

# Alternatives to Policing: How U.S. Cities Are Advancing Community Safety by Taking a Multidisciplinary Approach

Across the U.S., and particularly within communities of color, the police are the first responders to a broad set of community problems. They have become our first option, and often our only option, when something goes wrong.

The report Alternatives to Policing: How U.S. Cities Are Advancing Community Safety by Taking a Multidisciplinary Approach aims to support efforts to address the massive disconnect between what residents need from their public safety systems and what they receive. The report analyzed over four million 911 calls for service to police in 2022 across eight major cities, identified existing alternative public safety strategies, and provided an overall framework to better meet the public safety needs of communities.

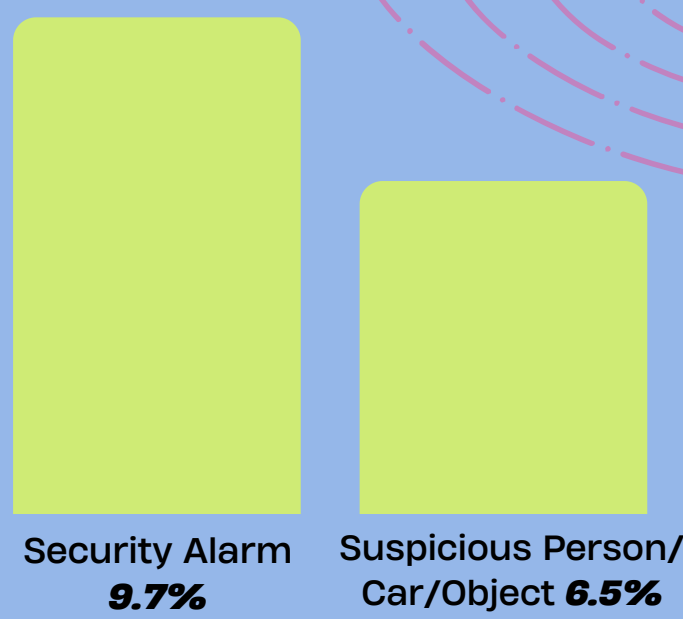
This document is intended to spotlight the Chicago data analyzed in the report.

## Community Needs Based on Analysis of 1,160,247 Calls for Service to Chicago's 911 System

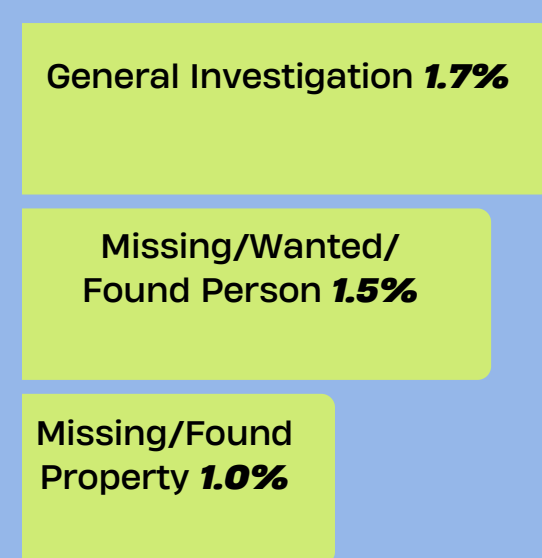


- Interpersonal Violence and Conflict **26.2%**
- Quality of life Concerns **18.6%**
- Mental, Physical & Behavioral Health Concerns **17.5%**
- Vehicular Violations, Accidents & Concerns **17.2%**
- Security Concerns **16.2%**
- Crime Investigation **4.3%**

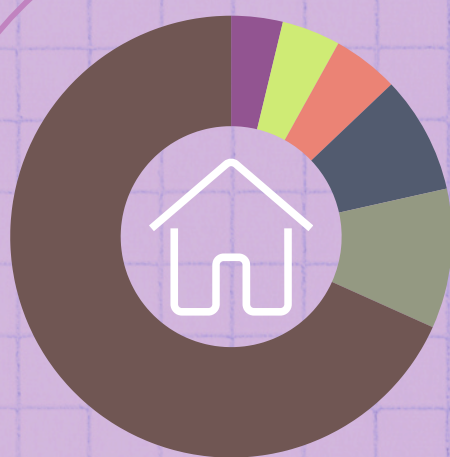
## CHICAGO 911 CALLS: SECURITY CONCERNS



## CHICAGO 911 CALLS: CRIME INVESTIGATION

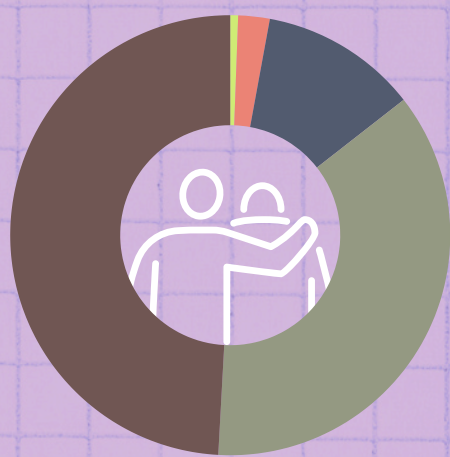


## Chicago 911 Calls:



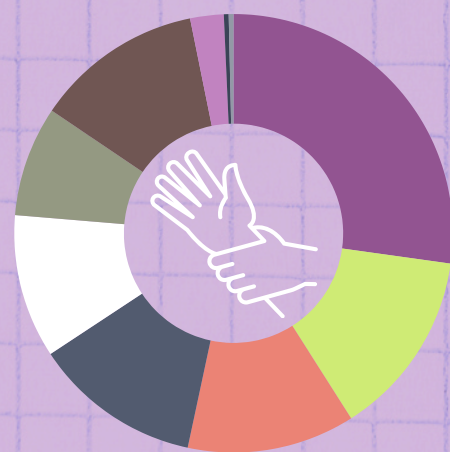
### Quality of Life Concerns

- Burglary/ Breaking & Entering **0.7%**
- Animal Calls **0.8%**
- Property Damage **0.9%**
- Theft **1.6%**
- Abandoned Cars **1.9%**
- Music, Noise, Fireworks, or Other Disturbance **12.7%**



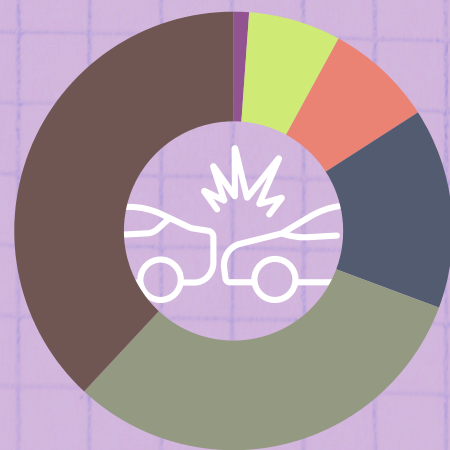
### Mental, Physical & Behavioral Health Concerns

- Other **0.2%**
- Drug/ Alcohol Offenses **1.2%**
- Safety Hazard **1.4%**
- Mental Health Disturbance **2.6%**
- Check Well-Being/ Wellness Check **5.5%**
- Medical Assistance **6.7%**



### Interpersonal Violence & Conflict

- Domestic Disturbance **7.7%**
- Battery **3.9%**
- Person with a Weapon **3.5%**
- Assault/ Threat **3.5%**
- Trespassing/ Unwanted Person **3.0%**
- Domestic Violence **2.3%**
- Shots Fired **1.5%**
- Robbery **0.7%**
- Rape/ Sexual Assault **0.1%**
- Other **0.1%**



### Vehicular Violations, Accidents & Concerns

- Other
- Traffic Hazard/ Control **0.4%**
- Traffic Violation **2.0%**
- Auto Accident **6.3%**
- Parking Violation/ Complaint **8.5%**

## The CCS strategy:

Based on the analysis of over four million 911 calls and the exploration of community systems of safety, this report identifies **Customized Community Safety (CCS)** as a viable strategy to police intervention that more effectively addresses community needs, recognizing that different types of calls require different types of responses.

## Existing Alternative Programming:

Chicago has implemented the following alternative responses:

- **Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement (CARE):** "Seeks to ensure that individuals experiencing a mental health crisis are assisted by teams of behavioral health professionals, with resources to address their unmet health and social needs. When the CARE team responds to an individual in crisis they offer de-escalation, mental health assessment, referrals to community services, and transport to community-based destinations as appropriate."
- **Service Coordination And Navigation (SCaN):** "A strengths-based, youth-driven program that connects young Chicagoans who are at the highest risk of involvement in violence with services that meet their individual needs. Participating youth are paired with a full-time 'Navigator' who helps them identify and accomplish individualized goals. Navigators connect youth to programs, services, and benefits necessary to build a stable pathway to success. SCaN partner agencies are deeply embedded within the community to provide services in the spaces where participants live and develop strong communities."
- **Sobering Center:** "Provide a safe place for publicly intoxicated individuals to sober up as an alternative to the emergency room or jail and, where appropriate, to provide a bridge to recovery. Individuals will be brought to the facility either by the Police Department, the Fire Department, or as a walk-in and will stay at the facility until they are sober and are in a condition to speak with a clinician."