

# 2024 Annual Traffic Report



## Introduction

The Saskatoon Police Service Traffic Unit is committed to ensuring the safety of all Saskatoon residents and visitors to our city who share our roads, sidewalks, and bike trails. In addition to enforcement activity, the Traffic Unit also encompasses collision and hit and run investigations.

Our enforcement team uses selective techniques, as well as targeted traffic projects, and a variety of educational campaigns in order to maximize compliance with provincial and municipal driving legislation. Police officers are highly trained in the use of Radar and Laser speed detection technology, and are equipped with the latest tools of the trade to effectively perform their duties. They use a variety of vehicles, including motorcycles to patrol our streets.

Saskatoon Police Traffic officers regularly team up with outside agencies such as the Saskatchewan Highway Transport Patrol, Vehicle Equipment Compliance inspectors, CTSS, University of Saskatchewan Protective Services, RCMP and other municipal police services for the purpose of safety campaigns. STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program), Multi Agency Seat Belt Team (MAST), Operation Overdrive Sobriety Checkpoints and Child Seat Safety Clinics are but a few examples of this collaborative effort geared towards the creation of a safe roadway network.

The Traffic Unit consists of 20 enforcement members including 2 sergeants, 2 Hit and Run investigators, 2 Collision Analysts, 1 Red Light Camera member, and 1 Automated Speed Enforcement member.

## Traffic Ticket Categories

Ticket Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019-2023 5-Year Avg
<b>Traffic Safety Act (Minus Speeding)</b>	11,808	8,618	8,895	7,630	9,583	9,172	9,307
<b>Provincial Vehicle Equipment Regulations (VER)</b>	1,675	1,588	1,587	867	1,884	2,726	1,520
<b>Other Provincial</b>	197	222	645	562	629	421	451
<b>Other Municipal Traffic Bylaws</b>	743	302	333	211	253	245	368
<b>Speeding (Municipal and Prov)</b>	12,872	6,6947	8,602	9,609	4,426	3,812	8,091
<b>Possess, consume, distribute cannabis in vehicle</b>	48	57	34	19	57	55	42

- The Traffic Unit members gave out close to **three-quarters** of all traffic tickets issued by SPS in 2024.
- Top tickets for VER include Illegal Sunscreens, Damaged Windshield and Inadequate Muffler, Fender or Mud Flaps.
- 41 Drivers were caught exceeding the speed limit by over 50 km/hr.
- 140 Drivers were caught exceeding the speed limit by 35-50km/hr.
- 771 Drivers were found to be driving while disqualified or suspended.
- 1128 Tickets issued regarding unregistered vehicles.
- 766 Seatbelt related tickets were issued.

## Distracted Driving Tickets

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019-2023 5-Year Avg
Distracted Driving Violations	2810	1686	1624	1472	2585	1789	2035
TSA Drive Without Due Care/Attention	460	356	307	224	291	298	328
TSA Driver - Cell Phone	2350	1330	1317	1248	2294	1491	1708

## Other Noteworthy Offences

Other Noteworthy Violations	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019-2023 5-Year Avg
UNREGISTERED VEHICLE	1832	1111	4	847	1284	1128	1016
DRIVE DISQUAL OR SUSPENDED	1065	806	784	1112	804	771	914
SEATBELT	996	667	751	669	1054	766	827
DISOBEY LIGHTS	603	642	729	583	613	614	634
U TURN AT LITE CNTRL INTER	504	301	306	289	365	475	353
FAIL TO YIELD	529	318	404	352	359	464	392
FAIL TO PRODUCE LICENSE	406	295	284	115	254	383	271
DISOBEY STOP SIGN	850	724	797	429	331	375	626
FAIL TO HOLD LICENSE	332	473	494	263	274	332	367
UNAUTHORIZED PLATES	100	108	160	111	100	291	116
BYLAW-DISOBEY TRAFFIC SIGN	417	183	194	135	207	199	227
FAIL TO REMAIN	151	167	97	94	128	189	127
LEARNER DRV UNNACOMPANIED	243	297	294	184	210	171	246
STUNTING	84	101	114	65	73	36	87

These are some of the most common offences in accordance to number of tickets given out in 2024.

2024 Total Tickets Issued by Traffic Section	
Inspection Tickets	47
Total Tickets (including Inspection)	15,859
Total Tickets -Status Issued only	13,840
<i>*Data taken from SPS RMS on Jan 3, 2025</i>	

## Criminal Code Traffic Violations

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019-2023 5 Year Avg
Criminal Code Traffic Violations	638	720	784	744	635	622	704.2
Dangerous Operation of Motor Vehicle	207	250	274	278	285	274	258.8
Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle	333	350	395	<b>354</b>	252	243	336.8

- About ¼ of Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle incidents involve refusal to test for impairment.



## Photo Speed Enforcement (PSE)

Seven-Year Totals of PSE, including on Circle Drive and in school/playground zones throughout the city.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019- 2023 5 Year Avg
Circle Drive in Saskatoon	16,192	25,361	17,552	20,147	24,284	29,605	20,717
Saskatoon School Zones	8,894	5,964	9,410	10,963	20,440	25,665	11,134
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,086</b>	<b>31,325</b>	<b>26,962</b>	<b>31,110</b>	<b>44,724</b>	<b>55,270</b>	<b>31,841</b>

\*SGI Data- Above numbers are violations, a violation may not result in the issuance of a ticket

## Red Light Camera Program

The City of Saskatoon administers the Red-Light Camera program. SPS provides a member to review and approve the violations.

	2021	2022	2023	2024
In Province	13,672	13,924	14,512	14,585
Out of Province	554	762	1,044	1,110
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,226</b>	<b>14,686</b>	<b>15,556</b>	<b>15,695</b>



## Collisions

Collision Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2019-2023 -5 Year Average
PROPERTY DAMAGE	5029	3268	3583	3894	3691	4075	3893
PERSONAL INJURY	608	407	464	514	573	621	513.2
FATALITY	4	5	5	9	4	9	5.4

\*Data obtained from SPS RMS Jan 20, 2025, total numbers may differ from provincial SGI numbers.

When serious collisions occur, the SPS Traffic Unit Collision Analysts reconstruct the scene to investigate, analyze and draw conclusions regarding the causes and events of a collision. The Collision Analyst Unit is made up of a group of highly trained officers who are responsible for investigating serious injury and fatal collisions. These officers receive ongoing first-rate training in various disciplines including physics, math, photography, forensic mapping and 3-D animation. In addition to this training, some members of the team have received specialized training in the investigation of collisions involving motorcycles, pedestrians and commercial vehicles.

In response to the increase in collisions in 2023 and 2024, seven Traffic Unit members have completed training and are now Certified Level III Collision Investigators. This will relieve some of the file burden on our regular Collision Analyst members, and assist with completing thorough investigations.

## **Operational Focus**

The focus regarding enforcement will be to emphasize those offences known to pose the greatest risk to public safety, known as the “Big Four”:

1. Distracted Driving (cellphone use)
2. Aggressive Driving (speed & hazardous driving behaviors)
3. Passenger Restraints (use of seatbelts)
4. Impaired Driving

Distracted Driving violations were down considerably in 2024. This is likely the result of SGI’s increased media campaign to encourage drivers to stay off their mobile devices while driving. The public awareness campaigns appear to have also aided in the decrease of seatbelt and impaired driving violations.

## **Traffic Unit Staffing and Initiatives**

Traffic Unit 2024 Staffing:

- 18 Traffic Enforcement Constables
- 2 Traffic Sergeants
- 2 Collision Analyst/Reconstructionist Detail Constables
- 2 Hit & Run Constables
- 1 Automated Speed Enforcement Constable
- 1 Red Light Camera Constable

- The Traffic Unit’s enforcement efforts were hampered in 2024, due to the reassignment of seven members during the spring and summer months for Project Magpie. One of the Unit’s regular sergeants was included in the re-assignment. This meant that an enforcement constable was required to fill in as an acting sergeant for a number of months, thus restricting our enforcement efforts further.
- Our members coordinated and assisted with over 60 operational plans during the year. These events were related to marches, parades, rallies, and protests throughout the city.

Traffic Unit members participated in the following training initiatives in 2024:

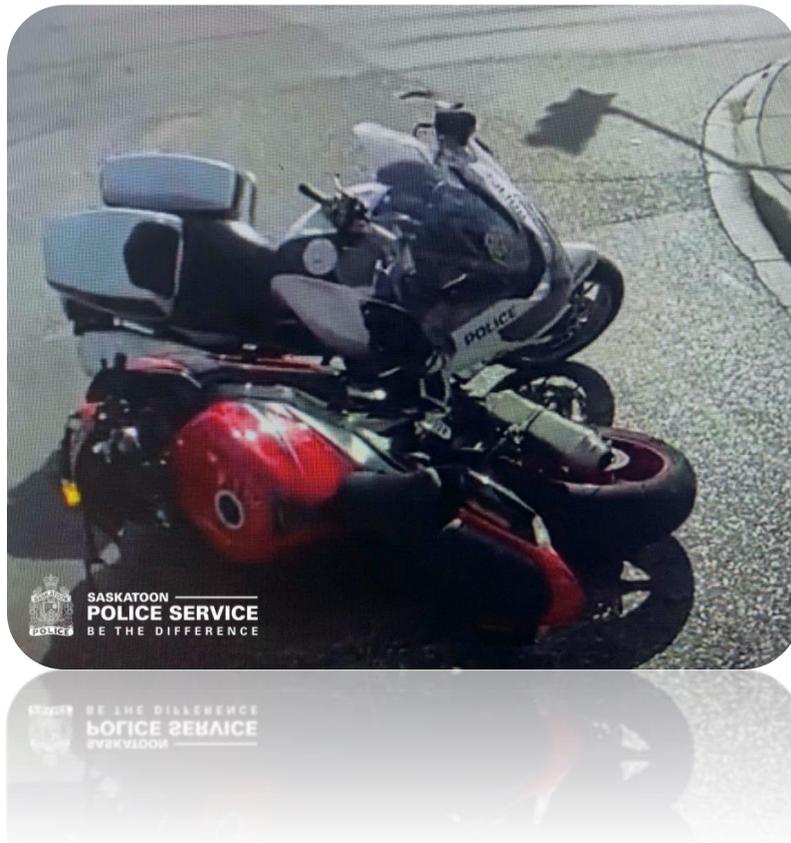
- Level II Collision Investigation, Level III Collision Investigation, Impaired Driving Investigation, Senior Constable Development, Light Vehicle Inspection, Light Trailer Inspection, Seatbelt Installation Clinic, Approved Screening Device, Standard Field Sobriety, Oral Fluid, and Drug Recognition Expert courses.
- Our members conducted presentations throughout the year for the SGI PARTY (Preventing Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth) program, Cultural COPS Cadet program, Impaired Driving lectures, and the Lunch & Learn Patrol re-orientation program.

## Traffic Stop Profile

In Sept 2024, an officer with the SPS Traffic Unit attempted to pull over a motorcycle that driving at a speed twice the legal limit near the intersection of Idylwyld Drive North and 32nd Street West. Officers were able to observe the driver was running red lights while on his cell phone. When attempting to pull him over he re-mounted the cell phone and took off at a high rate of speed. Officers quickly backed off due to public safety concerns, but other officers in the area were able to locate the driver near 22nd Street West and Witney Avenue. Officers were able to slow the driver to a near stop but the suspect intentionally rammed a police motorcycle. This caused both motorcycles to fall to the ground.

The Traffic Unit officer who was on the motorcycle, was not only uninjured but he also was able to safely remove the suspect from his scratched-up bike, and arrest him. The driver, an 18-year-old man, has been charged with Dangerous Driving, Evading Police and Mischief Over \$5000.

Incidents like this highlight the importance for traffic safety rules. While this incident didn't appear to injure anyone in the public, the driving displayed could have easily resulted in death or injuries for any number of pedestrians or other drivers. The SPS Traffic Unit is dedicated to applying the law consistently to reduce injury and even death.



Neighbourhood	Total Traffic Tickets	Lakeridge	38
Adelaide/Churchill	8	Lakeview	76
Agro Industrial	14	Lakewood Suburban Centre	196
Agriplace	46	Lawson Heights	11
Airport Business Area	417	Lawson Heights Suburban Centre	187
Airport MA	4	Marquis Industrial	224
Arbor Creek	42	Massey Place	41
Aspen Ridge	122	Mayfair	35
Avalon	84	Meadowgreen	45
Blairmore Development Area	14	Montgomery Place	23
Blairmore Suburban Centre	229	Mount Royal	245
Brevoort Park	305	North Development Area	0
Briarwood	49	North Industrial	1109
Brighton	257	North Park	15
Buena Vista	166	NorthWest Development Area	1
Caswell Hill	425	Not Coded	2
Central Business District	1206	Nutana	236
Central Industrial	261	Nutana Park	22
City Park	394	Nutana Suburban Centre	44
CN Industrial	65	Pacific Heights	47
CN Yards MA	4	Parkridge	53
College Park	213	Pleasant Hill	301
College Park East	166	Queen Elizabeth	35
Confederation Park	68	Richmond Heights	12
Confederation Suburban Centre	187	River Heights	123
Corman Park	8	Riversdale	270
Diefenbaker MA	1	Rosewood	194
Dundonald	70	S.E. Development Area	13
Eastview	11	SaskPower MA	19
Elk Point	1	Silverspring	216
Erindale	109	Silverwood Heights	98
Evergreen	164	South Development Area	28
Exhibition	62	South West Industrial	178
Fairhaven	32	SouthWest Development Area	3
Forest Grove	102	Stonebridge	204
Gordie Howe MA	0	Sutherland	175
Greystone Heights	328	Sutherland Industrial	95
Grosvenor Park	71	The Willows	1
Hampton Village	20	U of S Lands North MA	209
Haultain	114	U of S Lands South MA	46
Hillcrest Management Area	196	U of S MA	230
Holiday Park	11	University Heights Development Area	671
Holliston	374	University Heights Suburban Centre	117
Holmwood Development Area	11	Varsity View	149
Hudson Bay Industrial	320	West Industrial	42
Hudson Bay Park	101	Westmount	127
Kelsey - Woodlawn	255	Westview	45
Kensington	26	Wildwood	591
King George	16	Willowgrove	40