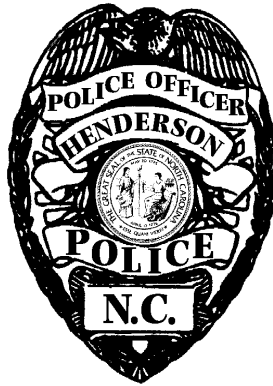


CITY OF HENDERSON

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Preliminary 2003 Annual Report

Credit for gathering and posting this data goes to Capt. C.R. Crumpler and Lt. P.L. Twisdale of the Henderson PD Administrative Services Division, and to the members of the Police Department's Records Division. Although this data accurately reflects all categories, an exact analysis and report cannot be issued until UCR statistics are verified by the state and until the State releases its annual summary report, which is not scheduled until mid-year 2004. Therefore, this report is termed "preliminary". This Preliminary 2003 Annual Report will be published on the Henderson Police Department's Internet web site and made available to the public.

Glen B. Allen, Chief of Police
February 27, 2004

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

Synopsis

The following is the Henderson Police Department's preliminary annual report on Part I Crimes. The data in this summary covers the period from January 1 through December 31, 2003. During the year 2003, the Henderson Police Department received 2255 reports of Part I (Index) Offenses, an increase of 19.8 % from the 1881 reports filed in 2002.

The number of Property Crimes that became known to the police in 2003 increased by 375 over the number of offenses reported in 2002 (an increase of 22.1 %), while the number of Violent Crimes decreased fractionally overall.

The total increase in reported Part I crimes over the previous year is entirely attributable to the increase in property crimes. The Violent Crime rate was unchanged. (There was actually one fewer violent crime reported in 2003.)

Thefts from vehicles, a category of larceny for which 221 more offenses were reported than in 2002, accounted for greater than one-half (56.1 %) of the overall increase in Part I Crimes, and 58.9 % of the increase in Larceny (theft) offenses reported.

**HENDERSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Preliminary Index Crime Report for Calendar Year 2003**

Part I Crimes (Index Offenses) 2001-2003			
Crime	2002	2003	2002 to 2003 Change*
Murder	0	1	+ 1
Rape (Forcible)	9	4	- 5
Robbery	71	78	+ 7
Aggravated Assault	117	113	- 3.4 %
Violent Crime Total	197	196	- 0.5 %
Burglary	381	389	+ 2 %
Larceny	1,229	1,577	+ 28.3 %
Motor Vehicle Theft	74	93	+ 19
Property Crime Total	1,684	2,059	+ 22.2 %
TOTAL INDEX CRIMES	1,881	2,255	+ 19.8 %

*Change shown by number of incidents (not by percentage if category total is less than 100).

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

WHY IS CRIME ON THE INCREASE IN HENDERSON ?

The crime rate in our city has increased considerably over last year's rate. Our community is very diverse and Henderson's crime problems can best be understood by examining contributing factors that are unique to our area. The following facts are troublesome, but significant from an analytical perspective:

1. Our local double-digit unemployment rate consistently leads the state. Jobs are disappearing as manufacturing and textile facilities leave or close down.
2. Compared to the country, the south, and NC, our community has a high poverty rate, higher even than other rural NC areas. The poverty rate is especially high for children under 17 and for single female heads of households. We have a higher percentage of single-parents (or grandparents) raising children than other parts of NC.
3. Henderson has a much larger percentage of rental properties and fewer owner-occupied homes than other areas of NC.
4. Median household income in Henderson is nearly \$8,000 per year less than the state median.
5. Teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease rates are much higher than the state average.
6. Our adult population (over age 25) has a low educational attainment level. Only 17% have college degrees and 32% are without a high school diploma or GED.
7. Henderson PD remains understaffed. Low pay and rigors of the job suppress officer recruitment.

The aforementioned are socio-economic problems that historically are related to the crime rate. It is noteworthy that in 2003, thefts from vehicles, (a category of theft for which 221 more offenses were reported than in 2002), accounted for more than half (56 %) of the overall increase in Part I Crimes, and 59 % of the annual increase in Larceny (theft) offenses reported. Most thefts involved the stealing of cell phones, handbags and other articles that were left in plain view inside the car. About 40 % of vehicle break-ins involved cars that were not locked at all!

- **In summary....thefts from vehicles account for almost all of the past year's statistical increase in Part I Crimes.** Public awareness campaigns have run throughout 2003 emphasizing people to always lock car doors and roll up windows tightly, and to keep purses, cell phones and other valuables out of sight locked in the vehicle trunks. Unfortunately, most have not heeded such prevention tips.

An assessment of this problem must begin with the understanding that different people will look at the same facts and reach very different conclusions. One can surely surmise that the crime rate is but a symptom of more serious social maladies.

Social, economic, and cultural problems in our city can be addressed with a comprehensive approach involving law enforcement and various community disciplines and diverse groups or organizations. Efforts such as our schools' renewed efforts to close the achievement gaps, the emerging Team Vance project, and Vance Granville Community College's outreach efforts (to name a few) offer hope for the future. These and other efforts, in coordination with local, state and federal resources, will have a positive impact upon our community and can reduce crime in the long term.

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

The table below offers a five-year summary of Part I crimes reported in Henderson.

**Henderson Police Department
Part I Crimes (Index Offenses)
Five Year Review
1999-2003**

Crime	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Murder	3	2	5	0	1
Rape (Forcible)	6	7	2	9	4
Robbery	70	55	59	71	78
Aggravated Assault	121	119	120	117	113
Violent Crime Total	200	183	186	197	196
Burglary	366	343	380	381	389
Larceny	1,120	1,096	1,159	1,229	1,577
Motor Vehicle Theft	85	76	63	74	93
Property Crime Total	1,571	1,515	1,602	1,684	2,059
TOTAL INDEX CRIMES	1,771	1,698	1,788	1,881	2,255

See Appendix A for an explanation of how Uniform Crime Reporting is scored and tabulated for statistical analysis.

In 2003 officers arrested or served criminal process (arrest warrants, orders for arrest) upon persons age 16 or older on 2,165 different occasions for 2,999 total offenses charged (this number does not include citation charges). Officers handled or served petitions upon a juvenile offender on 108 different occasions for 135 total offenses (does not include traffic offenses).

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

ARREST CHARGE TOTALS BY TYPE OF OFFENSE			
Age 16 & Over			
(Three Year Report)			
	2001	2002	2003
Murder	5	6	1
Rape	0	6	1
Robbery	17	23	30
Aggravated Assault	87	75	72
Burglary	48	70	73
Larceny	209	181	226
Motor Vehicle Theft	9	14	3
Simple Assault	415	408	412
Arson	3	1	1
Forgery/Counterfeiting	49	40	23
Fraud	356	221	215
Embezzlement	2	2	4
Stolen Property	115	73	81
Vandalism (Criminal Damage to Property)	104	107	77
Weapons Violations	78	84	93
Prostitution	3	5	0
All Other Sex Offenses	2	4	8
Drug Violations	341	392	363
Gambling	1	1	0
Offenses Against Family	30	39	9
DWI	275	142	167
Liquor Law Violations	70	47	31
Disorderly Conduct	73	65	73
Obscene Material / Pornography	0	0	0
All Other Offenses	880	731	719
Total	3,172	2,737	2,682

*NOTE: The above "All Other Offenses" category does not include traffic offenses.

In 2003, officers arrested or served criminal process upon persons age 16 or older for traffic offenses on 317 different occasions [this does not include DWI (listed above) or traffic offenses charged by citation].

Arrest information is collected for all Part I and Part II offenses. However, no attempt should be made to relate arrest figures to the number of crimes cleared, because arrest totals count all the offenders who have been arrested and all offenses charged - even if several offenders were involved in the commission of a singular offense. Therefore, arrest and clearance totals will be equal only by coincidence. A reduction in number of arrests may not necessarily reflect a commensurate reduction in crimes committed.

It should be kept in mind that arrest totals are indicative of the number of persons charged with the offense. A total of three arrests may represent the arrest of different people or the arrest of the same person on three different occasions.

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

The Police Department documents the handling of all persons less than 16 years of age who have committed an offense and have been identified (with probable cause) as the offender. Officers complete a "Juvenile Contact Report" when the circumstances are such that if a juvenile were age 16 or older, an arrest would be reported. For example, if a person less than 16 years of age is "handled" for committing an offense of Larceny (theft), the charge is reported a Larceny even though the offense committed is actually Juvenile Delinquency. Officers sometimes take a juvenile into custody for their own protection when the juvenile has committed no crime. Such occasions are not included in this report. The purpose of this report is to highlight the juvenile crime activity and not juvenile court activity (although it does relate to law enforcement referral activity, e.g. referral to juvenile court authorities or other community programs).

CHARGE TOTALS BY TYPE OF OFFENSE			
Juveniles (Age Less Than 16)			
(Three Year Report)			
	2001	2002	2003
Murder	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0
Robbery	1	10	2
Aggravated Assault	10	7	6
Burglary	1	13	8
Larceny	17	13	35
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0
Simple Assault	31	16	17
Arson	1	0	0
Forgery/Counterfeiting	1	0	0
Fraud	3	3	0
Embezzlement	0	0	0
Stolen Property	1	4	4
Vandalism (Criminal Damage to Property)	12	2	6
Weapons Violations	9	2	8
Prostitution	0	0	0
All Other Sex Offenses	0	0	0
Drug Violations	6	4	11
Gambling	0	0	0
Offenses Against Family	0	0	0
DWI	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	1
Disorderly Conduct	2	3	7
Obscene Material / Pornography	0	0	0
All Other Offenses	27	23	30
Total	122	100	135

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

Citations differ from arrests in law enforcement reporting. Citations are primarily issued to offenders charged with infractions or minor misdemeanors that do not require the signing or the posting of a bond (waiveable offenses). Citations are written for traffic violations, violations of ABC Laws (such as public consumption of an alcoholic beverage), trespassing under the Henderson City Code, and other minor violations that are not included in the UCR totals for a given year.

Internal Review and Investigation of Complaints

Total Number of Internal Reviews

Defensive Actions Reports:	46
Vehicle Pursuit Reports:	14

Citizen Complaints (From All Sources) **28**

Supervisory Investigations:	25
Internal Affairs investigations:	3

Categories of Citizen Complaints

Use of force	4
Unlawful Warrantless Arrest	1
Warrantless Search/Entry/Seizure	1
Officer Demeanor	16
Driving/Vehicle Operation	2
Vehicle Towing/Storage Disputes	2
Other (Minor) rules/Policy infractions	2

ALL complaints from ALL sources are documented in writing and investigated

Officers reported 46 encounters requiring Defensive Actions in 2003. Officers are required by departmental policy to complete an internal report for every occasion during which they have to use defensive actions (physical force or weapon) to effect an arrest, or perform some other lawful action.

Other statistical data of note for 2003 includes

Henderson Police officers conducted 5,023 stops of motor vehicles (14 vehicle pursuits)

Members of the department issued 1,658 citations.

The Department received 2,326 criminal process papers from the Clerks of Court (971 Orders for Arrest, 778 Warrants for Arrest, and 577 Criminal Summonses). Officers served 1,442 papers (523 Orders for Arrest, 565 Warrants for Arrest, and 354 Criminal Summonses). As of the time this report was prepared, 542 active criminal process papers are on file and remain to be served.

Henderson Police officers handled 28,326 calls for police services. (This is an average of over 1,000 calls annually per individual Patrol officer.) 2,862 adults were arrested in 2003.

Members of the department were injured on-duty 34 times.

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

Appendix A

Crime Reporting

The Henderson Police Department voluntarily participates in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting program (UCR) by submitting monthly reports to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations. Through this voluntary program, and with the cooperation of participating agencies such as our own, the UCR program strives to ensure the production of a reliable and uniform set of crime statistics, from which a nationwide and statewide view of crime is possible. The North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations' (SBI) Division of Criminal Information (DCI) gathers data from participating law enforcement agencies throughout the state and forwards the UCR statistics to the FBI in UCR format.

Because of their seriousness and frequency, seven offenses comprise a **Crime Index**, which is used by law enforcement agencies throughout the nation to serve as indicators of crime experience within jurisdictions. These figures are intended to represent the volume of crime in Henderson, NC. Volume indicators do not represent the actual number of crimes committed; rather, they represent the number of offenses reported to law enforcement for each category. The Uniform Crime Reporting program (UCR) collects data on offenses known to law enforcement, and on persons arrested, to depict total crime and to provide data for administrative and operational use in addressing community problems. With respect to Murder, Rape and Aggravated Assault, the volume represents the number of actual victims known to law enforcement, while for Robbery, Burglary, Larceny – Theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft, the number of known offenses is represented.

When analyzing UCR statistics, the user of this information should guard against superficial agency-to-agency comparisons. Such direct comparisons, without taking into account the demographic differences between law enforcement jurisdictions, are misleading.

The underlying causes of crime are complex, and they resist simplistic "quick-fix" solutions. Crime is a community problem that requires law enforcement and citizens of the community to cooperatively form crime-specific strategies for resisting crime. We continue to bring the resources that are available to us to bear on specific criminal activities, within our operating and resource limitations.

To accept crime as a fact of life is an admission of defeat. Only through the establishment of short and long-term strategies and the assistance of the citizens can the community achieve successfully resist crime problems in our neighborhoods. The identification of our community's crime patterns, through an examination of local crime experience, is a starting point. Thus, these crime statistics are a way of revealing to all of the people in our community just what we're up against.

Social and economic factors have an enormous impact on the nature and levels of crime in any particular community. The FBI, as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting system (UCR), lists a number of factors that affect the volume and type of crime:

- *the size of the community and its population*
- *the density of its population*
- *how the population is composed*
- *stability of the population with respect to mobility and transience*
- *the prevailing economic conditions*
- *cultural conditions, such as educational, recreational, and religious characteristics*
- *climate*
- *effective strength of law enforcement agencies*
- *what law enforcement emphasizes in its administrative and investigative roles*
- *the policies of other components of the criminal justice system (prosecutors, courts, corrections, and probation)*
- *citizen attitudes towards crime*
- *how citizens report crime (how often, how quickly)*

The majority of these factors are somewhat beyond the control of the police. However, the Police Department can play a major role in controlling "street crimes" - those that occur in public places (e.g., purse snatching, assaults/muggings). Crimes of passion committed among relatives or friends and other crimes committed indoors,

Henderson Police Department 2003 Annual Report

such as shoplifting, are crimes for which law enforcement agencies' typically have little to no control over any increases and decreases in frequency. Police agencies collect information about these crimes and make arrests as an order maintenance measure whenever possible.

The rate at which citizens report crime varies from community to community. We strive to be responsive to our citizens' reports of criminal activity – the public's confidence in our ability to effectively respond to specific events is crucial if we, as a community, want to effectively resist increases in the frequency with which crimes occur. Therefore, increases in the frequency of crimes reported may be viewed favorably provided that we, as a community, use the statistics to identify our specific problems and formulate reasonable short and long-term responses.

In addition to arresting suspects after a crime has been committed, crime prevention and deterrence activities are methods by which Law Enforcement agencies and the citizens of the community can resist increases in the volume of crimes.

All offenses are classified on the basis of law-enforcement officer investigation in accordance with UCR offense definitions (which will not necessarily coincide with N.C. Statute definitions.) Because UCR identifies a Police problem, offense classifications are not based on the findings of a court, coroner, jury or decision of a prosecutor.

SCORING OF UCR OFFENSES

Only the number of those offenses for Part I crimes are scored (counted) or "coded" for UCR purposes. The method of scoring varies with the type of crime committed and it is important to remember that the number of offenders does not determine the number of offenses.

For murder and non-negligent manslaughter, rape and aggravated and assaults, one offense is scored for each victim regardless of the number of offenders involved. For example, three offenders could be involved in the murder of one victim, and in this case one murder would be scored.

For robbery and larceny, one offense is counted for each distinct operation that is separate in time and place. The number of victims in any one operation does not determine the number of offenses. For example, if ten (10) people are robbed in a bar at the same time, only one offense is counted. However, if that robber then leaves the bar and holds up a passerby, a second offense has occurred and would be scored.

For burglary, one offense is counted for each "structure" which is illegally entered. For UCR purposes, a structure is generally defined as an enclosed, permanently occupied area. The illegal entries for the purpose of committing a felony or theft of such structures as a dwelling houses, garages, offices, barns and the like are considered burglaries, and one burglary is scored for each separate unit entered. The illegal entry several structures used to hold transients, such as hotel rooms, is scored as one burglary if there was one distinct criminal operation, regardless of the number of rooms or structures that have been entered. For motor vehicle theft, one offense is counted for each theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. For UCR purposes, a motor vehicle is defined as any self-propelled vehicle that runs on the surface and not on rails or a body of water. Thefts of farm and construction equipment are excluded from this definition and are scored as larcenies. All cases where persons not having lawful access take automobiles are classified as motor vehicle theft, even though the vehicles may later be found abandoned. This includes "joyriding." One offense is scored for each vehicle stolen or for each attempt to steal a motor vehicle.

For arson, one offense is counted for each occurrence even if a more serious offense such as murder occurred as a result of the act. Additionally, any attempts to commit any of the above are counted with the exception of attempts or assaults to kill, which are classified and scored under aggravated assaults.

For multiple offenses that occur in one incident (at the same "time and place"), only the most serious offense is counted with the exceptions of arson (always counted).

Part I crimes are ranked according to UCR's definition of seriousness, and appear in order from the most serious to least serious. For example, a robber may seize a man's wallet and then beat him causing serious injury. Both a robbery and an aggravated assault have occurred, but because robbery is considered by UCR to be more serious, only the robbery is scored. From one perspective this method of counting seriously understates the crime problem, but from another, it prevents undue inflation of crime statistics. A Part II offense that occurs in combination with Part I offenses that occurs in combination with Part I offenses or by itself is not counted.

End of Appendix A