

Wausau Policing Community Survey

Para obtener asistencia en español, llame al:
715-261-1445 o responda la encuesta en línea
aquí: wipps.org/wpdsurvey

Xav tau kev pab txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu: 715-
261-1446 los yog mus teb cov lus nyob saum huab cua
(online) ntawm no: wipps.org/wpdsurvey

Dear Wausau Area Community Member:

The City of Wausau created the Wausau Policing Task Force to analyze Wausau's current policing policies and procedures. The Task Force consists of Wausau residents along with representatives from city government. The Task Force would like to hear from members of the community about how the Wausau Police are doing in protecting community health, safety, and general well-being.

To gain community input, the Wausau Policing Task Force has partnered with the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service (WIPPS) to create a survey about policing in Wausau. WIPPS will share the results of this public survey with the City of Wausau and the Wausau Policing Task Force to help them make decisions about policing policies and procedures in Wausau.

The survey should take you **under 10 minutes** to complete.

Your participation in the survey is entirely voluntary. You are under no obligation to answer every question or to complete the entire survey.

The survey will not ask for your name or information that would reveal your identity within the community. Your responses will be entirely anonymous and cannot be traced back to you. Your responses to short-answer questions may be quoted in the report of the survey, but you will not be identified in that quote.

As you respond to the survey questions, please remember to share your views and experiences concerning the Wausau Police Department only, not your impressions of police departments in general.

If you prefer, you may take the survey online here: wipps.org/wpdsurvey or use the following QR code:



For questions or assistance in completing this survey, you may contact: Eric Giordano, Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service (WIPPS) at info@wipps.org or 715-261-6388.

If you agree to complete the survey, please turn the page to begin.

Wausau Policing Community Survey

Section 1: General Perceptions

How would you grade the overall performance of the Wausau Police Department?

- A: Excellent
 B: Good
 C: Fair
 D: Poor
 F: Failing

Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

The Wausau Police Department is doing a good job of...	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
...making sure that people are obeying the law.	<input type="radio"/>				
...keeping the community safe.	<input type="radio"/>				
...promoting community health and well-being.	<input type="radio"/>				

The Wausau Police Department...	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
...is open and forthcoming to the community about their actions.	<input type="radio"/>				
...makes it easy for people in the community to provide input.	<input type="radio"/>				
...is committed to working with people in the community to solve local problems.	<input type="radio"/>				

Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each statement.	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I feel comfortable approaching the Wausau Police with my problems or concerns.	<input type="radio"/>				
I trust the Wausau Police Department to take my concerns seriously.	<input type="radio"/>				
If I experienced <i>sexual assault</i> and went to the Wausau Police, they would take me seriously.	<input type="radio"/>				
If I experienced <i>domestic violence</i> and went to the Wausau Police, they would take me seriously.	<input type="radio"/>				

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Section 2: Wausau Police Officers

Consider what you know or have experienced. How often do Wausau police officers engage in each of the following behaviors?

Never Rarely Sometimes Often Always I have no knowledge of or experience with this

They treat people with dignity and respect.	<input type="radio"/>					
They treat people <u>UN</u> fairly.	<input type="radio"/>					
They are friendly.	<input type="radio"/>					
They protect community members' safety.	<input type="radio"/>					
They act aggressively.	<input type="radio"/>					
They display a good balance of "friendly officer" and "law enforcer."	<input type="radio"/>					
They show concern for all members of the community.	<input type="radio"/>					
They respond to calls for help in a timely manner.	<input type="radio"/>					
They use offensive language when dealing with citizens or residents.	<input type="radio"/>					
They break the law or police department policy as they carry out their work.	<input type="radio"/>					
They stop people on the street for no good reason.	<input type="radio"/>					
They pull drivers over for no good reason.	<input type="radio"/>					
They use more force than is needed.	<input type="radio"/>					

Suppose that you were approached or pulled over by the Wausau police. Please fill in the appropriate bubble for each statement.

If I were approached or pulled over by the Wausau Police...	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
...I would be treated with dignity and respect.	<input type="radio"/>				
...I would be treated fairly.	<input type="radio"/>				
...I would feel afraid of the officer(s).	<input type="radio"/>				
...I would worry about them being physically aggressive toward me.	<input type="radio"/>				
...I would respectfully follow their requests.	<input type="radio"/>				
...I would feel free to ask them questions.	<input type="radio"/>				
...I would feel comfortable asking them to explain what they are doing.	<input type="radio"/>				

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Section 3: Community Policing Concerns

Over the past 12 months, the level of safety I have felt in my community...

- has decreased a lot
 has decreased a little
 has stayed the same
 has increased a little
 has increased a lot

Wausau police officers adjust their behavior appropriately when mental health issues are a part of the situation they are called to deal with.

- Never
 Rarely
 Sometimes
 Often
 Always
 I have no knowledge of or experience with this

When it comes to managing mental health crisis situations, Wausau police officers are doing a good job.

- Never
 Rarely
 Sometimes
 Often
 Always
 I have no knowledge of or experience with this

The Wausau Police should treat individuals with a substance addiction....

- as criminal offenders
 as individuals in need of help
 on a case-by-case basis, depending on the situation

The Wausau Police should treat individuals with a criminal record....

- as criminal offenders
 as individuals in need of help
 on a case-by-case basis, depending on the situation

Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each statement below.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

Wausau police officers have a stressful job.

Wausau police officers should be offered regular mental health check-ups and support.

The use of military tactics and equipment by the Wausau Police is...

- always wrong
 often wrong
 sometimes wrong and sometimes right
 often right
 always right

The Wausau Police Department should spend more resources on training their officers to safely de-escalate conflict situations.

- Strongly disagree
 Disagree
 Neutral
 Agree
 Strongly agree

The Wausau Police Department should spend more time and effort on recruiting...

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

...candidates of good character.

...racially/ethnically diverse candidates.

...gender diverse candidates.

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Section 4: Personal Experiences with the Police

When was the last time you had a direct interaction with a member of the Wausau Police Department?

- Within the last 6 months Within the last year Within the last two years More than two years ago Never

In the past 12 months, have you been arrested by the Wausau Police?

- No ———● Continue below
 Yes

IF YES:

On the last occasion that you were arrested by the Wausau Police, were you treated with respect?

- Not at all A little A moderate amount A lot A great deal

● Please explain. Is there something specific that occurred during the interaction that made you feel this way?

In the past 12 months, have you sought help or assistance from the Wausau Police? This could include reporting a crime, asking for assistance, calling or going into the police station, or approaching a police officer on the street.

- No ———● Continue to next page
 Yes

IF YES:

On the last occasion that you sought help or assistance from the Wausau Police, were you treated with dignity and respect?

- Not at all A little A moderate amount A lot A great deal

● Please explain. Is there something specific that occurred during the interaction that made you feel this way?

● On the last occasion that you sought help or assistance from the Wausau Police, how did you feel about the interaction?

- Very dissatisfied Somewhat dissatisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Somewhat satisfied Very satisfied

● Please explain. Is there something specific that occurred during the interaction that made you feel this way?

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In the past 12 months, have you made a 911 emergency call to request assistance from the Wausau Police?

- No ———● Continue below
- Yes

● **IF YES:**

On the last occasion that you made a 911 emergency call, were you treated with dignity and respect by the 911 dispatcher?

- Not at all
- A little
- A moderate amount
- A lot
- A great deal

● **Please explain. Is there something specific that occurred during the interaction that made you feel this way?**

● **On the last occasion that you made a 911 emergency call, how did you feel about that interaction?**

- Very dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Very satisfied

● **Please explain. Is there something specific that occurred during the interaction that made you feel this way?**

In the past 12 months, have you been approached, stopped, or pulled over by the Wausau Police?

- No ———● Continue to next page
- Yes

● **IF YES:**

On the last occasion that you were approached, stopped, or pulled over by the Wausau Police, were you treated with dignity and respect?

- Not at all
- A little
- A moderate amount
- A lot
- A great deal

● **Please explain. Is there something specific that occurred during the interaction that made you feel this way?**

● **On the last occasion that you were approached, stopped, or pulled over by the Wausau Police, how did you feel about that interaction?**

- Very dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Very satisfied

● **Please explain. Is there something specific that occurred during the interaction that made you feel this way?**

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Section 5: Information about Policing

How important is it to you that you have access to information about the Wausau Police Department's policies and procedures?

- Not at all important
 Slightly important
 Moderately important
 Very important
 Extremely important

How important is it to you that you have access to information about the daily activities of the Wausau Police Department?

- Not at all important
 Slightly important
 Moderately important
 Very important
 Extremely important

Consider where you get information about police activities in Wausau. How often do you get your information from each of the following sources?

	Never	Sometimes	Often
City Pages	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family and Friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Newsletters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Personal Experiences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Police Reports	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Media	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WAOW News 9	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wausau Daily Herald	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wausau Pilot & Review	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wausau Police Department Facebook Page	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WSAU 550 AM / 99.9 FM Radio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
WSAW-TV 7	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, please list:	_____		

Section 6: Demographics

In this final set of questions, we ask about your age, gender identity, and so on. We ask these questions so that we can find out if we have responses from a broad sample of people from the community. Please remember, you do not have to answer any questions that you are not comfortable answering.

Do you live (or have you ever lived) in the city of Wausau?

- No
 Yes
 - IF YES: For how many years?
 - 0 to 5 years
 - 6 to 10 years
 - More than 10 years

Do you work (or have you ever worked) in the city of Wausau?

- No
 Yes
 - IF YES: For how many years?
 - 0 to 5 years
 - 6 to 10 years
 - More than 10 years

How old are you?

- 17 or under
 18-20
 21-30
 31-50
 51-65
 66 or older

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What is your gender?

- Man Woman Non-binary Other

Which of the following best describes your racial or ethnic heritage?

- White Black Hispanic Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 Black American Indian or Alaska Native Other
 White Hispanic Asian
-

What is your sexual orientation?

- Bisexual Heterosexual (Straight) Homosexual (Gay/Lesbian) Other

What is the highest grade or year of school you have completed?

- Elementary school Master's degree
 High school or GED Any doctorate, professional, or medical degree
 Some college Vocational or technical degree beyond high school
 College degree Other, please list:
 Some graduate school
-

Do you or your family own the home in which you live?

- Yes No

Do you currently struggle, or have you struggled in the past, with any of the following concerns? Check any that apply.

- A mood disorder (for example, major depression, bipolar disorder) An eating disorder (for example, binge eating, anorexia)
 An anxiety disorder (for example, generalized anxiety, phobia, post-traumatic stress disorder) A psychotic disorder (for example, schizophrenia)
 Alcohol/drug addiction None of the above
 Other; please explain if you would like to:
-

In the past 12 months, how many times have you been pulled over or stopped by the police?

- 0 times 1 time 2 times 3 times 4 times 5 or more times

In the past 12 months, how many times have you been criminally referred or issued a criminal summons by the police? (Note: This does not include traffic citations.)

- 0 times 1 time 2 times 3 times 4 times 5 or more times

Thank you for completing the Wausau Policing Community Survey.

To return the survey, please place in the pre-paid addressed envelope and/or mail to:

**Wausau Policing Survey
407 Grant Street
Wausau, WI 54403**

Or you may place the survey in the drop box in front of City Hall

For questions or comment about the survey, please visit wipps.org/wdp or contact Eric Giordano at info@wipps.org or 715-261-6388