

March 2024 - Analysis and Comparison of Police Departments

Menands is uniquely sandwiched between 2 large cities and 1 medium sized city. A 4TH large city is not far away (12 miles). Our jurisdiction borders indisputable areas of high and increasing crime. Regardless of these facts, Menands was ranked the 3rd best place to live in the Capital District in 2022.

In 2023 Menands saw unprecedented drops in crime rates despite calls for service increasing by 15.5%. Violent crimes were down 40%, motor vehicle thefts were down 30%, and larcenies were down 20%. The statistics show a direct correlation between the increased frequency of traffic stops (up by 57%) and the decrease of motor vehicle crashes (down by 10%). In 2023 we issued 4856 traffic citations, which far exceed any nearby agencies including those of much larger agencies like Colonie, Bethlehem, Watervliet, and Guilderland. Our analysis clearly shows that our patrols and officers are successfully working to make Menands a safer village.

2024 to date our calls for service are up 49%, which (if trend continues) will more than double the total calls for service of 2021. It is important to note that our response time continues to be the shortest among ALL neighboring agencies, including those with MANY more officers on the road.

2022

Location	Population	Violent Crimes	Crime per sq/ mile
Colonie	83k	122	52
Troy	50k	349	190
Albany	100k	926	213
Watervliet	10k	53	207
MENANDS	4.5k	8	35
MENANDS - 2023	4.5k	5	26.5

Below is a chart with the recommended rate of officers per every 1,000 people.

Agency Providing Recommendations	Recommended Rate for Officers per 1k people	Amount of Officers For a population of 4.5k
<i>FBI</i>	3.8	17
<i>IACP</i>	3.4	15.3
<i>USDOJ</i>	3.0	13.5

Below is a chart highlighting other similar departments, showcasing the number of officers, the population, and the geographic size of the municipality.

Police Department	County	# of Officers	Location Population (2021)	Location Size (Sq. Miles)
Menands	Albany	14	4508	3.313
Catskill	Greene	20	3844	2.857
Ballston Spa	Saratoga	18	5095	1.61
Hudson Falls	Washington	18	7393	1.92
S. Glens Falls	Saratoga	12	3764	1.49
Scotia	Schenectady	14	7257	1.79
Horseheads	Chemung	13	6493	3.91
Red Hook	Dutchess	12	1957	1.07
Herkimer Village	Herkimer	20	7283	2.703
Solvay	Onondaga	16	6622	1.56
Wellsville	Allegany	12	4587	6.16
Rensselaer City	Rensselaer	28	9287	3.514
Mechanicville	Saratoga	14	5168	.92