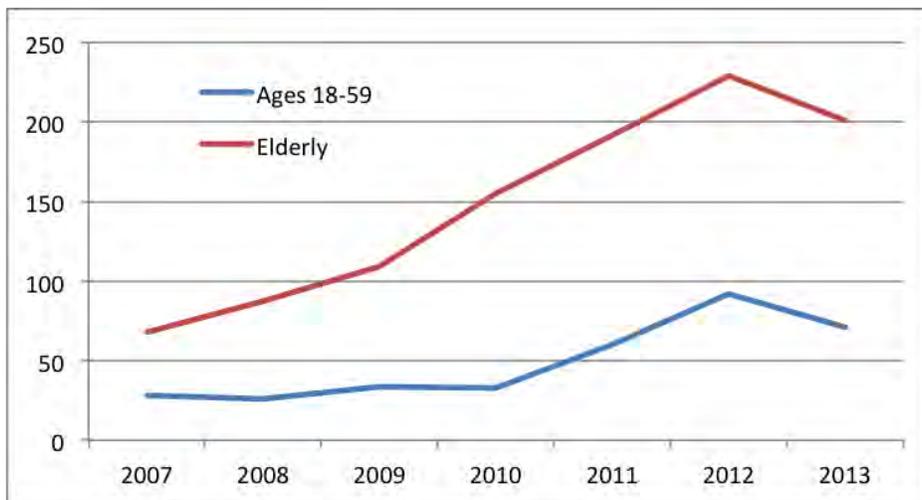
- **2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey**
- **Center for Disease Control Intimate Partner Violence**
www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/
- **National Network to End Domestic Violence**
www.nnedv.org/
- **National Sexual Violence Resource Center**
www.nsvrc.org/



DATA HIGHLIGHTS

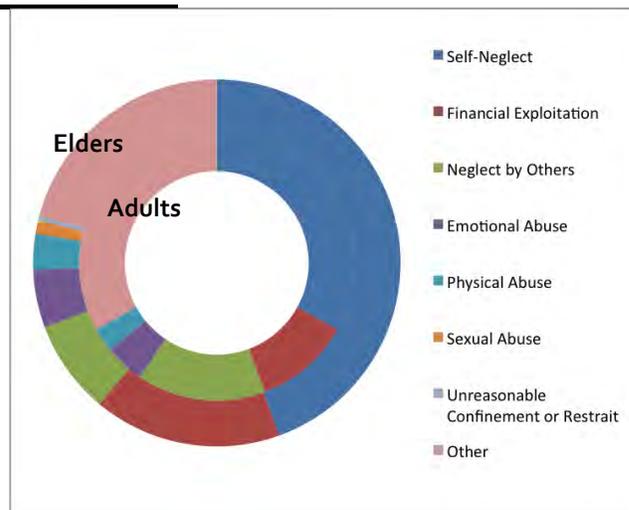
- The gender of adults at risk age 60 and older were 58.2% female and 41.8% male while the gender of adults at risk age 18-59 were 53.5% male and 46.5% female.
- Marathon County had 254 reported cases of abuse of age 60+ adults. 44.8% had substitute decision makers with a majority revolving around power of attorney pertaining to finance or health care needs.
- The most common abuser to an adult age 60+ was a son followed by a daughter.
- Marathon County had 106 reported cases of abuse of adults age 18-59. The main characteristics for this group were developmental disabilities and mental illness.
- The most common abuser to an adult age 18-59 was a parent followed by a friend or neighbor.

Key Measure: Protective Services Cases Reported in Marathon County, 2007—2013



COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

An adult is legally considered to be their own person and capable of making decisions on their own unless it is determined under state law they are no longer capable of acting in their best interests. Self-determination is only taken away if a person is not capable of understanding the consequences of their decisions due to either cognitive or mental impairments or the frailties of aging.



Both Adults At Risk categories identify self-neglect as the leading risk. The self-neglect category is defined as individuals not caring for their own needs due to choosing not to or being unable to identify and provide for their needs due to dementia or another cognitive dysfunction. Other factors included in self-neglect are having a disorder such as hoarding, alcohol or other substance abuse, or just making poor life choices. Adult protective services offer assistance and service, which many at risk adults

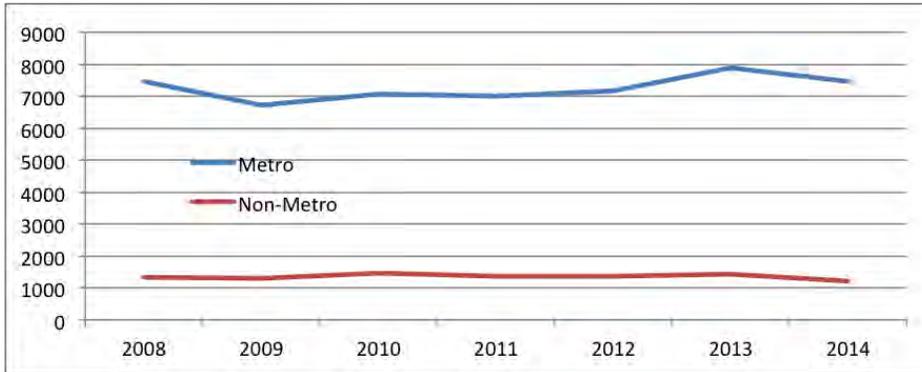
accept, while some refuse requiring legal action initiating guardianship or protective services for persons meeting incompetency standards.

Educating seniors, professionals, caregivers and the public on abuse is critical. An individual can take vital steps to reduce their risk by taking care of their health, seeking professional help for dependency problems, planning for their future with a limited power of attorney or a living will, decreasing social isolation by staying active and connected to the family and friends, and seeking independent advice from a trusted source before signing any legal documents.

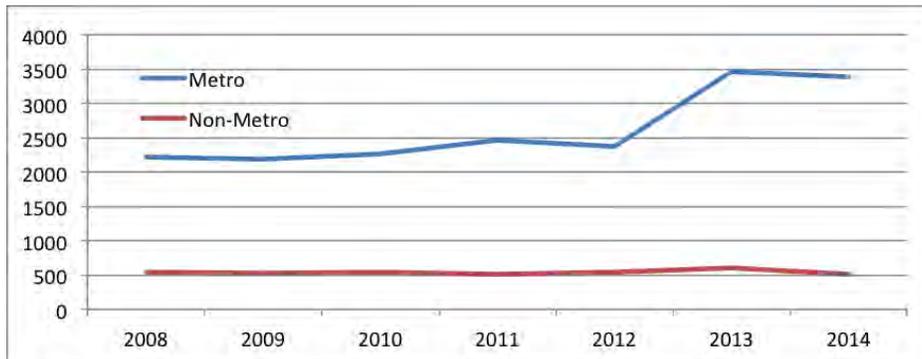
SOURCES

- **2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey**
- **National Center for Elder Abuse** ncea.aoa.gov/
- **Wisconsin Incident Tracking System (WITS)**
WITS Statistical Summary Reports
Adults-at-Risk Age 18-59
Elders-at-Risk Age 60+
Marathon County Reporting Year 2014
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/APS/wits/index.htm

Key Measure: EMS Calls for Service, 2008—2014



Key Measure: Fire Calls for Service, 2008—2014



COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Over the years, a number of studies have been completed on subjects such as merging fire and ambulance services, consolidation of law enforcement services, regional correctional facility and/or juvenile detention center. The efforts of these discussions are to seek the means to better enhance the various public safety entities serving this County. It is imperative public safety maintains abilities and skills to establish command and control, coordinate communication, evacuate citizens and execute clean-up operations whether responding to natural disasters, hazardous materials, or the newest threats of domestic terrorism. The Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) came online January 1, 2015, providing improvement in mutual aid, preplanning of needs at emergency events and greater collaborative efforts.

The 911 system has served the nation for more than 40 years. As community citizens become more technologically

savvy, their expectations are for public safety to evolve. Next Generation 911 (NG911) is an Internet Protocol based system that allows digital information (voice, photos, videos, text messages) to flow seamlessly from the public through the 911 Network and on to emergency responders. Transitioning and implementing NG 911 is more than adding new computers. It will require a coordinated effort to plan and deploy this continually evolving system. The Marathon County Sheriff's Office is initiating that process.

Other efforts to enhance emergency response will be the continued development of a reliable and resilient nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety entities to be used in emergencies and to meet the everyday missions. Communication during an emergency response allows people to act quickly and without panicking.

DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is coordinating the Northeast Wisconsin Public Safety Communication (NEWCOM) organization to promote better emergency service communication that addresses both local and regional concerns.
- The spike in fire calls in the metro area may be attributed to policy changes that require engines to respond with ambulances, not necessarily an increase of fires.
- The spike may also be the result of improved documentation following the Wausau Area Fire Consolidation Study that occurred in 2013.
- The study identified discrepancies in reporting between the Computer Aided Dispatch and the various fire services.
- Most teenagers today own smartphones that are more powerful communications devices than those typically used by the public safety community.
- Major weather events affect infrastructure communications when public safety needs it most.

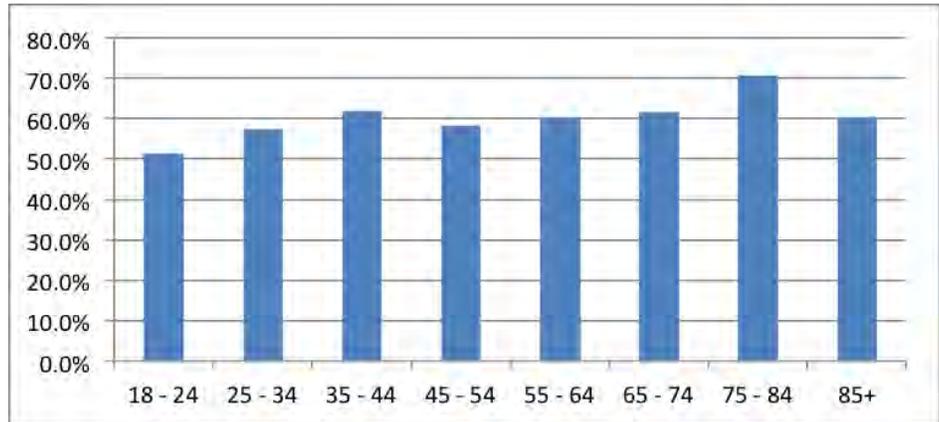
SOURCES

- **2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey**
- **North Central WI Regional Planning Commission**
www.ncwrpc.org
- **Marathon County Sheriff's Department 911 Dispatch**
www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/Sheriff.aspx

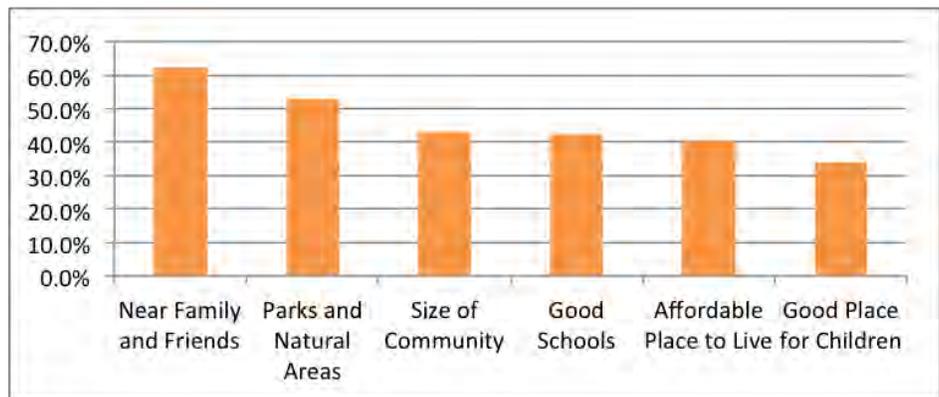
DATA HIGHLIGHTS

- 52% of LIFE Community Survey respondents were concerned about the acceptance of people of different backgrounds, races, and lifestyles. 56.2% felt the same in 2013.
- Community care and volunteerism increased. 68.3% of LIFE respondents have helped individuals outside of their household and/or volunteered in the community. In 2013, 61.1% reported volunteerism.
- Community based settings to assist individuals of all ages with effective treatment, support, recovery and resources are needed.
- U.S. Census Bureau determined the median income for Marathon County is \$53,363.00 and 10.9% of our population is below the poverty level.
- U.S. Census Bureau identified the community race as 91.3% White; 5.3% Asian; 0.6% Black; and 0.5% Native American.
- There are 9,868 military veterans residing in Marathon County.

Key Measure: LIFE Community Survey Responses to “My Community is Open and Welcoming,” 2015



Key Measure: LIFE Community Survey Top Six Reasons Marathon County is an Attractive Place to Live, 2015



SOURCES

- **2015 LIFE in Marathon County Community Survey**
- **Wausau City Government**
www.ci.wausau.wi.us
- **North Central Health Care**
www.norcen.org
- **US Census Bureau**
2010 Census Summary File 1
<http://factfinder2.census.gov>

COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

Around the county, community pride was prevalent in LIFE Community Survey responses whether people have resided here less than a year or are lifelong residents. Gross annual household income did not affect the sense of community as the responses were positive whether respondents make less than \$15,000.00 or more than \$75,000.00. Also, gross annual household income did not change people’s opinion on the availability of assistance programs for those in need with a majority of responses showing genuine concern that those in need were receiving proper assistance. Marathon County is a caring community.

The economy and its ability to produce a living wage remain a top concern followed by concerns pertaining to

substance abuse: alcohol, illegal drugs, and prescription drug abuse. Concerns related to family violence and the quality time parents spend with their children were also identified. Finally, though this community has a range of indoor and outdoor recreational activities, the number of people with unhealthy eating habits or that lack physical activity was a concern. Through its health and wellness programs, Marathon County has set a goal to be the healthiest county in Wisconsin. Also, efforts to expand supportive services for those suffering from persistent to severe mental illness or struggling with substance abuse are underway. These coordinated actions have a positive impact on community safety and economic development. Marathon County celebrates individuals within our community.