

# DC MPD Adult Arrest Summary, 2023-2024

## Background

MPD recently made its annual public release of adult arrest data, covering 19,263 arrests in 2024. This data represents the first full year of data available since Chief Smith took office in November of 2023, and reveals major changes in policing strategy over that timeframe. This report covers data for the entire city, and reports with the same data broken down for each Ward are available at <http://bit.ly/4iG0Uht>.

This adult arrest data is taken from the Open Data DC website. DC resident and data scientist Taylor Terry maintains an archive of this and other DC public data at <https://github.com/taylorterry3/dc-public-data>. Taylor can be reached at [taylor.terry@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.terry@gmail.com).

## Overview

In 2024 there were 19,263 adult arrests citywide, a +27% change from 2023 and a +30% change from the 2021-2023 average. This represents 5.9 arrests per sworn officer in 2024, a substantial increase from the 2021-2023 average of 4.3 arrests per officer per year but not a full return to the 2016-2019 average of 7.7.

## Arrest Categories with Largest Increase 2023-2024

This table highlights the arrest categories that saw the largest percentage increases citywide from 2023 to 2024.

Category	2023	2024	Change
Liquor Law Violations	164	907	+453%
Traffic Violations	898	2,898	+223%
Narcotics	529	1,343	+154%
Theft from Auto	14	30	+114%
Prostitution	10	20	+100%
Theft	870	1,738	+100%
Aggravated Assault	122	236	+93%
Disorderly Conduct	106	195	+84%
Motor Vehicle Theft	31	50	+61%
Gambling	5	7	+40%

## Top Arrest Categories in 2024

The table below shows the most common types of arrests citywide during 2024, compared with 2023 counts.

Category	2023	2024	Change
Simple Assault	5,002	4,570	-9%
Traffic Violations	898	2,898	+223%

Category	2023	2024	Change
Theft	870	1,738	+100%
Release Violations/Fugitive	1,568	1,610	+3%
Narcotics	529	1,343	+154%
Weapon Violations	1,421	1,286	-10%
Other Crimes	1,043	976	-6%
Liquor Law Violations	164	907	+453%
Driving/Boating While Intoxicated	606	604	0%
Damage to Property	627	527	-16%

### **Arrest Categories with Largest Increase H1-H2 2024**

Many areas of the city and types of crimes saw substantial changes in the pattern of arrests between the first half and second half of 2024. The following table compares arrest counts between the first half (H1) and second half (H2) of 2024.

Category	H1 2024	H2 2024	Change
Prostitution	7	13	+86%
Traffic Violations	1,137	1,761	+55%
Motor Vehicle Theft	21	29	+38%
Gambling	3	4	+33%
Burglary	64	84	+31%
Liquor Law Violations	407	500	+23%
Narcotics	625	718	+15%
Theft	849	889	+5%
Assault on a Police Officer	158	162	+3%
Damage to Property	263	264	0%

## Monthly Trends

Figure 1 below shows the month-by-month pattern of total arrests citywide over time. This visualization helps identify seasonal patterns and longer-term trends in arrest volumes.

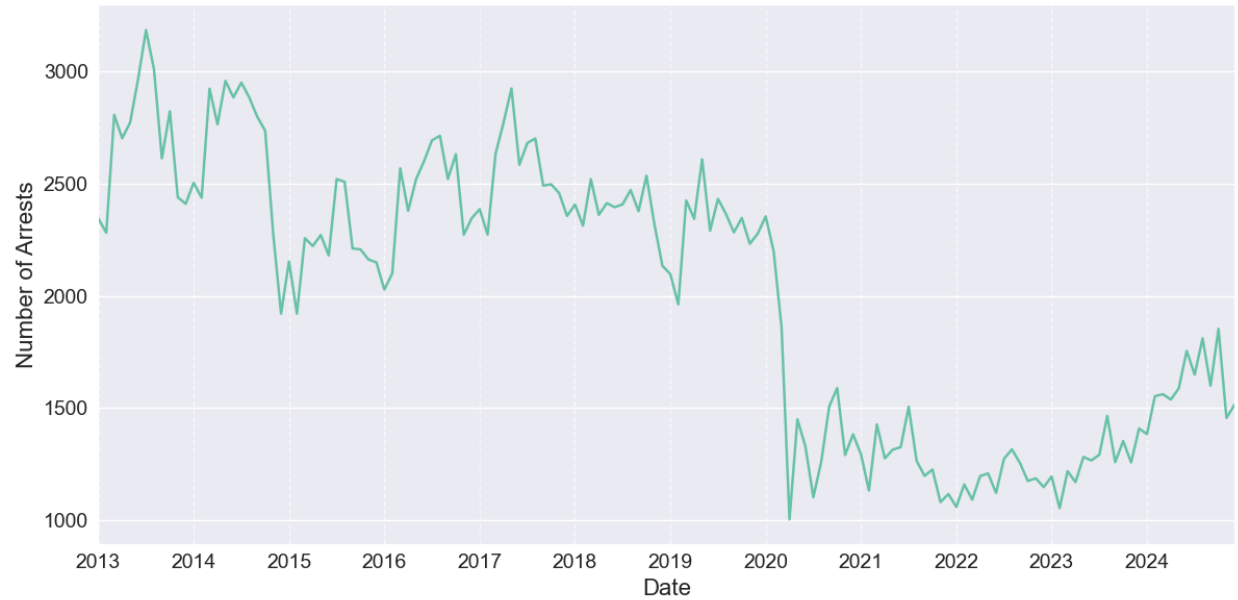


Figure 1: Monthly Arrest Trends

## Arrests by Category, 2023-2024

Figure 2 below compares the distribution of arrests across different categories between 2023 and 2024 citywide. The side-by-side bars allow for easy comparison of how the composition of arrests has changed year over year.

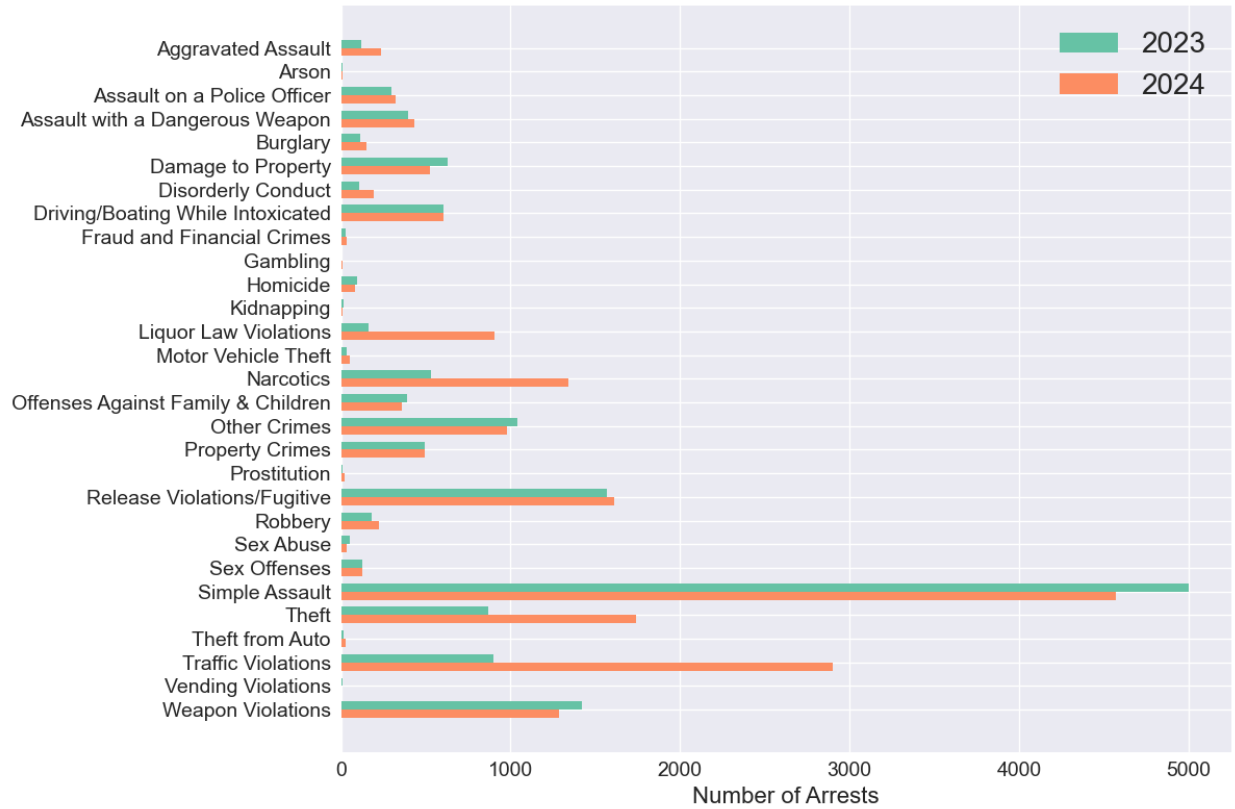


Figure 2: Arrests by category