



Educational Resource Officer Report 2012-13 through 2014-15 School Years

Key Findings

1. The number of arrests near MMSD high schools and the number of incidents leading to these arrests decreased by 16% from the 2012-13 school year to the 2014-15 school year.
2. The number of citations issued near MMSD high schools remained relatively constant over the past three school years, while the number of incidents leading to these citations also decreased by 16%.
3. The number of citations issued to students for truancy has decreased by 19% from the 2012-13 school year to the 2014-15 school year.
4. Fifty-five students participated in a TimeBank Youth Court session and 52 successfully completed their sentence, resulting in a 95% successful completion rate.

Background

The data in this report covers arrest and citation incidents that occurred on the campus of East, La Follette, Memorial, and West high school or adjacent to these campuses. The data includes incidents recorded during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 school year. To make the data reflective of school day activity, only incidents that occurred between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM on weekdays are analyzed.

Arrests can be any charge, from a state statute violation to an ordinance violation. When an arrest occurs the officer may choose to write a citation and release the individual, and this is recorded as a citation. An arrest for an ordinance violation may also be resolved, depending on the circumstances, by releasing the person without a citation, transporting the person for additional processing, or transporting the person and requiring that a bond be posted for release. The arrest and citation data in this report was provided by the Madison Police Department.

In this report an arrest charge is an arrest where a citation was not issued and the description for the offense was not truancy. Citations are arrests where a citation was issued and the description was not truancy. Citations for truancy are highlighted in a separate section and arrests for truancy are not analyzed. Truancy data is presented separately because it is the only recorded offense for failure to conform with a state statute concerning compliance with school specific expectations. All other listed offenses (e.g. Disorderly Conduct, Battery, and Possession of Marijuana) are crimes not specifically related to school expectations.

MPD data does not report whether individuals charged or cited for a crime are MMSD students. The data does include the age of an offender but not all juveniles in the area of MMSD high schools are necessarily MMSD students and some adults are MMSD students. We therefore cannot differentiate between MMSD students and non-students in this report.

We use National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) designations to summarize the types of crimes EROs cite and charge people for during the school year. The NIBRS is an incident-based reporting system for crimes known to the police under the Uniform Crime Reporting program. There are 94 agencies reporting NIBRS in Wisconsin.

This report also presents data provided by the Dane County TimeBank. The Dane County TimeBank Youth Court works with high school aged youth to provide an alternative to the juvenile justice system. When an ERO charges a student with some types of ordinance violations the officer can refer the student to Youth Court based on the circumstances. The student can either accept the citation or charge for the offense or attend Youth Court in abeyance of the charge or citation. Students can only attend Youth Court after admitting guilt. An ERO's ability to refer high school aged youth to Youth Court is an important diversionary tool for implementing restorative justice in MMSD.



Data Notes for Report

In RPEO Report 2015-3-2 *ERO Citations and Arrests 2010-11 through 2013-14 School Year*, the number of arrests, citations, truanancies, and the number of incidents leading to arrests and citations are different from the numbers in this report. The difference in numbers is due to this report including an expanded geographic area for ERO activity and a change in the way truancy data is summarized and presented.

In last year's report, data was presented for incidents occurring at the addresses of traditional MMSD high schools. A review of ERO year-end reports to MMSD Principals revealed that EROs spend a large amount of time and resources providing services on the entirety of the high school's grounds and areas where students congregate during the school day. Therefore, this report includes incidents that occurred anywhere on a high school's campus or adjacent to the grounds (across the street) but not necessarily at the high schools' address. Important exceptions are incidents that occurred at shopping centers adjacent to MMSD high schools, notably West Towne Mall which is diagonally adjacent to Memorial High School, and middle schools that are on the high school's campus, Jefferson Middle School on Memorial's campus and Sennett Middle School on La Follette's campus. Incidences occurring at shopping centers and middle schools are more attributable to activity occurring at those locations than to the normal activities of the high school.

In this report, citations for truancy are presented separately because they are qualitatively different from all other citation data. Truancy citations are issued at the request of school administration for a pattern of past behavior regarding a statute governing school behavior. All other citations are issued because a person is violating an ordinance or law at a discrete time (an incident) which is not directly related to a statute specific to school behavior. Because truancy citations are issued at the request of school administration and not due to a discrete incident, the numbers of incidents leading to truancy citations are not presented in this report. In last year's report, the numbers of incidents leading to truancy citations were presented and truanancies were included in the count of total citations.

Truanancies that do not have a recorded citation (arrests) are not presented in this report because they are qualitatively very different from all other arrests. The most common reasons for an arrest are disorderly conduct, simple battery, and resisting an officer; presenting truanancies under this category would inflate data that describes comparatively serious law enforcement near MMSD high schools. As a note, very few truancy records were categorized as an arrest charge in last year's report.

Arrest data reports Asian, black or African American, and white as racial categories. Citation data reports Hispanic or Latino as an ethnicity category along with these racial categories. In this report, data identifying six or fewer individuals is suppressed (identified by SPR). Some records lack demographic data. This conforms to Research & Program Evaluation Office policy regarding data that identify small numbers of students. When data is suppressed other data representing more than 6 individuals will be suppressed so that the suppressed number cannot be deduced.

Arrests and Citations and Incidents leading to Arrests and Citations

In this report we present the number of arrests and citations and the number of incidents that led to these enforcement activities. As an example, during the 2014-15 school year there were 69 incidents that led to an arrest and 114 recorded arrest charges that resulted from these incidents. The larger number of arrests results from more than one person being arrested during an incident, one person being charged with more than one arrest offense, or both of these occurring together. The same applies for citations, with more than one person being given a citation, one person being given more than one citation, or both of these occurring together.

NIBRS Designations

Each NIBRS offense is assigned to one of three categories: Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society. Crimes Against Persons (e.g. sexual assault and battery) are crimes whose victims are always individuals. Crimes Against Property (e.g. theft and vandalism) are crimes whose object is to obtain money, property, or some other similar benefit. Crimes Against Society (e.g. disorderly conduct and possession of drugs) are crimes where a violation of a societal prohibition against engaging in certain types of activities has occurred; they are typically victimless crimes in which property is not the object of the crime. In this report we label crimes not covered by these three categorizations in the NIBRS documentation All Other Offenses.



Arrests 2012-13 through 2014-15

Number of Arrests (Arrest Incidents) near MMSD high school property by high school					
	East High	La Follette High	Memorial High	West High	District
2012-13	51 (34)	36 (18)	23 (15)	25 (15)	135 (82)
2013-14	52 (34)	SPR (SPR)	SPR (SPR)	53 (20)	141 (80)
2014-15	34 (19)	24 (14)	17 (12)	39 (24)	114 (69)

** Statistics that identify six or fewer individuals are suppressed to protect privacy (denoted by SPR)

The number of arrests near MMSD high schools and the number of incidents leading to these arrests have decreased over the past three school years by 16%. The school with the fewest arrests during each of the past three years was Memorial High School. The largest decrease in the number of arrests was for East High School, from 51 arrests during the 2012-13 school year to 34 during the 2014-15 school year, a decrease of 33%. The largest decrease in the number of incidents leading to an arrest was also for East, from 34 during the 2012-13 school year to 19 during the 2013-14 school year, a decrease of 44%. Only West High School experienced an increase in the number of arrests and incidents leading to an arrest.

Number of Arrests (Arrest Incidents) near MMSD high school property by demographics						
	Black or African American	White	Adult	Juvenile	Female	Male
2012-13	119 (68)	14 (13)	8 (6)	127 (76)	34 (22)	101 (61)
2013-14	110 (63)	27 (18)	18 (10)	123 (70)	35 (19)	106 (62)
2014-15	96 (59)	15 (11)	9 (6)	105 (65)	31 (21)	83 (53)

The majority of arrests involved people identified as black or African American during each school year, the percent ranging from 79% to 89% over the past three school years. The majority of arrests also involved people identified as male during each school year, the percent ranging from 73% to 75%. While the percentages of arrests involving these demographic groups have stayed relatively constant, the numbers have decreased as the overall number of arrests has decreased.

Number of Arrests (Arrest Incidents) near MMSD high school property by NIBRS Category				
	Crimes Against Persons	Crimes Against Property	Crimes Against Society	All Other Offenses
2012-13	21 (16)	11 (5)	73 (52)	30 (27)
2013-14	31 (28)	25 (15)	57 (46)	28 (24)
2014-15	19 (17)	13 (12)	50 (43)	32 (26)

The majority of arrests during each school year were for Crimes Against Society, ranging from 40% to 54% of all arrest charges. The most common NIBRS Offense Description was Disorderly Conduct (a Crime Against Society), ranging from 30% to 31% of all arrest charges. Most NIBRS Offense Descriptions only cover a few arrest charges.



Citations 2012-13 through 2014-15

Number of Citations (Citation Incidents) near MMSD high school property by high school					
Row Labels	East High	La Follette High	Memorial High	West High	District
2012-13	23 (20)	10 (6)	37 (26)	36 (29)	106 (81)
2013-14	46 (33)	21 (13)	21 (14)	29 (19)	117 (79)
2014-15	22 (16)	SPR (SPR)	44 (19)	35 (27)	SPR (SPR)

** Statistics that identify six or fewer individuals are suppressed to protect privacy (denoted by SPR)

The number of citations issued near MMSD high schools remained relatively constant over the past three school years while the number of incidents leading to these citations decreased by 16%. The school with the fewest citations and number of incidents leading to these citations during the 2014-15 school year was La Follette High School.

Remember that these numbers are much lower than in the *ERO Citations and Arrests 2010-11 through 2013-14 School Year* report because citations issued for truancy have been removed and are presented in their own section.

Number of Citations (Citation Incidents) near MMSD high school property by high school							
	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White	Adult	Juvenile	Female	Male
2012-13	84 (64)	SPR (SPR)	18 (15)	23 (18)	83 (66)	38 (27)	68 (54)
2013-14	76 (52)	11 (7)	28 (21)	18 (15)	99 (66)	38 (22)	79 (62)
2014-15	95 (56)	SPR (SPR)	11 (9)	8 (7)	101 (64)	38 (24)	71 (47)

** Statistics that identify six or fewer individuals are suppressed to protect privacy (denoted by SPR)

The majority of citations were issued to people identified as black or African American in each school year, the percent ranging from 65% to 87%. The majority of citations also involved people identified as male in each school year, the percent ranging from 64% to 68%. The number of citations issued to males is less disproportionate than the number of arrests involving males.

Number of Citations (Citation Incidents) near MMSD high school property by NIBRS Category				
	Crimes Against Persons	Crimes Against Property	Crimes Against Society	All Other Offenses
2012-13	SPR (SPR)	SPR (SPR)	64 (52)	32 (24)
2013-14	SPR (SPR)	SPR (SPR)	84 (60)	27 (18)
2014-15	SPR (SPR)	SPR (SPR)	68 (49)	20 (11)

** Statistics that identify six or fewer individuals are suppressed to protect privacy (denoted by SPR)

The majority of citations were for Crimes Against Society, ranging from 60% to 72%. All three of the most common NIBRS Offense descriptions are in Crimes Against Society: disorderly conduct, trespass of real property, and drug and narcotic violations. Disorderly Conduct, the most common offense, ranged from 25% to 44% of all citations.



Truancy Citations 2012-13 through 2014-15

Number of Truancy Citations near MMSD high school property by high school					
	East High	La Follette High	Memorial High	West High	District
2012-13	35	28	43	28	134
2013-14	15	42	17	23	97
2014-15	22	31	37	18	108

Truancy citations are issued to habitually truant students by EROs at the request of the school administration in accordance with their school plan for dealing with attendance issues. As defined by Wisconsin State Statute, a habitual truant is a pupil who is absent without an acceptable excuse for part or all of five or more days on which school is being held during a school semester.

The number of citations issued to students for truancy has decreased from 134 during the 2012-13 school year to 108 during the 2014-15 school year, a decrease of 19%. The school with the largest decrease in truancy citations was East High School, from 35 during the 2012-13 school year to 22 during the 2014-15 school year, a decrease of 37%.

Recall that since truancy citations are issued at the request of school administration and are not due to a discrete incident the numbers of incidents leading to truancy citations are not presented in this report (see **Data Notes for Report** section on page 2).

Number of Truancy Citations near MMSD high school property by demographics							
	Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White	Female	Male	District
2012-13	SPR	74	12	40	54	80	134
2013-14	8	46	18	25	49	48	97
2014-15	SPR	61	10	31	45	62	108

The largest portion of truancy citations were issued to students identified as black or African American, ranging from 47% to 58%. The number of truanies issued to students identified as black or African American is less disproportionate than either arrest charges or citations. Almost all truancy citations are issued to juvenile students. During the 2012-13 and 2014-15, males were more likely to be issued a truancy citation, being 60% and 58% of the students receiving truancy citations respectively. During the 2013-14 school year female students received 51% of the truancy citations.



2014-15 Dane County TimeBank Youth Court

The Dane County TimeBank Youth Court consists of a jury of the student’s peers serving under the supervision of an adult. The sentence is decided upon and delivered by the jury. The student has 60 days to complete the sentence. After the 60 days is up and the sentence is completed, the ticket or charge is destroyed and the violation does not appear on the student’s record. If the student fails to complete the sentence in 60 days, the ticket or charge is issued.

Summary of 2014-15 TimeBank Youth Court Sessions and Referrals					
	East	La Follette	Memorial	West	District
Total number of sessions	8	7	4	7	26
Total number of referrals	20	8	6	23	57

During the 2014-15 school year 57 students were referred to the TimeBank Youth Court by EROs. Of the 57 students that were referred, 55 participated in a Youth Court session and 52 successfully completed their sentence, resulting in a 95% successful completion rate for participating students. Sixty-five percent of referred students were identified as black or African American (37 students), 18% white (10), and 16% Hispanic or Latino (9). Sixty-three percent of students were identified as male (36) and 37% as female (21).

Summary of 2014-15 TimeBank Youth Court Referred Citations and Charges

Fight	18
Disorderly Conduct	11
Theft	9
Marijuana Possession	6
Breaking And Entering	4
Unauthorized Use Of Computerized Communication Device	3
Trespassing	2
Battery	2
Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia	1

** The breakdown by school is suppressed to protect student privacy

The most common charges and citations referred to Youth Court were fighting (18 charges or citations), disorderly conduct (11), theft (9), and possession of marijuana (6).

In abeyance of the charges and citations students were sentenced to 396 hours of homework club and tutoring and 89 hours of community service. Other common activities were mentoring and peer mentoring sessions, apology letters, after school activities and clubs, and anger management sessions.

The youth jurors earn the opportunity to develop leadership capabilities, deepen their involvement in their community, and earn TimeBank hours of service that can be exchanged for services provided by others participating in the Dane County TimeBank. One hundred and twenty-five jurors participated during the 2014-15 school year earning 644 hours of TimeBank service. Of these 125 jurors, 23 were returning jurors and 5 were students who were previously sentenced in the TimeBank Youth Court.



Summary of Sentences dispensed by TimeBank Youth Court 2014-15					
	East	La Follette	Memorial	West	District
Hours of service					
Homework club and tutoring hours	176	48	64	108	396
Community service hours	20	0	0	69	89
Participation in activity sessions					
After-school activity and club participation sessions	15	8	1	16	40
Mentoring sessions	0	4	18	12	34
Peer mentoring sessions	0	24	0	0	24
Anger management sessions	4	2	0	14	20
Dance movement therapy sessions	0	0	0	4	4
Non-violent conflict resolution sessions	0	0	4	0	4
Required jury duty sessions	2	0	0	1	3
Other sentences					
Apology letters	6	6	1	10	23
Essays, reflection work, research papers, and goal setting activities	5	2	2	7	16
Meet with someone for career opportunities and guidance	5	1	2	5	13
Apply for jobs	9	3	0	0	12
Meet with staff or teachers for missing work and improving grades	4	0	1	3	8
Attendance improvement monitoring	4	0	1	3	8
Meet with a trusted adult at school weekly	2	2	0	2	6
Personal organization improvement activities	0	0	0	1	1
Make a positive message poster	1	0	0	0	1



Next Steps

This report improves upon the previous year's report in several ways. The data summarized in this report is more geographically comprehensive than the past report because it includes incidents occurring on and near the high school's campus and not just at the high school's address. The analysis of citation data in this report is more descriptive than in the past because truancy citations have been separated from the other citation data. This improved our ability to count the number of citations and the incidents that lead to these citations because trancies are not due to incidents. This report also introduces data on ERO referrals of students to the Dane County TimeBank Youth Court in abeyance of a citations they have been issued. It also describes the activities the students were sentenced to complete, all of which gave them opportunities to rebuild damaged relationships and better prepare to succeed in the long run.

However, this report does not attempt a comprehensive review of EROs' work in our schools or an analysis of the effect they have on the security, safety, learning environment, or culture of MMSD's traditional high schools. As we engage in future analysis of ERO activities we will continue to gather more data to better describe their overall impact on the schools they serve.

An important area of future exploration will be educational services rendered to the schools they serve. During the 2014-15 school year, EROs provided safety education to staff (i.e. Active Shooter Training) and a number of classroom discussions with students concerning various topics. Officers can build rapport with students through these classroom discussions, impart their expertise on issues concerning criminal justice and the role of the MPD in their community, and share their perspective on how skills developed during high school are used to be an effective Officer and member of the community. Analyzing the amount of time and resources used by EROs to provide direct educational services to students would greatly improve the ability of this report to more comprehensively describe the function and effect of MMSD EROs.

In the meantime, the District will continue to implement best practices that utilize alternatives to arrest: early intervention, prevention, and restorative justice concepts and practices.