

**Remote HHS and Public Safety
Meeting Agenda**
September 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM
Remote Meeting



MEMBERS

Councilor Anna Bullett, District 4, Chair
Councilor April Fournier, At-Large
Councilor Sarah Michniewicz, District 1
Councilor Wesley Pelletier, District 2

To submit written public comment on an agenda item, email HHSPS@portlandmaine.gov. Submissions must be received by 12:00 pm the day before the Health & Human Services and Public Safety meeting to guarantee their inclusion in the agenda packet. All submissions must include the commenter's name and legal address. To help ensure your comment is submitted for the correct item, please include the name of the agenda item (see below).

The Health & Human Services and Public Safety Committee will conduct this meeting remotely via Zoom pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Portland City Council. Allow your computer to install the free Zoom app to get the best meeting experience. If you are not able to attend live either in person or via Zoom, a recording will be available in the [Agenda Center](#) following the meeting.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar!

When: Sep 8, 2026 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Remote HHS and Public Safety Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/86806617879?pwd=uIevRfpbb2WtibbAZGTaIWmnUbz1FG.1>

Passcode:376333

Phone one-tap:

+13126266799,,86806617879#,,,,*376333# US (Chicago)

+16469313860,,86806617879#,,,,*376333# US

Join via audio:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

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+1 669 444 9171 US

Webinar ID: 868 0661 7879

Passcode: 376333

International numbers available: <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/kbyrV7LwtK>

1. Announcements
2. Review and Approval of Minutes from July 14, 2026
 - a. Draft Meeting Minutes
3. Update on 2026-2027 Winter Warming Emergency Shelter (WWS) (Aaron Geyer, Social Services Director)
Staff will update on the outcome of the request for expressions of interest for WWS partners and current plans.
 - a. Staff Update
4. Staff Update Opt-In Notifications for Cruise Ship Outbreaks (Bridget Rauscher, Public Health Director)
Staff will give a verbal update on opt-in alerts sent if City is notified by Federal or State CDC of docking cruise ship with outbreak status.
 - a. Staff Update
5. Public Safety Update (Mark Dubois, Police Chief)
Public safety update, including a discussion of potential policy options to support public safety.
 - a. Staff Update
6. Next Meeting: October 13, 2025

Health & Human Services and Public Safety Committee

July 14, 2026, 5:30 PM Remote Meeting

Committee Attendance:

Anna Bullett, Chair (District 4), Sarah Michniewicz (District 1), (Wesley Pelletier (District 2).
April Fournier (At-Large)

City Staff:

Adam Harr, Executive Assistant; Maggie McLoughlin, Director of HHS; Dena Libner, Assistant City Manager; Mary Davis, Housing and Community Development Director; Mary Christie, Associate Corporation Council; Greg Jordan, Assistant City Manager.

1. Approval of Minutes

Councilor Fournier move to approve and seconded by Councilor Pelletier and the minutes were approved unanimously 4 - 0

2. Opioid Settlement Funds

Assistant City Manager summarized the memo in the packet.

Approving Winter Warming shelter would not preclude applying for Maine Housing funds; it would allow us to hire positions regardless of other funding availability.

Chair Bullett clarified that this would allow to recruit and train staff as the grant is released in September with a start date just weeks later.

Councilor Pelletier thanked staff for putting this together.

Councilor Michniewicz is ok with expediting process as much as she would want to see it at the committee before, she is mindful of time.

The Committee is comfortable looking at ordinance at the full council.

Public comment opened at 5:45

Tess Parks resident of district 5 and policy director of Maine recovery coalition thinks it makes sense to have an ordinance to provide guardrails, accountability and transparency and requests the council looks at the language around public communication and input. Other Maine communities have advisory committees with people with lived experience and other stakeholders. Or add requirements for public engagement. Most people in recovery or who use drugs are not aware that these meetings take place and they are supportive of using this fund for winter warming shelter.

Public comment closed at 5:47

3. Food Distribution

Director McLoughlin recapped the memo updating on the Cotton Street food distribution pilot program.

The outreach team will have a vehicle soon to be able to transport people from food distribution to services and shelter.

Councilor Michniewicz said what seems novel for cotton street has been experienced by other parts of the City.

Chair Bullett would like a search of alternative sites with indoor spaces and some bathroom facilities as desired parameters.

Councilor Pelletier would like to see alternating sites, even if only two.

The Committee requested Ideas from partners around mitigation efforts outside of a day space, a staff prepared analysis of varying levels of mitigation efforts that include the police Department and Public Works and a light search of other sites.

4. CDBG Performance Metrics

Mary Davis summarized her CDBG memo and the goal of looking at performance metrics at the committee. How is CDBG improving the issues the projects address overall in the community. There is a taskforce looking at the CDBG allocation process which will report to the City Council in the fall.

The Social Service awards range from \$20,000 to \$135,000 with development awards tending to be greater as they are brick and mortar projects.

Councilor Michniewicz asked about the housing safety metric and Maine Housing's role. Director Davis responded HOME funds have different requirements than CDBG which has the City verifying with housing providers that their rents meet affordability standards and that their properties meet HUD standards; MaineHousing does annual inspections. The Housing Safety office investigates on a case by case basis.

Councilor Michniewicz moved to adjourn and seconded by councilor Pelletier; motion passed 3-0 with Councilor Fournier no longer present at time of vote.



Health and Human Service / Public Safety Committee

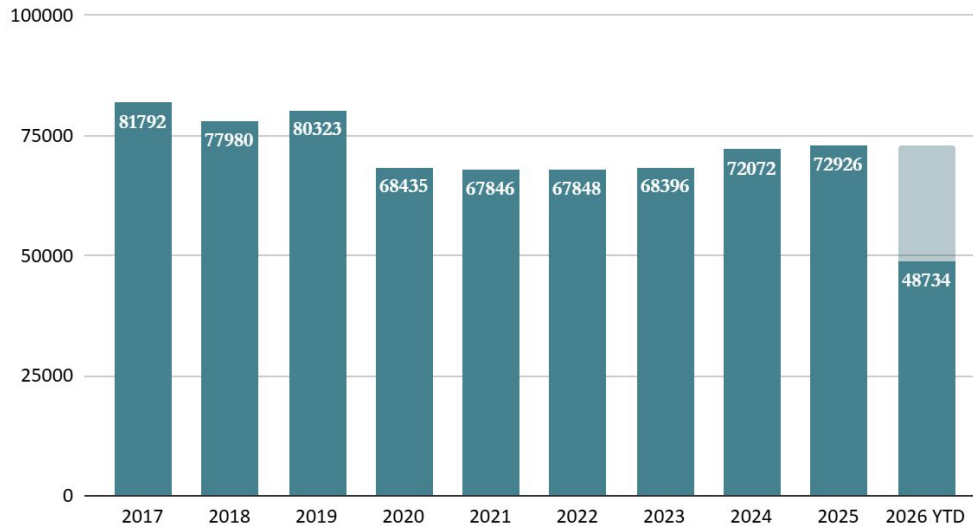
*Public Safety Update
Portland Police Department*

September 8, 2026

Crime Trends and Analysis - Calls for Service

Calls for Service by Year

Calls For Service by Year



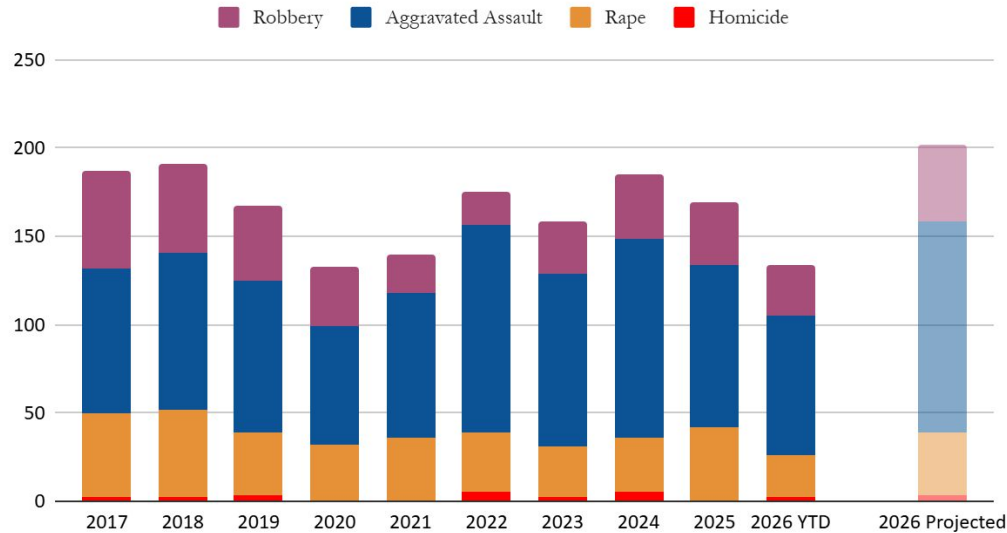
*2026 data represents January–August 31; 2026 full-year projection: ~73,100

- Calls for service ranged from 77,980 to 81,792 annually, before declining during the pandemic.
- Following the pandemic-related decline, call volume remained relatively stable through 2023 before beginning to increase in 2024 and 2025.
- 2026 currently stands at 48,734 calls through August 31 and is projected to reach approximately 73,100 by year-end if the current pace continues.
- The projected 2026 total would be consistent with recent activity levels, but approximately 10.8% below the 2017 peak.

Crime Trends and Analysis

Violent Crime by Year

Violent Crime by Year

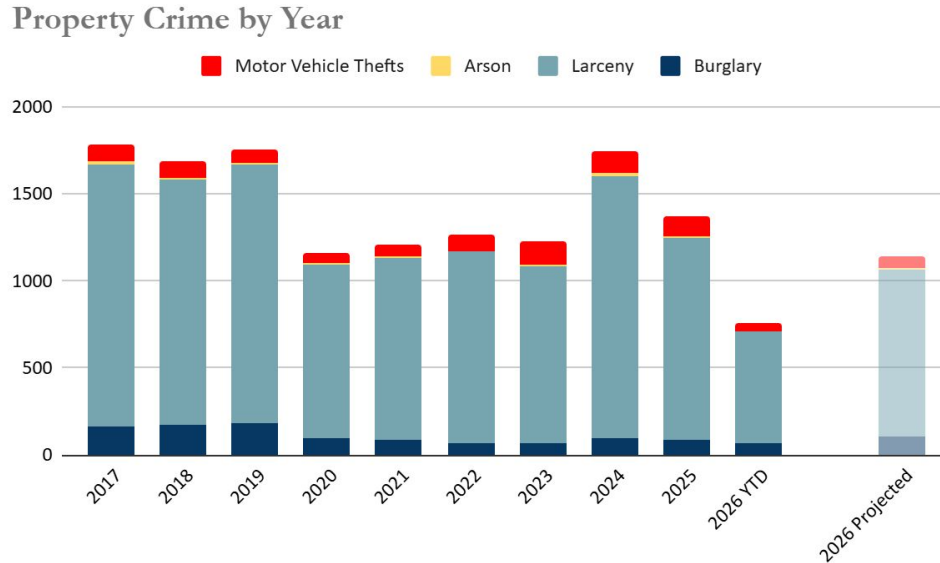


*2026 YTD through August 31; 2026 projections are annualized based on January–August activity and assume the average monthly pace continues through year-end.

- From 2021 through 2025, annual violent crime totals ranged from 158 to 185 incidents, with the highest total occurring in 2024.
- Through August 2026, there have been 134 violent crime incidents, with the year projected to reach approximately 201 incidents if the current pace continues.
- Aggravated assault has accounted for the largest share of violent crime throughout the 10-year period, while homicide has remained comparatively low and variable from year to year.

Crime Trends and Analysis

Property Crime by Year

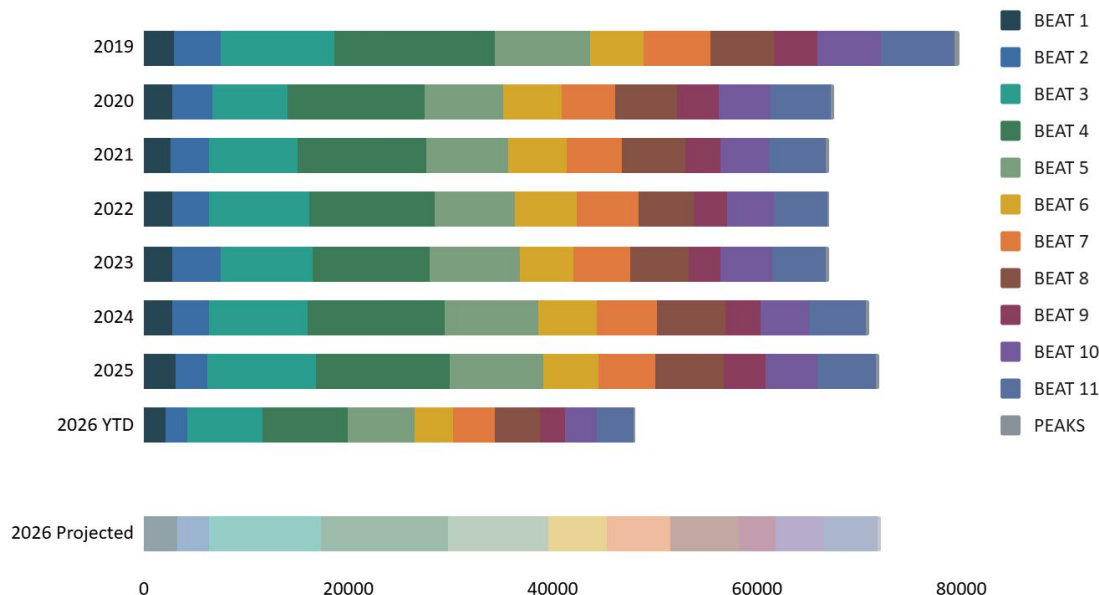


*2026 YTD through August 31; 2026 projections are annualized based on January–August activity and assume the average monthly pace continues through year-end.

- Following several years of relatively stable activity, property crime increased sharply in 2024 to 1,741 incidents before declining to 1,369 in 2025.
- Through August 2026, 758 property crimes have been reported, with the year projected to end at approximately 1,137 incidents if the current pace continues.
- The 2026 projection would represent an approximately 17% decrease from 2025 and would be the lowest annual total since 2021.

Crime Trends and Analysis - Calls for Service

Calls For Service by Patrol Beat

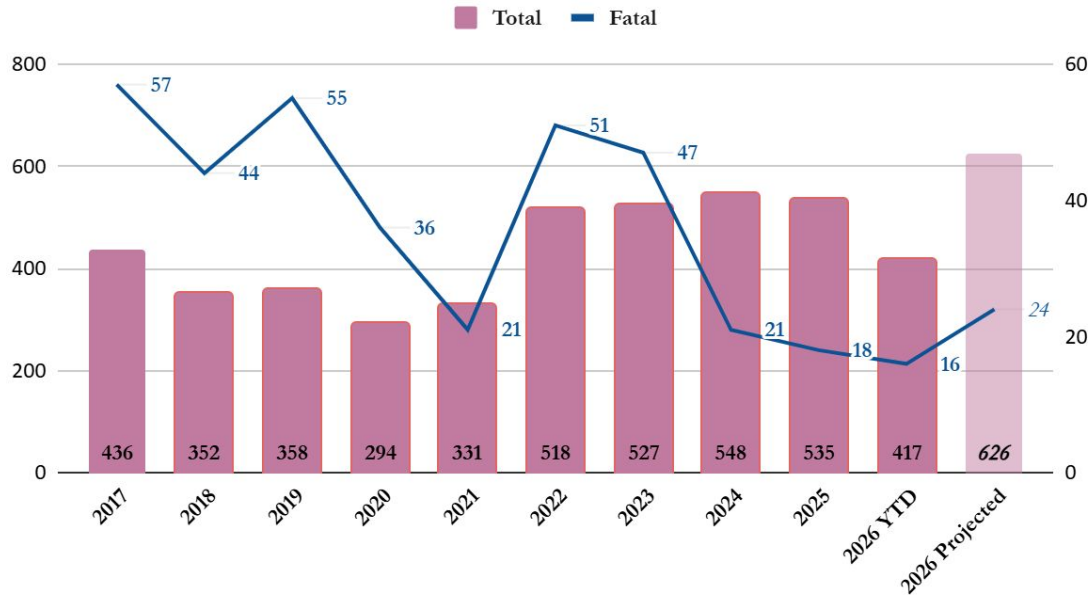


- Beat 4 (Bayside) remains the busiest patrol beat, despite declining from 15,679 calls in 2019 to 13,096 in 2025.
- Beat 2 (East Bayside) has shown considerable fluctuation, peaking at 4,748 calls in 2023 before declining to 3,116 in 2025.
- Beat 8 (Riverside) has experienced one of the more notable recent increases, rising from 5,486 calls in 2022 to 6,807 in 2025.
- 2026 projections suggest the overall distribution of calls among patrol beats will remain generally consistent with recent years, with Beats 3, 4, and 5 continuing to account for the largest volumes.

*2026 YTD through August 31; projected 2026 totals based on the current YTD pace

Crime Trends and Analysis - Overdoses

Overdoses by Year



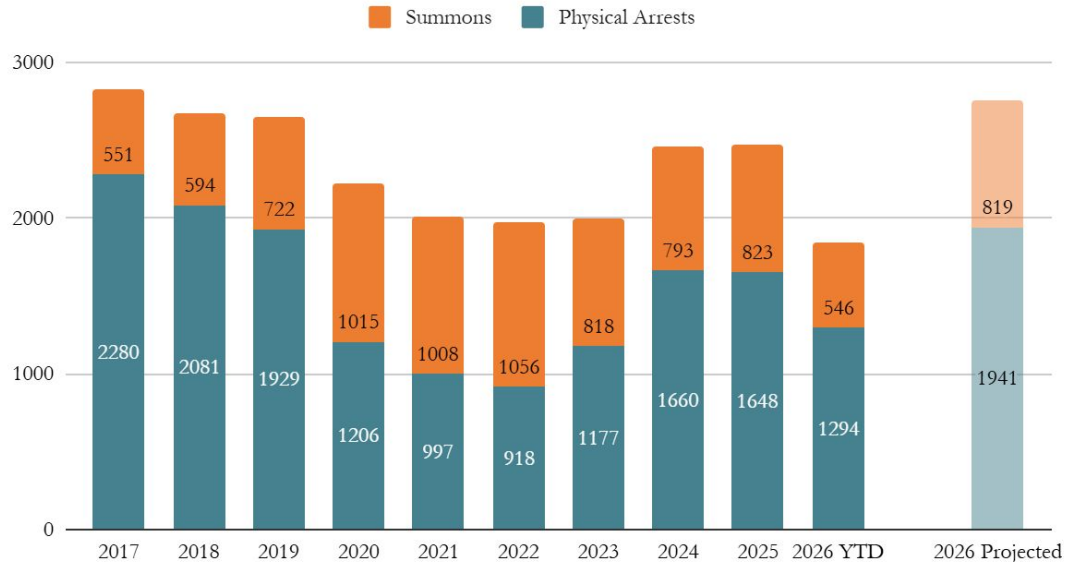
*2026 YTD through August 31; projected 2026 totals based on the current YTD pace

- Total overdoses increased sharply beginning in 2022 and have remained above 500 annually through 2025.
- Despite elevated overdose activity, fatal overdoses declined from 51 in 2022 to 18 in 2025, a 65% decrease.
- Beat 4 recorded the most overdoses (139), followed by Beat 8 (91), together accounting for approximately 55% of total overdoses.
- Officers administered Narcan 38 times during the first six months of 2026, compared with 27 during the same period in 2025, a 40.7% increase.
- Based on the current pace, 2026 is projected to reach approximately 626 overdoses and 24 fatalities; if sustained, total overdoses would reach the highest level in the 10-year period while fatalities would remain well below earlier peaks.

Crime Trends and Analysis - Arrests

- Physical arrests declined from 2,280 in 2017 to 918 in 2022, before rebounding in 2023–2024.
- Summons exceeded physical arrests in 2021 and 2022 as the use of physical arrests declined.
- Physical arrests remained relatively stable in 2025 following the sharp increase in 2024.
- The most frequent charges during the first six months of 2026 were warrants, violating conditions of release, unlawful possession of drugs, assault, and criminal trespass.
- Through August 2026, there have been 1,294 physical arrests and 546 summons. At the current pace, approximately 1,941 arrests and 819 summons are projected for the full year.

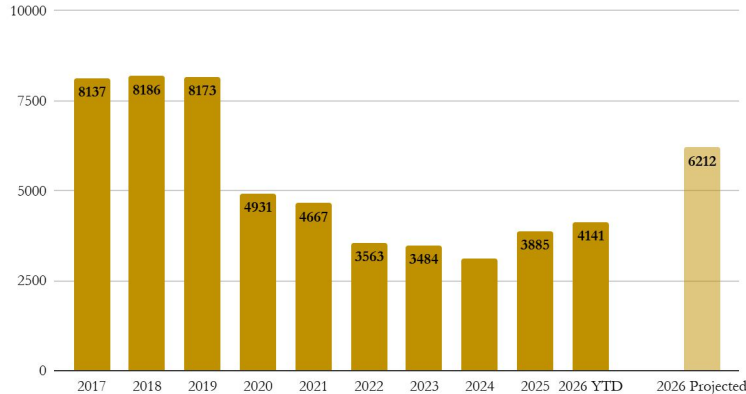
Arrests by Year



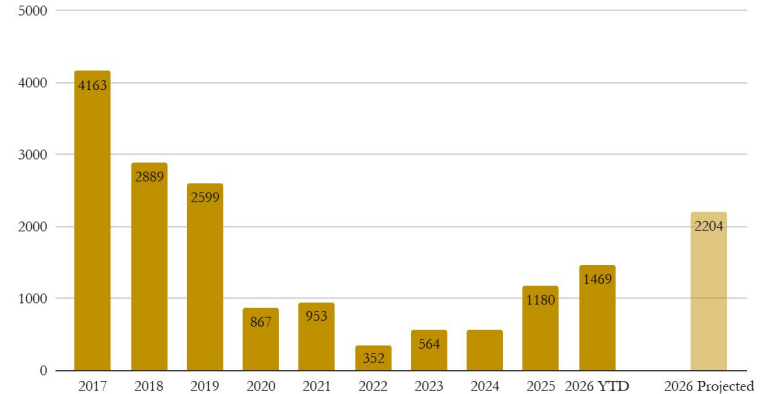
*2026 YTD through August 31; projected 2026 totals based on the current YTD pace

Crime Trends and Analysis - Traffic

Traffic Stops by Year



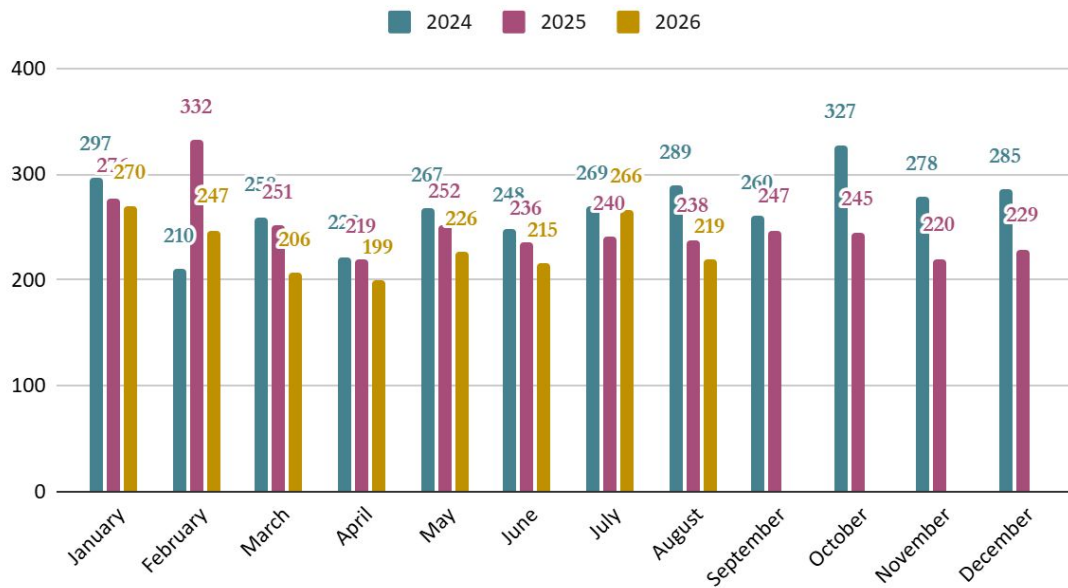
Traffic Citations by Year



- Traffic stops declined substantially from more than 8,100 annually in 2017–2019 to a low of 3,117 in 2024.
- Traffic enforcement increased in 2025, with stops rising to 3,885 and citations more than doubling from 562 to 1,180.
- Through August 2026, both stops and citations have already exceeded their full-year 2025 totals.
- At the current pace, 2026 is projected to reach approximately 6,212 traffic stops and 2,204 citations.
- The most common violations ticketed in 2026 were no insurance, red light violations, stop sign violations, cell phone use, and failure to register.

Crime Trends and Analysis - Traffic

Crash Comparison by Month and Year



- Crashes decreased by approximately 13% in the first six months of 2026.
- All six months showed a decrease in crashes compared to 2025, with February experiencing the largest decline at 25.6%.
- Overall, the first six months of 2026 had the lowest number of crashes of the three-year comparison, representing a 9.3% decrease from 2024.
- Injury-related crashes accounted for 17.6% of all incidents, with 6 involving bicycles and 22 involving pedestrians.



Health and Human Service / Public Safety Committee

*Public Safety Update
Portland Police Department*

September 8, 2026