

BYRAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

MSLEAC ACCREDITED, 2012

2012 Annual Report





BYRAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

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P.O. BOX 720222 ~ BYRAM, MS 39272

~ Accredited by the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission 2011 ~

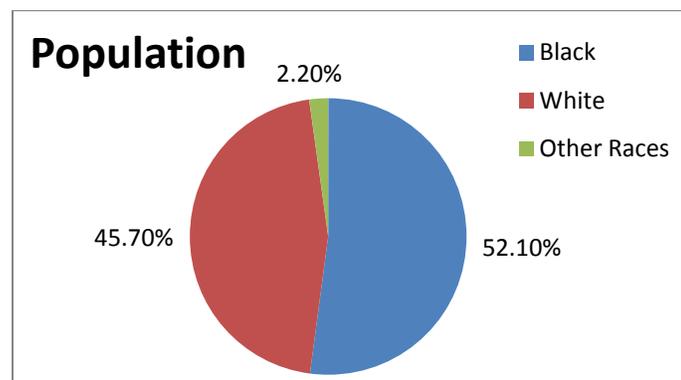


Byram Police Department Annual Report ~ 2012 ~

1. Executive Summary

The Byram Police Department began providing full police services within the corporate limits of the City of Byram on June 1, 2011. Prior to this date, the city was serviced by the Hinds County Sheriff's Department. The Byram Police Department instituted, with the use of grant money, a state of the art Report Management System (RMS) to track the daily operations of the police department. The system is purposed to collect information from which the police department uses to assign resources and provide efficient and effective police services. Historical information prior to June 1, 2011 from the Sheriff's office was unreliable for comparison due to the antiquated records system and that information specific to the City of Byram was not segregated from the information for the County at large. Crash information is available through a state resource and can be compared historically for a longer period of time.

In 2010, the U.S. Census report indicated a population in the City of Byram of 11,487 (2011 estimate is 11,628) with a population density of 628 persons per square mile. Throughout this report, enforcement activities will be illustrated as they reflect our community. This serves as an indicator within the agency, as required by the accreditation commission, to identify the potential for bias-based enforcement. Enforcement activities that reflect the makeup of the community reassure the community that Byram Police Officers serve the whole community fairly and without prejudice.



The Byram Police Department is authorized twenty-six (26) sworn police officer positions and fourteen (14) additional civilian support positions. Employed as of December 31, 2012 are twenty-four sworn (24) police officers and thirteen (13) civilian support staff.

On November 8, 2012, the Byram Police Department was awarded law enforcement accreditation by the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MSLEAC) becoming only the 16th agency in the state to receive the award. MSLEAC is an independent entity purposed to ensure compliance with nationally accepted standards of performance for law enforcement agencies.

Representatives from the Byram Police Department will attend the Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Spring Conference in March, 2013 to receive National Recognition for law enforcement accreditation. The Byram Police Department has already begun the next step towards national accreditation by CALEA.

Byram Police Officers responded to 6,524 calls for service during 2012. Of these calls, officers documented 1,572 incident reports. Incidents of all types are reported including criminal complaints, vehicle crashes, and other miscellaneous reports. Vehicle crashes accounted for the greatest number of incident reports taken in 2012. There were 326 total crash reports (20%) were taken including 276 Mississippi Uniform Crash Reports and 50 private property crash reports.

2. Crime Report Introduction

a. Data Source

On a national level, statistical information about crime is collected and reported in two ways. The first way is through the **Uniform Crime Report (UCR)**. The UCR program is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 17,000 municipal, university, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies. This voluntary reporting program collects data on crimes brought to the attention of law enforcement. Since 1930, the FBI has administered the UCR program and continued to assess and monitor the nature and type of crime in the nation. The program's primary objective is to generate reliable information for use in law enforcement administration, operation, and management; however, its data has over the years become one of the country's leading social indicators. Criminologists, sociologists, legislators, municipal planners, the media, and other students of criminal justice use the data for varied research and planning purposes.

In March, 2012 the Byram Police Department became the second law enforcement agency in the State of Mississippi certified by the FBI to report crime statistics using the **National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)**. This allows for a more timely reporting method that is software driven and reported directly to the FBI. Based on this the Byram Police Department will be using NIBRS for all crime reporting. The crime numbers represented in this report have been sent monthly to the FBI. These numbers represent all of 2012 and, as investigations develop new information, are subject to change. More information on NIBRS reporting can be found on the FBI's website at <http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/faqs.htm>.

While we recognize that many crimes go unreported to law enforcement authorities, on a local level, we do not have the resources to collect that data. As a result, the information in this report is solely on crimes that were reported to the Byram Police Department and the NIBRS program.

b. NIBRS Group A Crimes

This report reflects NIBRS Group A Crimes that are defined by the FBI as:

- Arson
- Assault offenses
- Bribery
- Burglary/breaking and entering
- Counterfeiting/forgery

- Destruction/damage/vandalism of property
- Drug/narcotic offenses
- Embezzlement
- Extortion/blackmail
- Fraud offenses
- Gambling offenses
- Homicide offenses
- Kidnapping/abduction
- Larceny/theft offenses (*Shoplifting, Theft from Building, Theft from Coin-Operated Machine or Device, Theft from Motor Vehicle, All Other Larceny*)
- Motor vehicle theft
- Pornography/obscene material
- Prostitution offenses
- Robbery
- Sex offenses (forcible and non forcible)
- Stolen property offenses (*Receiving, etc.*)
- Weapon law violations.

c. Factors Affecting Crime

It is generally assumed the reader of this report understands that many factors affect crime in the community. Factors include familial, social, and economic conditions that not only influence criminal behavior, but also crime reporting practices of the citizenry. With regard to the effective strength of law enforcement, the reader should consider that an agency that significantly increases its enforcement efforts might see an increase in reported crime instead of a decrease.

As a result of numerous factors that affect reported crime, this report is limited to presenting only the numbers of specific crimes reported. We will not try to draw a correlation between the volume of crimes reported and any other social factor. Furthermore, the reader should use great caution against comparing crime trends presented in this report and those of other jurisdictions. Finally, the differences in methodology for gathering data make it unwise to compare the Uniform Crime Report to the National Crime Victimization Survey.

d. Intended Use

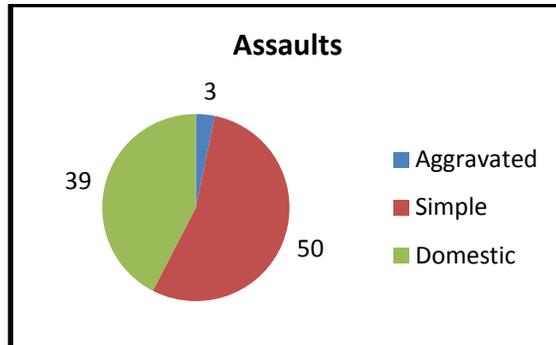
The purpose of this report is to present a larger picture of crime as it is reported within the corporate limits of the City of Byram.

3. Violent Crime

Violent Crimes, defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as Murder, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault, accounted for very few crimes in 2012. The city recorded no (0) murders or rapes; four (4) robberies; and, three (3) aggravated assaults.

All of the robberies occurred in the overnight hours at convenience stores that are open 24 hours. Three of the four occurred at the same store. Four (4) aggravated assaults were actually reported to the Byram Police Department, however one was deemed to be in self-defense. Two were directly related to Domestic Violence and one incident was related to the felony neglect of child indicating that all felonious assaults were not random acts of violence.

Additionally, eighty-nine (89) incidents of Simple Assault were reported in 2012, thirty-nine (39) of which were domestic violence reports. In addition to these reports, there were four (4) additional reports for violation of a domestic violence protection order.



Violent crimes, including Simple Assault, account for 6% of the total incidents reported to the Byram Police Department and for 9% of total crime reported.

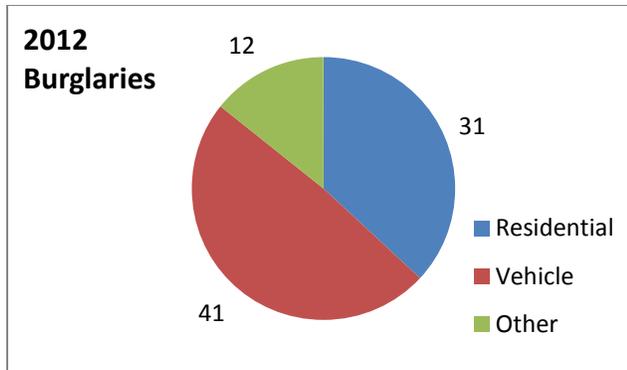
4. Property Crime

Property crimes include offenses of burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. In Mississippi, burglary offenses are classified three different ways: 1) Residential Burglary; 2) Auto Burglary; and, 3) Burglary Other. Burglary Other includes all structures other than an occupied residence (meaning that the residence is owned and lived in and not necessarily that it is physically occupied by a person at the time of the burglary). This includes commercial locations such as businesses and also structures on personal property that are not attached to a residence, such as a storage-shed.

The object of these offenses is simply the taking of money or property without force or threat of force against the victim(s).

- a. Burglary is the breaking and entering of a structure or vehicle with the intent to steal or commit another crime once inside. The Byram Police Department reported eighty-four (84) total burglaries throughout the city during the 2012 calendar year. These include thirty-one (31) residential burglaries, forty-one (41) vehicle burglaries, and twelve (12) burglaries of other structures. Fourteen (14) individuals were arrested in connection with burglaries in the City of Byram.

Although historical data is limited and unreliable, these numbers are believed to be a reduction from previous years based on the knowledge of officers that have patrolled the city in the past.



- i. Residential ~ Thirty-one (31) residential burglaries were reported to the Byram Police Department. Five (5) residential burglaries were cleared by the arrest of nine (9) individuals.
- ii. Vehicle ~ Forty-one (41) vehicle burglaries were reported. Twenty-two (22) of the vehicles burglarized were left unlocked
- iii. Other ~ Twelve (12) other burglaries were reported and included:
 - 1. 2 church burglaries
 - 2. 3 storage shed burglaries
 - 3. 6 business burglaries
 - 4. 1 mini-storage units
 Six Other Burglaries were cleared by the arrests of seven (7) individuals.

b. Larceny – Thefts

Mississippi Statute classifies larcenies by the value of the items taken. Petit larceny is the theft of an item with a value of less than \$500. Grand Larceny is the theft of an item with a value of greater than \$500. The Byram Police Department reported forty (40) grand larceny incidents and seventy-nine (79) petit larceny incidents.

Additionally, there were twenty-nine (29) incidents of shoplifting reported during 2012.

c. Auto Thefts

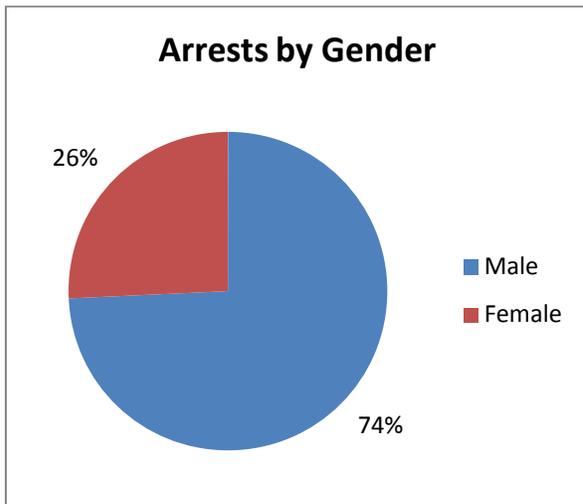
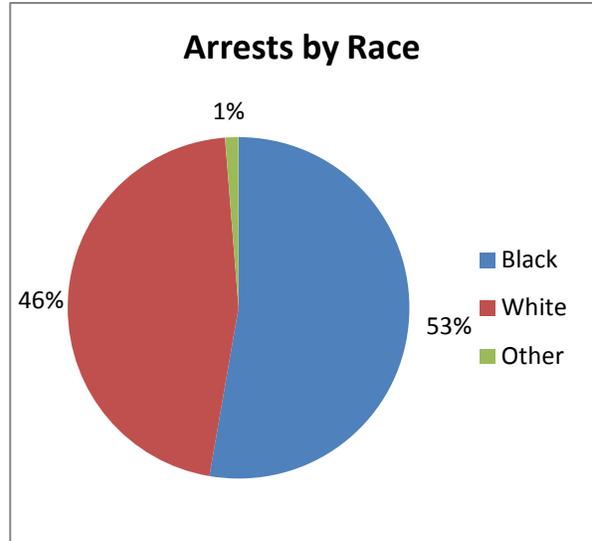
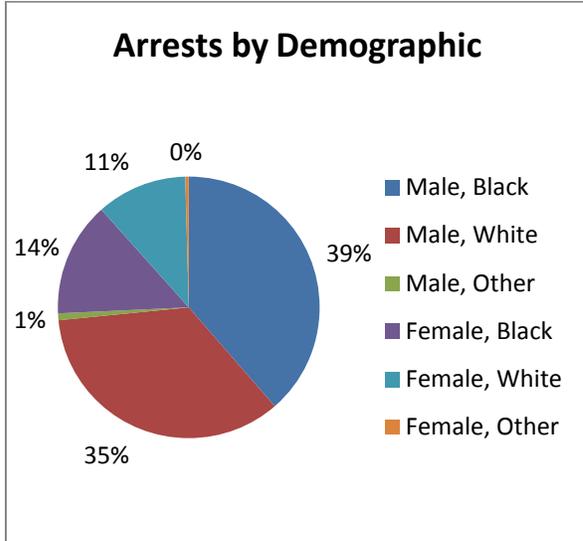
Eighteen (18) automobiles were reported in the City of Byram in 2012. Six (6) of those stolen were left unsecured with the keys left in the vehicle. Thirteen (13) of the vehicles have been recovered. Three additional reports were taken, but later deemed unfounded by either repossession or being towed away by a property owner. Five (5) additional reports were taken for stolen all-terrain vehicles.

5. Calls for Service

Byram Police Officers responded to 6,524 calls for service in 2012, 1,533 (23%) of which were burglar alarms and 545 traffic related calls. Officers initiated an additional 2,161 calls/contacts in the community and 5,799 traffic stops. An average response time to all calls is five minutes and thirty-five seconds (00:05:35). Average response time to calls defined as “High Priority” which includes in-progress calls where there is a high probability of capturing a criminal suspect is four minutes and forty-one seconds (00:04:41).

6. Arrests

The Byram Police Department arrested 474 individuals in 2012; 111 of which were for traffic related offenses.



Other Arrest Statistics – Age	
Average Age	30
Median Age	29
Youngest Age	13
Oldest Age	69

7. Traffic Data

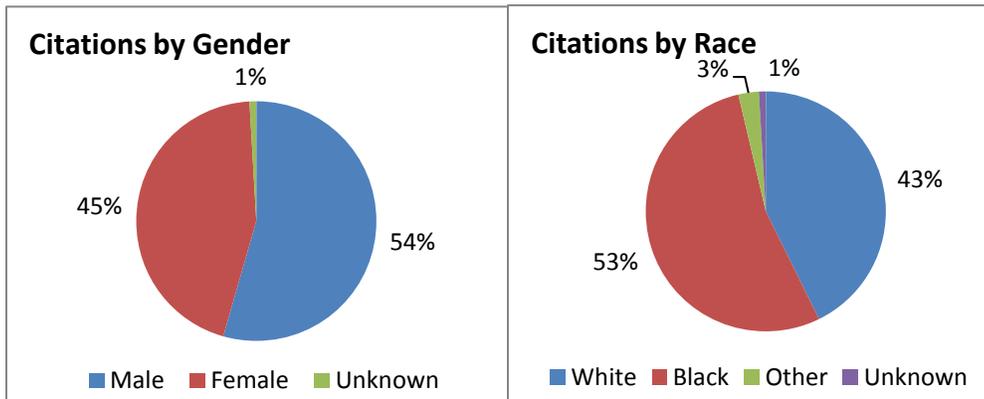
- a. Enforcement (Citations) ~ The Byram Police Department issued a total of 4,464 written citations in 2012. Forty-six (46) arrests were completed for Driving Under the Influence (DUI).

Total Citations Issued	4,464	Speeding violations related to speed limits	
Written Warnings	1,107	Average over	14 mph
Enforcement Actions	3,447	Lowest issued*	6 mph
<i>Speeding</i>	<i>1,308</i>	Highest issued	42 mph

*49 Speeding citations were issued for less than 10 mph over the posted speed limit

Citations were issued by demographic breakdown as follows:

Race/Ethnicity	Male	Female	% of Total
A - Asian/Pacific Islander	7	3	0.22 %
B - Black	1,279	1,115	53.63 %
I - American Indian	3	2	0.11 %
W - White	1,070	836	42.70 %
Unknown (<i>Gender Known</i>)*	71	37	2.42 %
Unknown Other (<i>No Gender/Race Known</i>)		41	0.92 %
Total Citations		4,464	

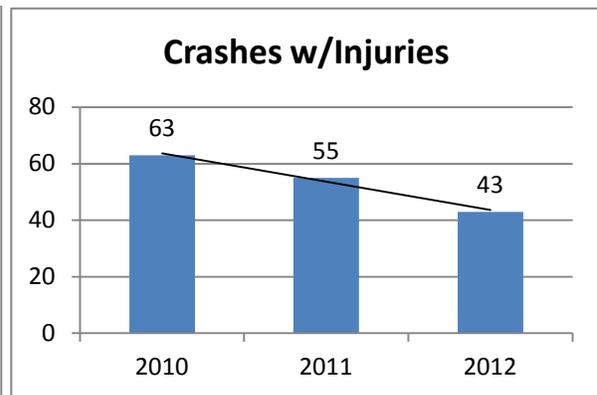
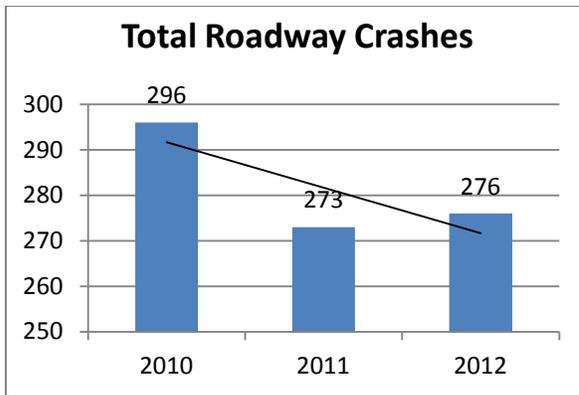


*Items notated as unknown refer to citations that were changed to warnings and didn't record all demographic information.

- b. Traffic Crashes ~ The Byram Police Department recorded 326 crash reports (20% of total reports taken) in 2012. Of those, 276 were Mississippi Uniform Crash Reports, indicating that they occurred on the roadways and included property damage greater than \$500.00 and/or personal injury. 43 (15%) of the reported crashes included injuries. Being that these crash reports are reported to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, historical data exists. In 2010, there were 296 crashes indicating a 6% reduction in total roadway crashes since the Byram Police Department assumed full police responsibilities. Of the 2010 crashes, 63 (21%) of the reported crashes included injuries. Comparing crashes with injuries between 2010 (63) and 2012 (43), there has been a reduction of 31%.

Rear-end crashes accounted for 31% of total crashes in 2012. Left-turn-cross-traffic crashes accounted for 7% of crashes in 2012. The data shows a reduction from 2010 to 2012 in left-turn-cross-traffic crashes of 29%. It is believed that aggressive proactive speed enforcement on Siwell Road is a principal factor in this reduction.

Year	2010	2011	2012
Crashes	296	273	276
Crashes w/Injuries	63	55	43
Rear End Crashes	101	115	103
Left-Turn Crashes	31	20	22



8. Animal Control

The Byram Police Animal Control Unit responded to 627 calls for service of which resulted in 111 incidents of animal control ordinance violations being reported. Most of these reports were complaint driven quality of life issues for our citizens.

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