

Understanding Youth who commit serious offenses

2013-2018 Six-Year
Summary

**County of Santa Clara Probation Department
Research and Development Unit, Summer 2019**

Youth with Serious Offenses

This summary report was designed by the Probation Department to examine youth who have committed a serious offense between 2013 and 2018 and includes only the following serious offenses:

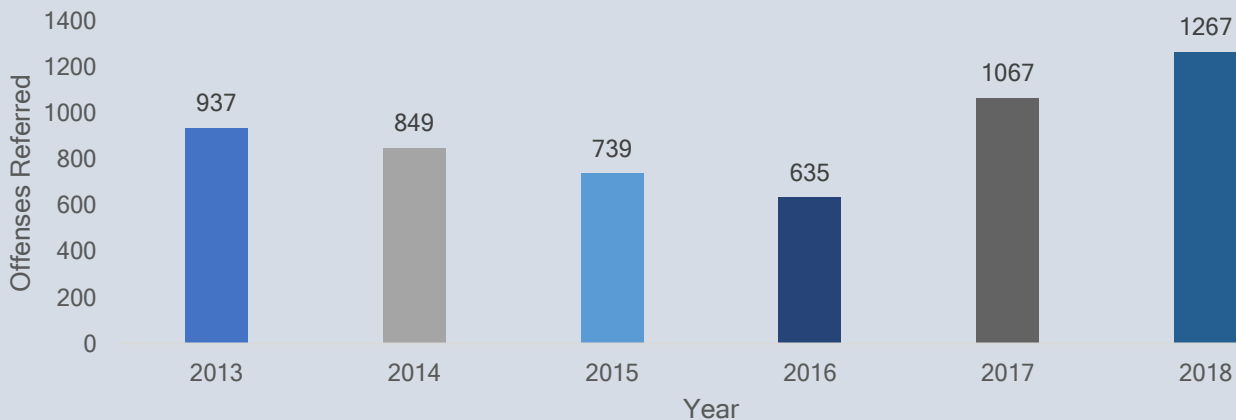
- PC187 (murder)
- PC192(A) (nonnegligent manslaughter)
- PC 261 (forcible rape)
- PC 245 (aggravated assault)
- VC10851 (auto theft)
- PC211 and PC213 (robbery)
- PC664/213 (attempted robbery)
- PC215 (carjacking)
- PC664/215 (attempted carjacking)
- PC459 (burglary: first degree).

- **While this mini snapshot presents information on referrals, more information on the youth and their needs can be found in the full report online.**
- **Referrals for the noted serious offenses were 35 percent higher in 2018 than in 2013. Between 2017 and 2018 they increased by 19 percent.**
- **A total of 2,840 unduplicated youth were referred for a total of 5,494 serious offenses in the six-year period between 2013 and 2018.**

Referrals for serious offenses 2013-2018

Overall referrals for the serious offenses listed above decreased on average by 12 percent per year between 2013 and 2016, before increasing by 68 percent between 2016 and 2017. Between 2017 and 2018, referrals increased by 19 percent.

Figure 1: Number of Referrals Received for Specified Offenses 2013-2018

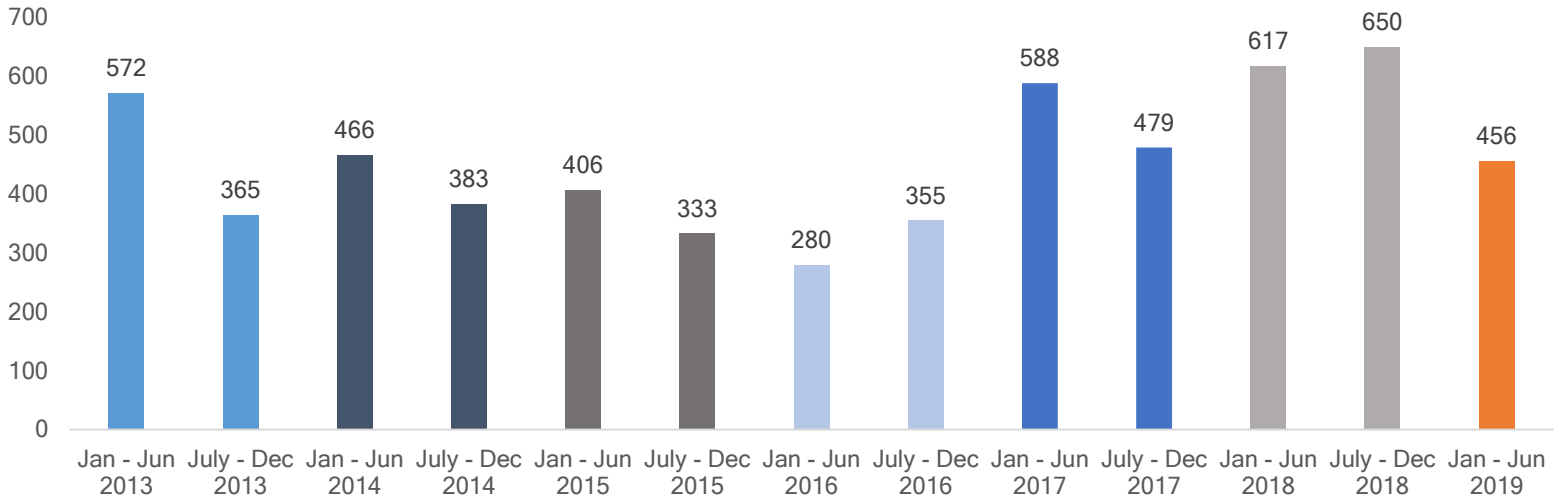


Note: This summary presents information on the number of referrals (arrests or citations) to the Probation Department for specified serious offenses listed above. The numbers reported do not represent the number of crimes committed. For example, if one robbery offense involved five youth, the number of referrals from the one event will total five. It should also be noted that the information presented here is based on the date the referral was received by the Probation Department, not the date on which the offense occurred.

6-month trend

The number of serious referrals received in 2018 increased slightly in the second half of the year. The pattern observed in 2017 when there was a large increase in the first half of the year was not repeated in 2018.

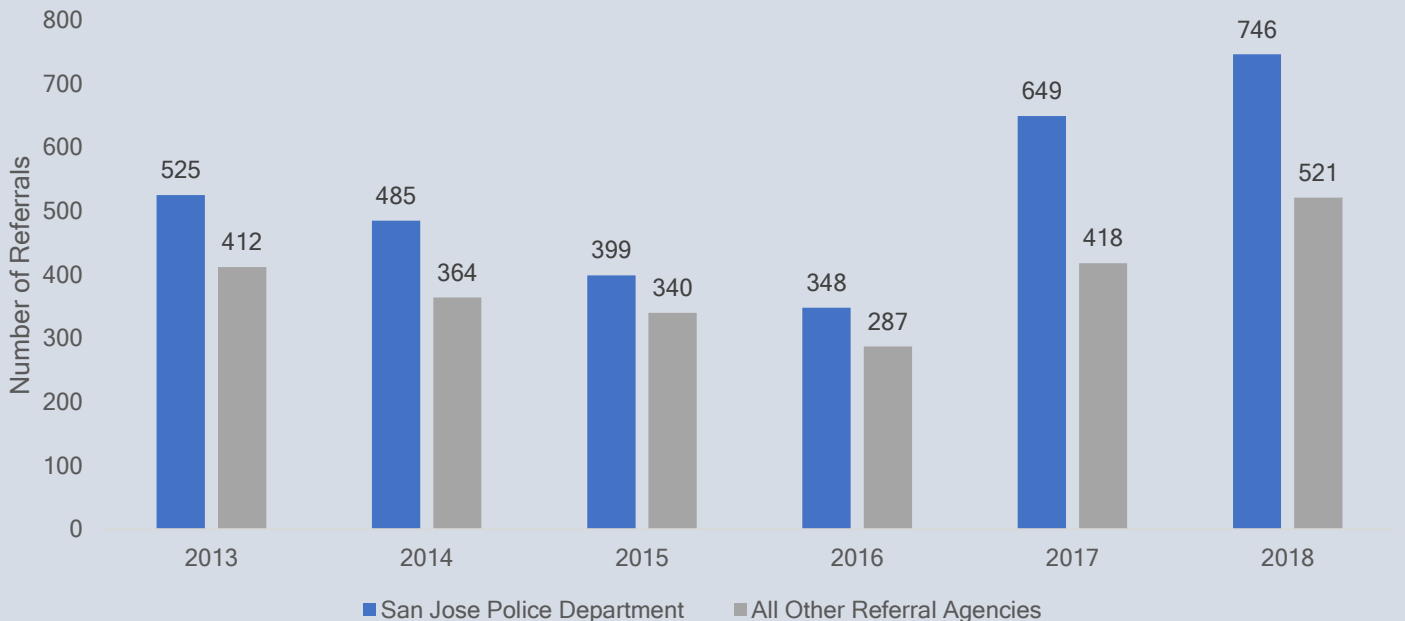
Figure 2: Number of Referrals Received for Serious Offenses 2013-2018 6-month Trend



Referring Agency

Most referrals in the County come from the San Jose Police Department due to the size of the city compared to other cities in the County. Referrals from San Jose Police Department for serious offenses increased by 86 percent between 2016 and 2017 and increased by 15 percent between 2017 and 2018. Referrals from other agencies increased by 25 percent between 2017 and 2018.

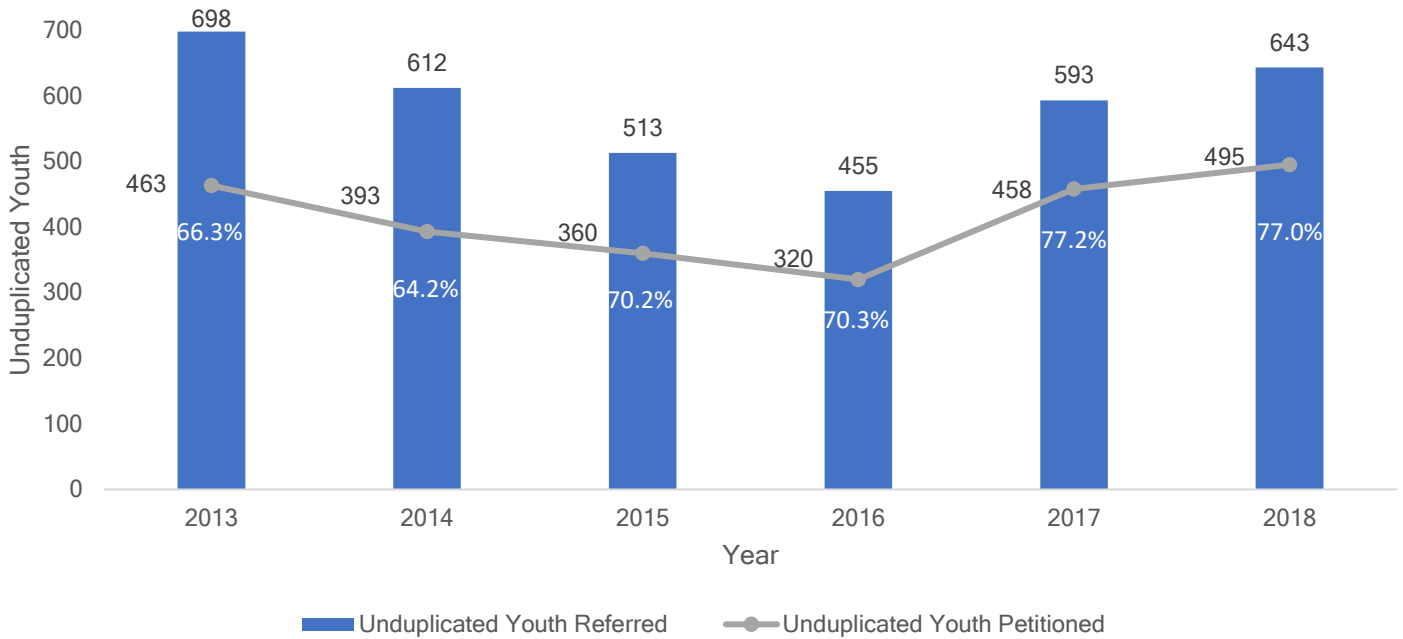
Figure 3: Number of Referrals Received 2013-2018 from San Jose Police Department and All Other Referral Agencies



Percentage of youth petitioned

The percentage of youth petitioned for these offenses has increased each year, from 66 percent in 2013 to 77 percent in 2018.

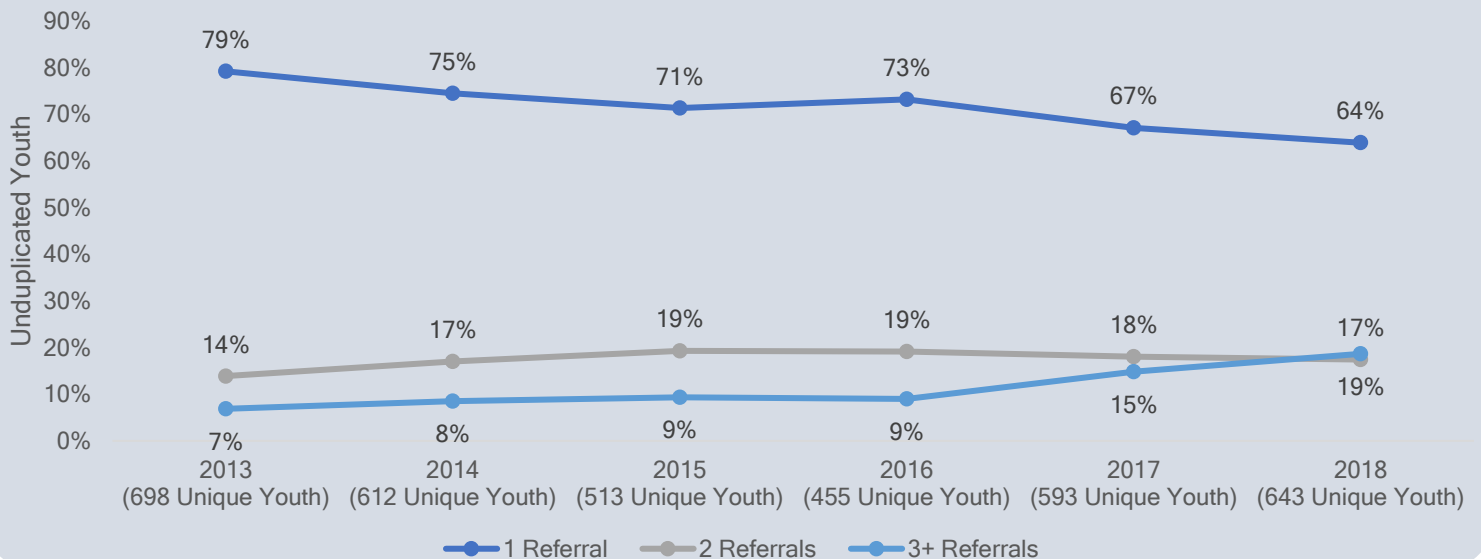
Figure 4: Unduplicated Youth Referred and Petitioned 2013-2018



Youth with multiple serious referrals

The number of youth with three or more referrals for specified offenses rose from nine percent in 2016 to 19 percent in 2018. As the number of unique youth referred has increased, so too has the percentage of youth referred for multiple offenses.

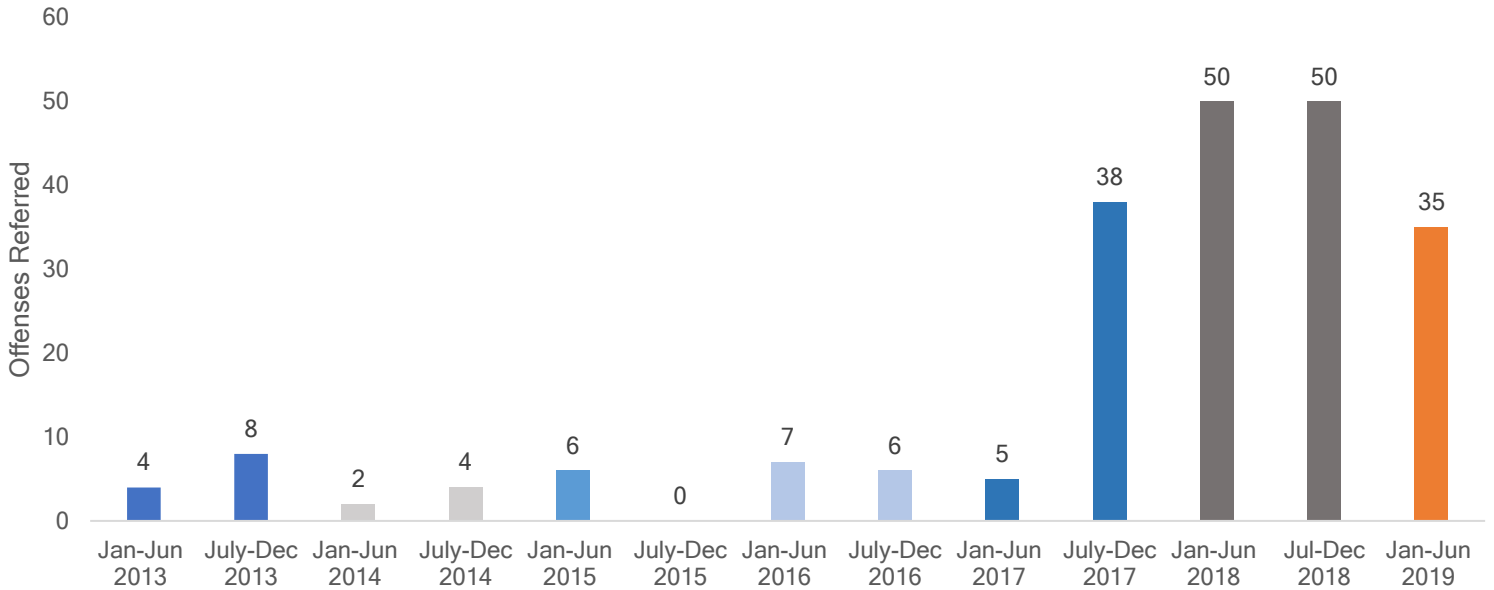
Figure 5: Specified Referrals Per Youth 2013-2018



Carjacking Referrals

Referrals for “carjacking” and attempted “carjacking” offenses increased from 43 offenses in 2017 to 100 offenses in 2018¹; this was an increase of 57 offenses.

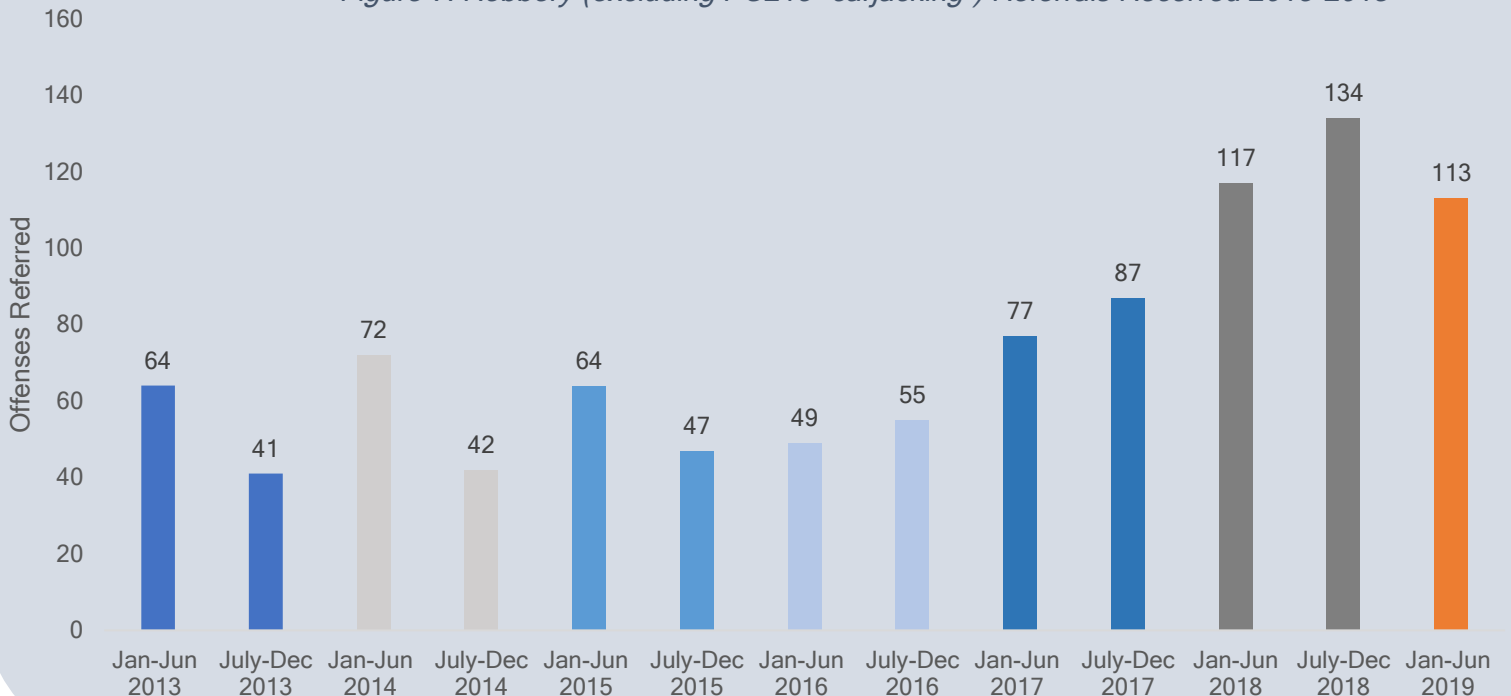
Figure 6: Carjacking Referrals Received 2013-2018



Robbery Referrals

Referrals for robbery offenses increased by 53 percent between 2017 and 2018.

Figure 7: Robbery (excluding PC215 "carjacking") Referrals Received 2013-2018

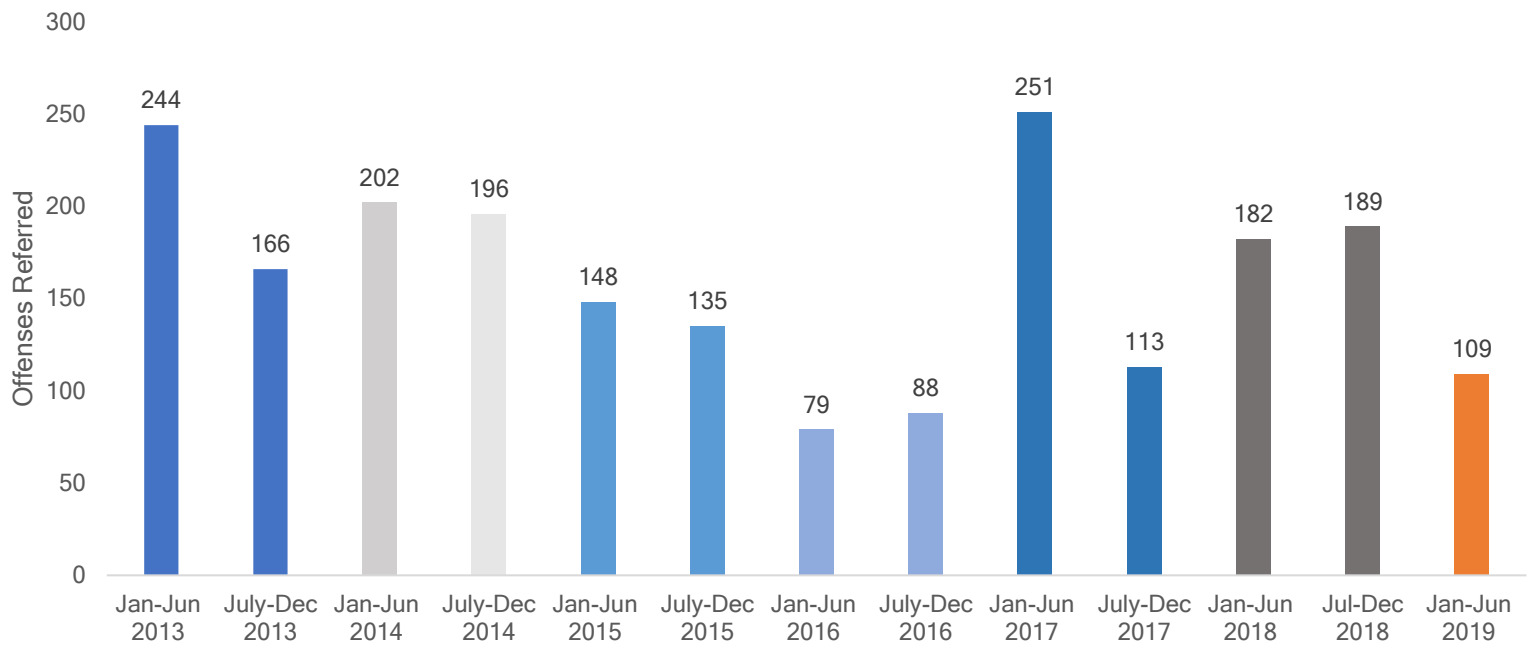


¹ Raw numbers are provided rather than percentages because the small sample size is too small to yield meaningful or reliable percentages.

Burglary Referrals

Burglary referrals increased by 197 between 2016 and 2017 before increasing by 7 offenses between 2017 and 2018.

Figure 8: Burglary Referrals Received 2013-2018



Other sources of information

- County of Santa Clara Juvenile Justice Annual Reports can be found online here: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/probation/reports/Pages/Annual-Reports.aspx>
- Understanding Youth who Commit Serious Offenses: A Five-Year Snapshot 2013-2017 full report: https://www.sccgov.org/sites/probation/Documents/2018_2_23_%20JJ%20Snapshot_FINAL.pdf
- Juvenile Justice System Collaborative (JJSC) meeting agendas and associated documents: [https://www.sccgov.org/sites/probation/jps/Pages/Juvenile-Justice-System-Collaborative-\(JJSC\).aspx](https://www.sccgov.org/sites/probation/jps/Pages/Juvenile-Justice-System-Collaborative-(JJSC).aspx)
- Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council meeting agendas and associated documents: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/probation/jps/Pages/Juvenile-Justice-Coordinating-Council.aspx>