

# Fireworks 2019 Review

Fire Department

December 20, 2019



## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday 2019 Summary

- WFD responded to 18 fireworks related calls
  - Three were structure fires, two were non-structure fires and rest misc. calls
  - Caused a total of \$64,000 in loss
- Fifty-one injuries reported to area medical facilities
- 1,142 complaint calls from July 1-6 in the City
- 59 citations issued for illegal use of fireworks

# Fire Incidents

## FIRE INCIDENTS

Fire Type	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>STRUCTURE (House, Business, Mobile Home, Shed)</b>	3	5	6	1	1
<b>NON-STRUCTURE</b>	2	6	5	1	2
<b>VEHICLE / BOAT</b>	2		2	1	
<b>PLAY GROUND EQUIPMENT</b>					
<b>FENCES</b>					
<b>EXPLOSION NO FIRE/SMOKE SCARE</b>	6	9	6	1	3
<b>CITIZEN COMPLAINT/ASSIST PD</b>	3	6			
<b>GRASS/TREES/COMPOST/TRASH</b>	2	15	5	3	16
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>ESTIMATED LOSS</b>	<b>\$63,800</b>	<b>\$47,500</b>	<b>\$255,400</b>	<b>\$6,100</b>	<b>\$182,180</b>

# Injuries and Complaints

## FIREWORKS INJURIES

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>NUMBER INJURED</b>	51	51	36	47	32
<b>RANGE OF AGE</b>	6 mos-66	1-86	15 mos - 63	5 - 39	2 – 57
<b>GENDER</b>	15- F 36-M	25- F 26-M	21 –F 15 -M	18 –F 29 -M	16 –F 16 -M

## 911 COMPLAINT CALLS JULY 1-6

Complaint Calls (CC)	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Number of Calls	1,142*	1,437	826	770	823
Average calls/day	190	287	207	193	206
Peak# of calls/date	500/4th	708/4th	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Dispatch system was able to separate CoW complaints from Sedgwick County complaints starting 2019.

# Fireworks Enforcement

Wichita Fire Department in conjunction with the Wichita Police Department deployed personnel on the evenings of July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to enforce the fireworks ordinance.

Seven teams of two officers and one firefighter patrolled specific areas and responded to complaints on July 3 & 4

59 Citations written

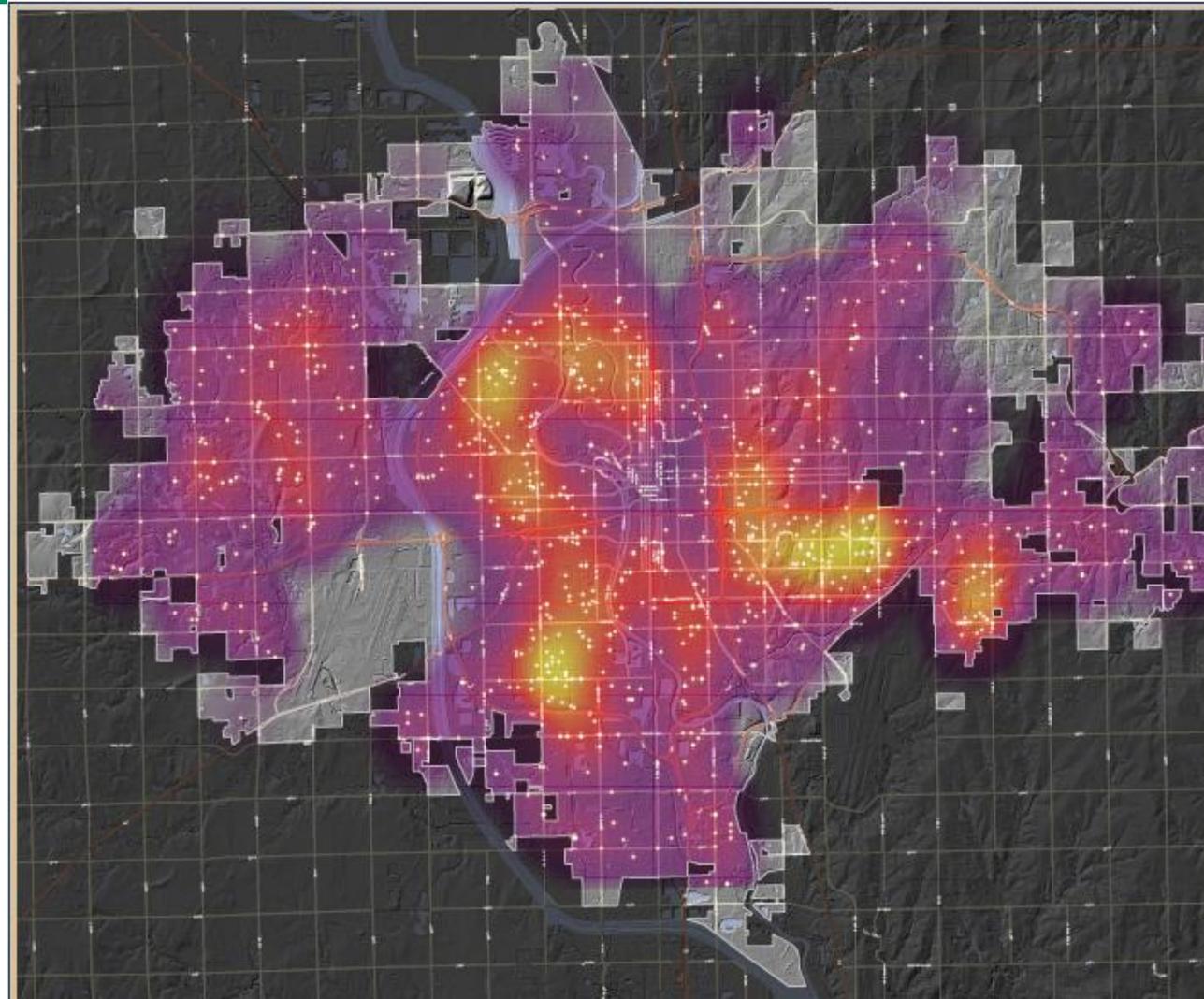
Teams checked out on 79 complaints and made 159 self-initiated contacts with citizens

# Citation History

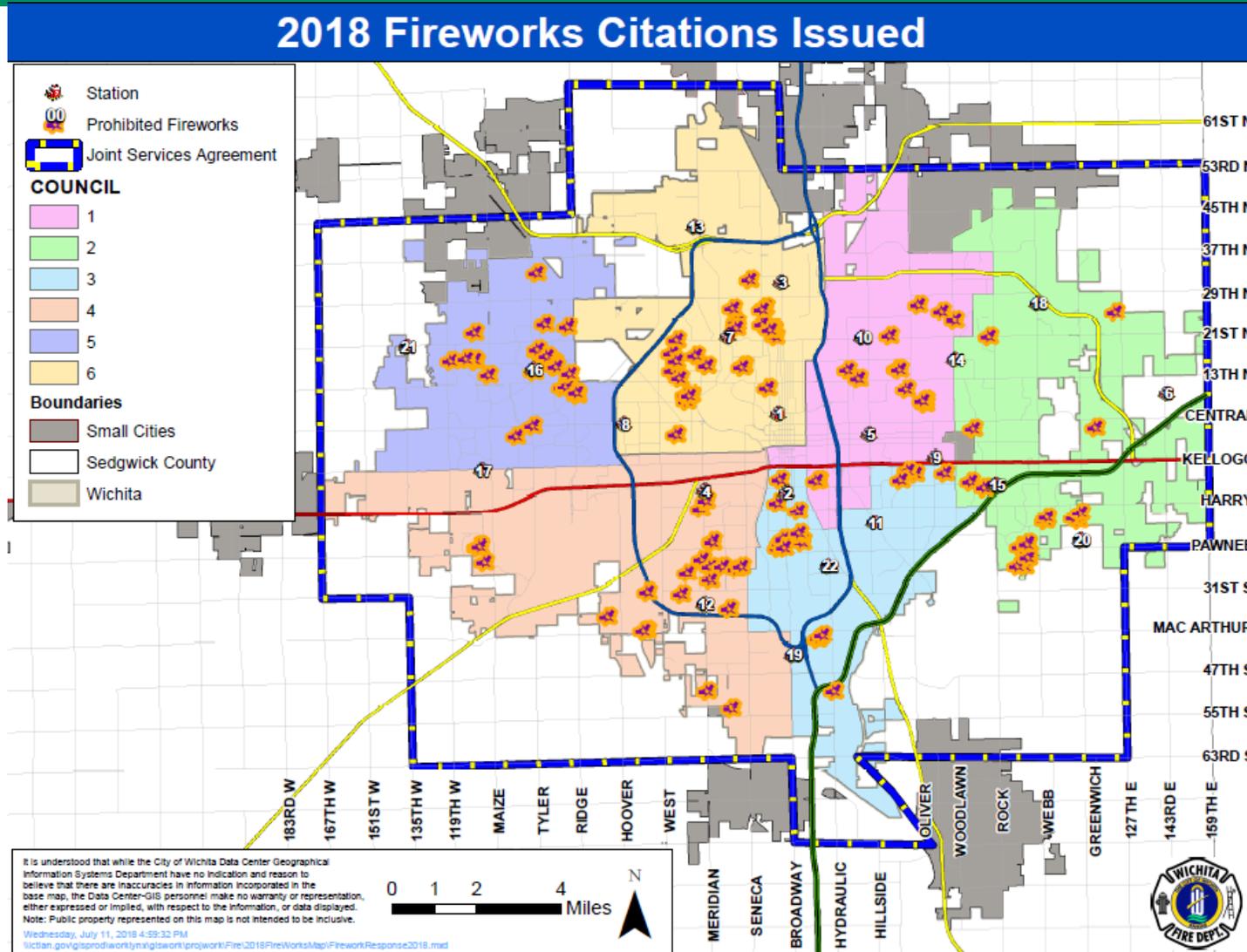
## CITATIONS ISSUED June 27 – July 5

<b>Issuing Agency</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Fire Department	59	138	0	8	0

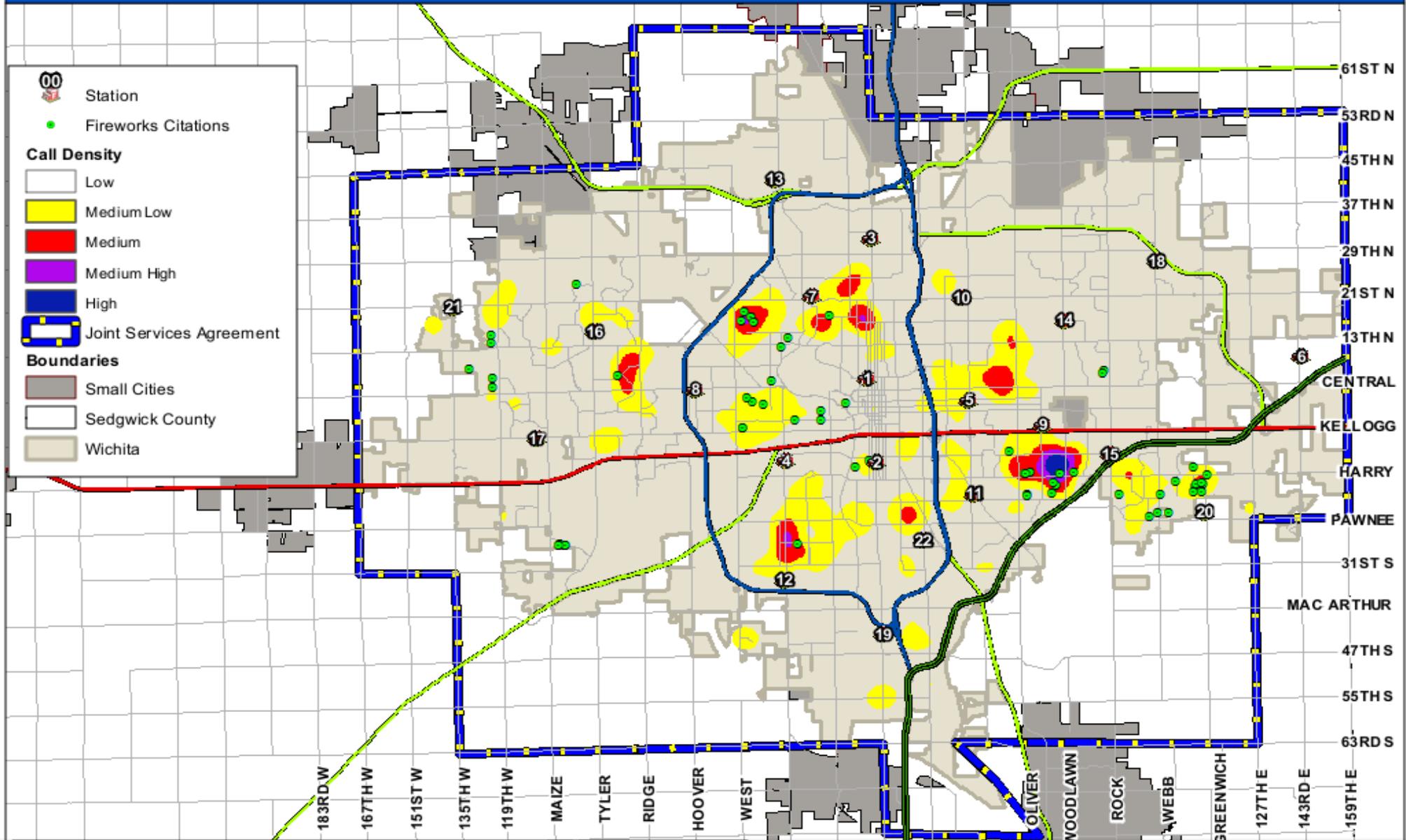
# 2018 Complaint Call Density



# 2018 Citations Issued



# 2019 Firework Complaint Call Density w/Citations



## Financial Considerations

- Fireworks sales permits collected \$45,000.
- Enhanced enforcement efforts cost an estimated \$25,737.
- This resulted in a net cost of (\$19,262).

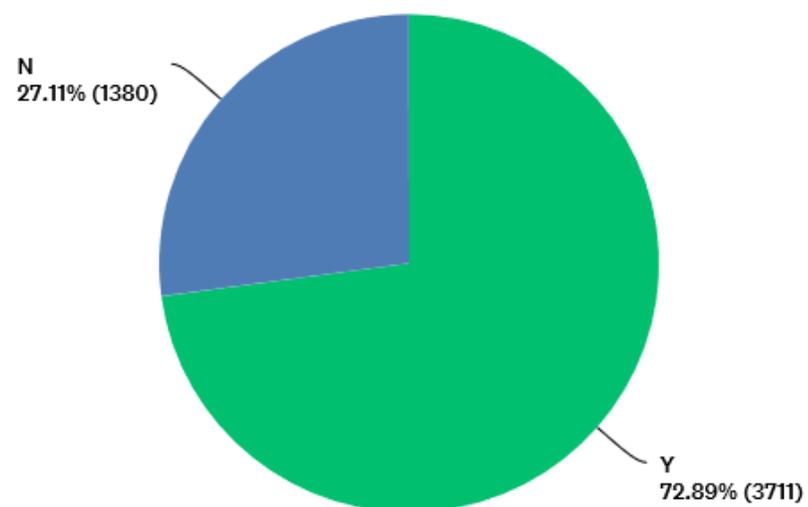
# Survey

- The WFD conducted an online survey concerning fireworks in the City of Wichita.
- The survey consisted of 11 questions and ran November 5-30, 2019
- The survey was advertised through WFD and City social media and website.
- Over 5,000 responses to the survey
- The 2014 “Activate Wichita” survey on fireworks had 576 participants and was considered “an extremely successful outreach effort. (new survey had nearly 10 times the participation)

# Survey

Do you believe the Wichita City Council should make additional changes to the fireworks ordinance?

Answered: 5,091 Skipped: 42

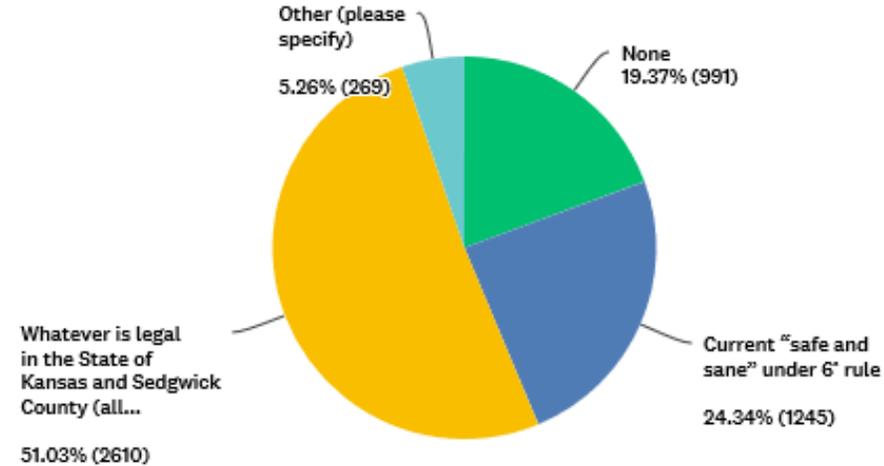


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Y	72.89% 3,711
N	27.11% 1,380
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,091</b>

# Survey

Which kinds of fireworks should be legal in the City of Wichita?

Answered: 5,115 Skipped: 18

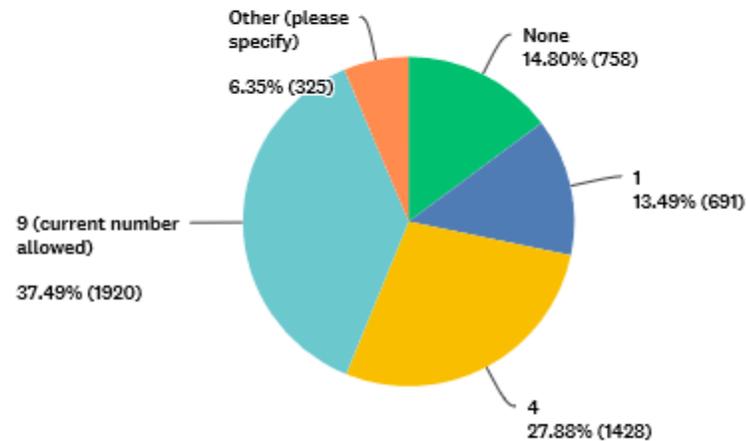


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
None	19.37% 991
Current "safe and sane" under 6" rule	24.34% 1,245
Whatever is legal in the State of Kansas and Sedgwick County (all consumer fireworks except bottle rockets and sky lanterns)?	51.03% 2,610
Other (please specify)	5.26% 269
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,115</b>

# Survey

How many days should the public be allowed to set off fireworks in the City of Wichita? (Current City and State laws allow nine days sale/use June 27 through July 5)

Answered: 5,122 Skipped: 11

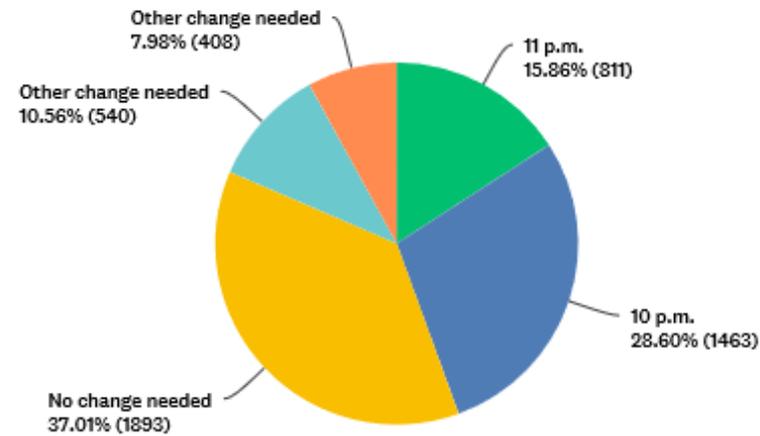


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None	14.80%	758
1	13.49%	691
4	27.88%	1,428
9 (current number allowed)	37.49%	1,920
Other (please specify)	6.35%	325
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,122</b>

# Survey

Currently, fireworks may be shot from 10 a.m. to midnight each day of the designated nine-day holiday period. Should the daily ending time be changed?

Answered: 5,115 Skipped: 18

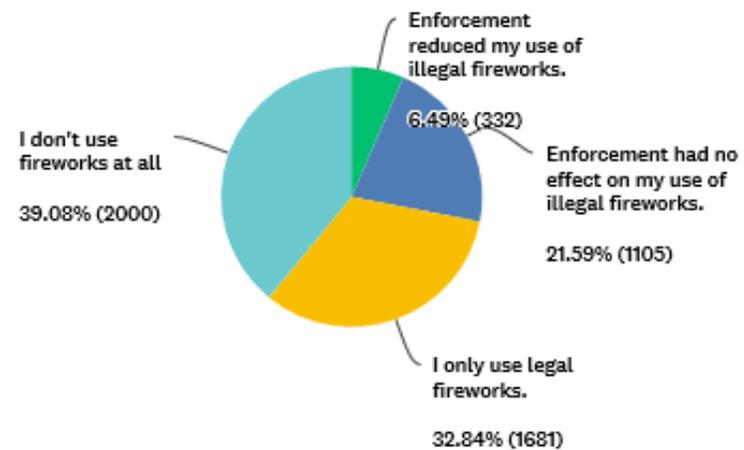


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
11 p.m.	15.86%	811
10 p.m.	28.60%	1,463
No change needed	37.01%	1,893
Other change needed	10.56%	540
Other change needed	7.98%	408
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,115</b>

# Survey

Does the enforcement of the fireworks ordinance impact your personal use of fireworks?

Answered: 5,118 Skipped: 15

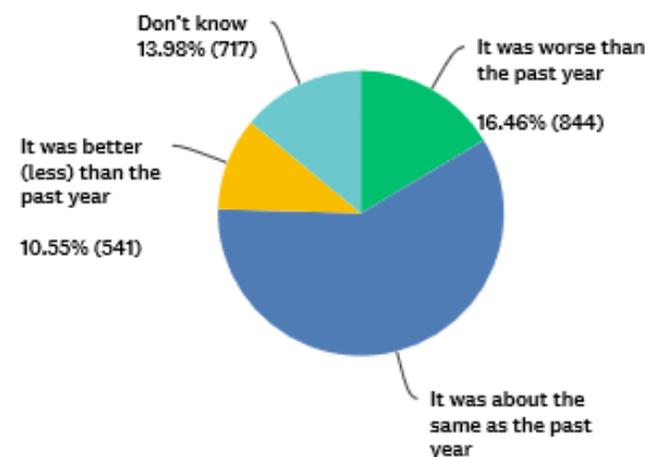


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Enforcement reduced my use of illegal fireworks.	6.49%	332
Enforcement had no effect on my use of illegal fireworks.	21.59%	1,105
I only use legal fireworks.	32.84%	1,681
I don't use fireworks at all	39.08%	2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,118</b>

# Survey

In your opinion, how did illegal fireworks use in your neighborhood compare to illegal use in the previous year?

Answered: 5,129 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
It was worse than the past year	16.46%	844
It was about the same as the past year	59.02%	3,027
It was better (less) than the past year	10.55%	541
Don't know	13.98%	717
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,129</b>

## Survey Summary

Over 72% of respondents felt changes should be made to the ordinance.

51% thought the City should allow all fireworks legal in the State, while 24% wanted to keep what is currently allowed and 19% wanted to ban all fireworks.

Many opinions on the change of times and days when fireworks use would be allowed, but the status quo led responses.

59% of respondents felt illegal fireworks use was about the same in 2019 vs 2018

Questions? Ideas?

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# Fireworks Ordinance Enforcement

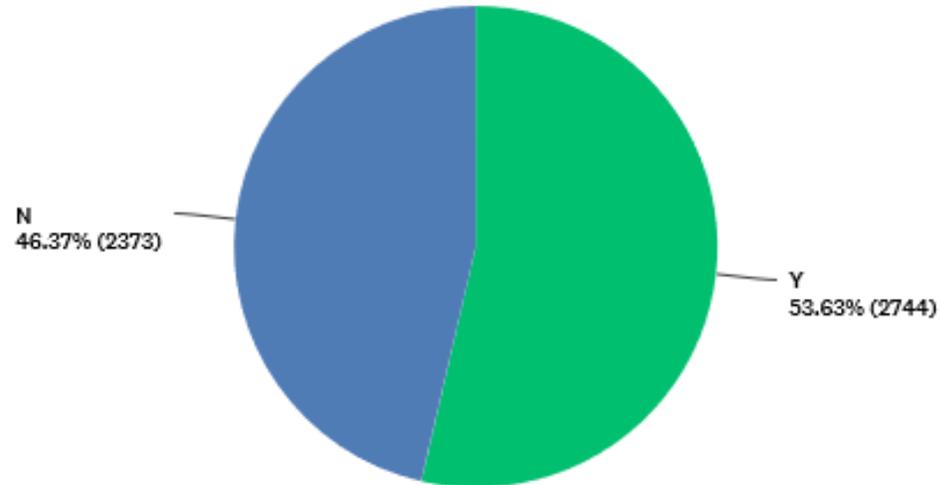
## Fire Department



# Additional Survey Questions

Do you have concerns about how the community currently uses fireworks in Wichita?

Answered: 5,117 Skipped: 16

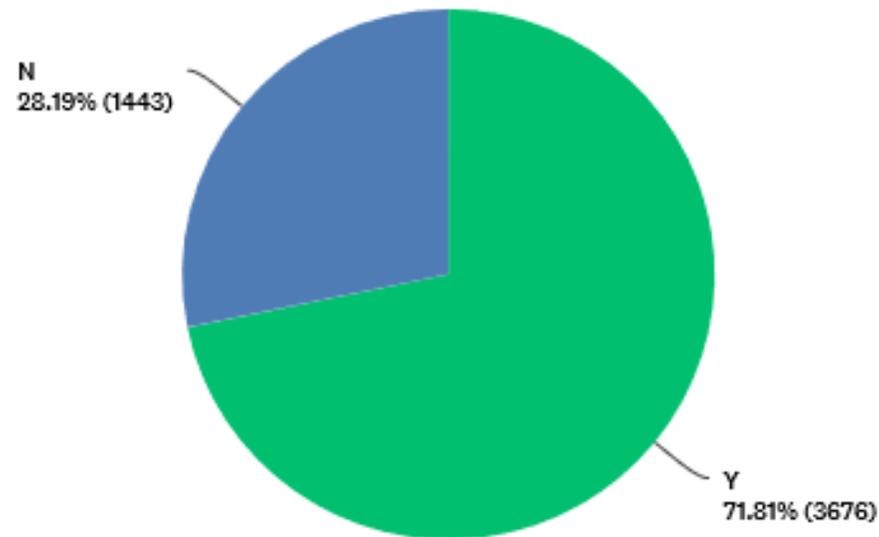


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Y	53.63%	2,744
N	46.37%	2,373
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,117</b>

# Additional Survey Questions

Do you support the issuing of citations for those who violate the fireworks ordinance?

Answered: 5,119 Skipped: 14

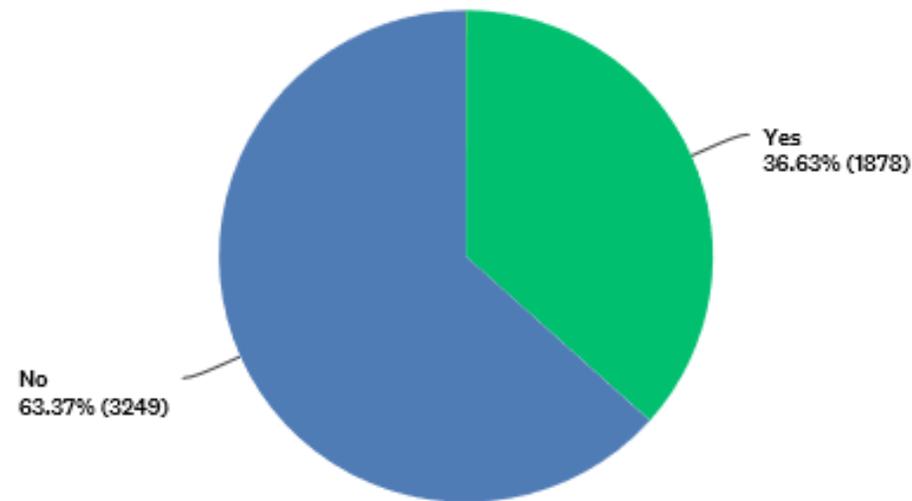


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Y	71.81% 3,676
N	28.19% 1,443
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,119</b>

# Additional Survey Questions

Currently, citations for the illegal use of fireworks carries a \$250 fine. Do you feel this should be increased to help deter use of illegal fireworks?

Answered: 5,127 Skipped: 6

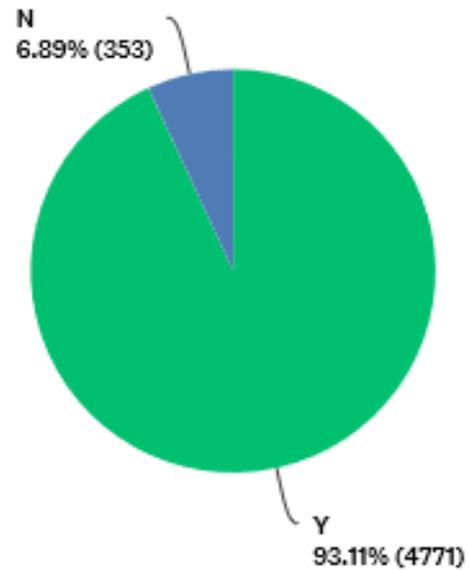


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	36.63% 1,878
No	63.37% 3,249
I only use legal fireworks.	0.00% 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,127</b>

# Additional Survey Questions

Do you live in the City of Wichita?

Answered: 5,124 Skipped: 9

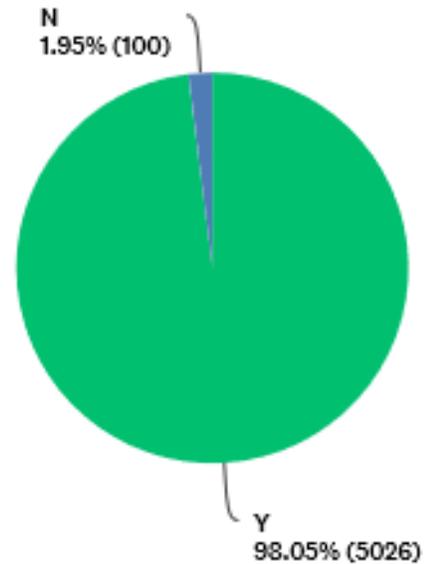


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Y	93.11%	4,771
N	6.89%	353
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,124</b>

# Additional Survey Questions

In 2019, did you spend any time in Wichita between June 27 and July 5?

Answered: 5,126 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Y	98.05% 5,026
N	1.95% 100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,126</b>