



SASKATOON _____
POLICE SERVICE

TO: Shirley Greyeyes, Chairperson
Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief Cameron McBride
Office of the Chief

DATE: 2025 May 05

SUBJECT: 2024 Evade Police Incidents

FILE #: 10,040

ISSUE:

“Evade Police” incidents occur when an operator of a motor vehicle flees or drives in a manner to evade police. Drivers are required, by statute, to stop for police; motivations to evade may be non-criminal or criminal, including such actions as robberies with violence, home invasions, assault, property offences such as possession of stolen vehicles, and impaired driving. In any event, evading police creates safety risks for the public, the police, and the vehicle’s occupants.

Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) Policy and Procedure establishes that the primary concern for officers involved in an Evade Police incident is the protection and safety of the public. The Evade Police Review Committee ensures that all Evade Police incidents are reviewed to ensure that the actions of our members are lawful, as safe as possible, and compliant with SPS policy.

RECOMMENDATION:

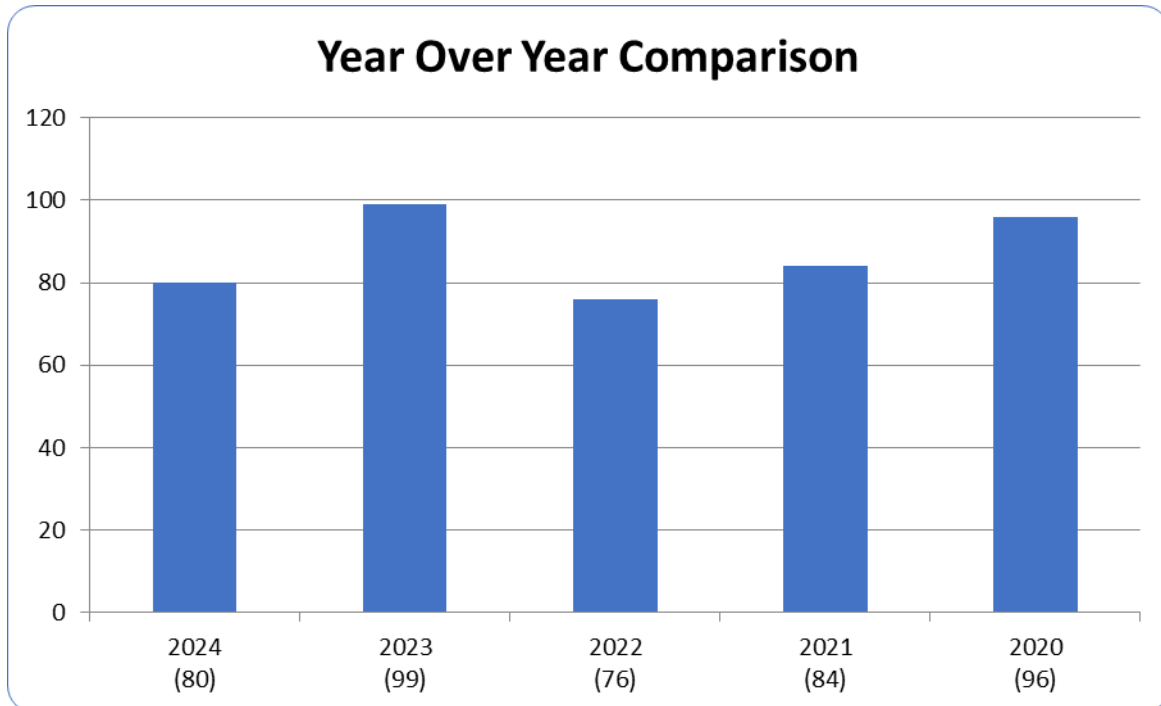
That this report is received as information.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

This report focuses on the core theme of Crime and Safety, with specific attention to maintaining core policing operations and addressing community concerns which affect public safety.

DISCUSSION:

Evade Police Summary			
Category	2024	2023	2022
Evade Police Incident No Pursuit	77	70	96
Evade Police Incident with Pursuit	80	99	76
Evade Police Incident Termination	42	51	39
Evade Police Incident Air Support Unit Supported	10	15	26



Key Findings:

- In 2024 the SPS reported 77 incidents where a police officer perceived a driver was evading police but, based on the conditions at the time, a continued vehicle pursuit was unwarranted. SPS policy provides members with criteria to assess the decision to pursue. These criteria include, but are not limited to: risk to the public, manner of driving, weather and road conditions, confirmed identification of the driver, and a preceding or in-progress criminal or non-criminal event.
- In 2024 SPS members were involved in 80 Evade Police incidents resulting in a pursuit. The number of pursuits decreased by 19% since 2023.
- In 2024 over half (53%) of Evade Police incidents with pursuit were terminated by the primary officer involved or by the Officer in Command. SPS policy provides criteria for terminating a pursuit, same as those listed in the first point above.
- In 2024 the Air Support Unit assisted with 10 Evade Police incidents with pursuit, decreasing from 15 incidents in 2023. In these cases, once the Pilot and Flight Officer

“PUBLIC AGENDA”

have assumed the primary position, ground units terminate their role as a pursuit vehicle. The intent is to de-escalate driver behavior and returning to normal vehicle operation.

Evade Police Incident with Pursuit Profile			
Category	2024	2023	2022
Within the City Boundaries	62	82	68
Average Duration in City Boundaries (Min:Sec)	3:50	3:18	2:28
Exceed City Boundaries	18	17	8
Average Duration Exceed City Boundaries (Min:Sec)	12:28	11:16	34:57
Stolen Vehicles	35	62	38

Key Findings:

- In 2024 the majority (78%) of Evade Police incidents with pursuit remained within the city’s boundaries. The average duration was 3 minutes and 50 Seconds (an increase of 32 seconds average duration from 2023).
- In the limited instances (23%) where the Evade Police incident with pursuit exceeded city boundaries, the average duration substantially increased to 12 minutes and 28 seconds. As a general rule, evade incidents which depart city boundaries are terminated or only continue with ASU engaged as the primary unit monitoring the subject vehicle, continuing until the subject vehicle has stopped or the RCMP are positioned to assume responsibility for the evade incident.
- In 2023 44% of Evade Police incidents involved a vehicle that had been reported stolen (a reduction from 62% in 2023). Annually, the SPS provides messaging and education campaigns to the public to prevent vehicle theft, such as on not leaving keys in vehicles and discouraging residents from leaving vehicles idling while unattended.

Outcomes			
Category	2024	2023	2022
Evade Police Incidents Subject Arrested	58.75% (47 Incidents)	69% (70 Incidents)	66% (50 Incidents)
Youth Arrested	4	3	10
Adults Arrested	69	124	88
Subject Vehicle Damaged	39	48	33

Key Findings:

- In 2024 there were 47 Evade Police Incidents which resulted in at least one person’s arrest (a reduction from 70 in 2023). There were 69 persons in total arrested stemming from an Evade Police incident.
- The majority of persons involved in Evade Police incidents were adults (Youth accounted for approximately 6%).
- In 2024, 39 Evade Police Incidents resulted in the subject vehicle being damaged.
- There were no Evade Police incidents that resulted in serious injury or death.

CONCLUSION:

The Evade Police Review Committee, upon reviewing each Evade Police incident, is confident that SPS members understand their roles and responsibilities in evade incidents and are highly compliant with SPS policy in their management of these occurrences. Officer and supervisor decisions on continuations/terminations of evade actions are evidence of policy awareness and the overarching need to balance the safety of the public, offenders and police with the need to apprehend offenders.

Written by: Nolan Berg, Inspector, Patrol Bureau, C & D Platoons
Reviewed by: Tonya Gresty, Superintendent, Patrol Bureau
Approved by: Dale Solie, Acting Deputy Chief Support Services
Submitted by: Cameron McBride, Chief of Police