# XX. PUBLIC SAFETY

The first and most critical guiding principle of Ivins City is to ensure the health, safety and welfare of our residents. Ivins and Santa Clara decided to merge their Police Departments in 2012, Animal Services in 2014, and Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in 2018. The mergers were made to reduce costs and provide improved services to both cities. Ivins manages the Police Department and Santa Clara manages the Fire/EMS Department under an Interlocal Agreement reviewed annually.

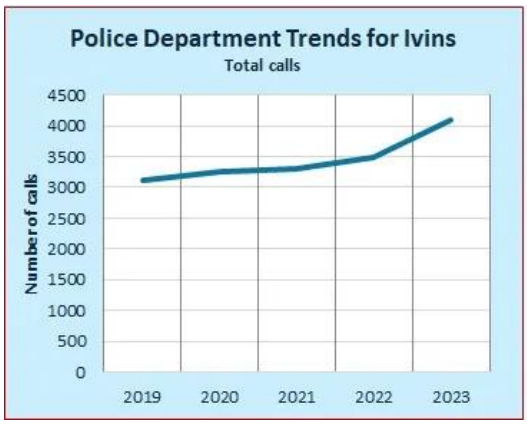
## Law Enforcement

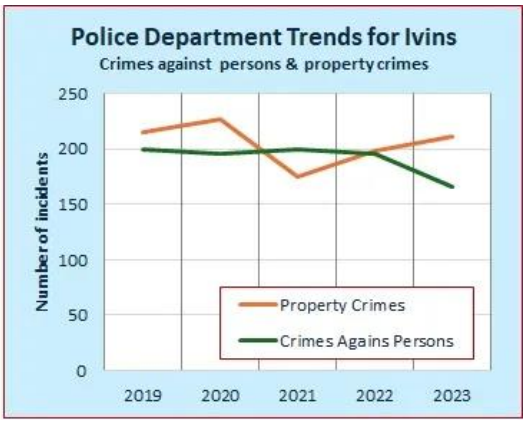
The SCI (Santa Clara Ivins) Police Department is housed in the old Ivins City Hall, at 55N Main Street. It is currently operated by a team of 20 personnel, including four administrative positions, stationed in Ivins. At least two officers are always on patrol.

In addition, the department has two detectives, a K-9 officer, a School Resource Officer (SRO), and a Victim Advocate Coordinator. There are also 14 seasonal crossing guards and 2 part-time employees. The Department also oversees animal control, and two no kill animal shelters and participates in regional Drug and Major Crimes Task Forces.

Additional resources are available from the State, County and through mutual aid agreements with surrounding cities when needed.

Total call volume in Ivins has increased close to 7% a year since 2019. That's logical and even low, given the population growth of 14% in the same period. However, crimes against people and crimes against property have not increased over the past five years in Ivins.



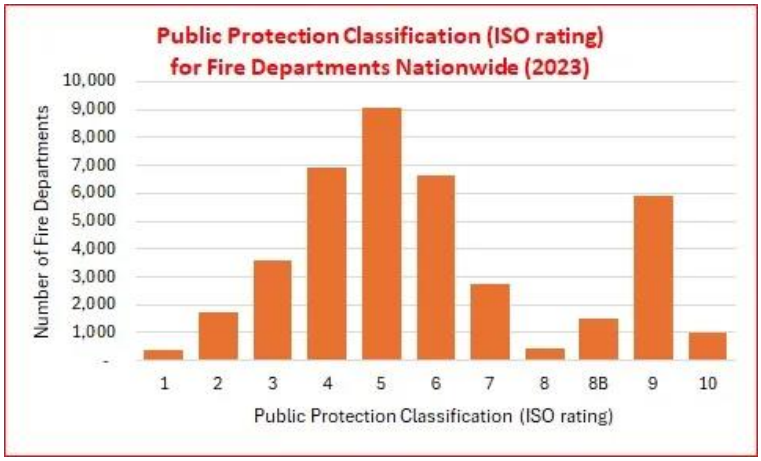

## FIRE/EMS Services

The Fire/EMS Department consists of firefighters, emergency medical technicians (EMT's), and paramedics. There are two fire stations. One is in Santa Clara at 2365 Rachel Dr., and one is in Ivins at 90W Center Street. Both stations house fire vehicles, ambulances, equipment, and gear.

In the past two years, the Fire Department has changed from a full-time staff of six firefighters and EMS personnel to fifteen, plus a Fire Chief and Division Chief. That and other changes have resulted in Ivins and Santa Clara reaching an ISO rating of 4. Only 14% of fire departments nationwide have an ISO rating better than 4. A fire department's ISO rating is a measure of how well a fire department can serve the community. The official name for this rating is the Public Protection Classification or PPC. The lower the rating, the better.

The Department provides paramedic services and ambulance transport. The State has expanded the coverage area for Fire/EMS services to provide ambulance services to Snow Canyon State Park, the Shivwits Band of Paiutes, Old Highway 91, Gunlock, and Motoqua.

As with Public Safety, additional resources are available from the State, County and through mutual aid agreements with surrounding cities when needed.




## Emergency Preparedness

The City has established two avenues for emergency preparedness:




- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)was established several years ago and follows many of the FEMA guidelines. The program is supported through the county and the Santa Clara/Ivins Fire/EMS team to help provide training. This team serves as a "pre first responders" team during an emergency or disaster when all resources (police and fire) have been called in. They can assist in triage, sending resources where needed, communication, and providing first aid.
- Emergency Preparedness Committee, a group of volunteers, work with the Police, Fire/EMS and the mayor. The city created and this committee implemented the Disaster HUB Boxes that are placed throughout the City. Each box contains a two-way radio, and up to 10 clipboards, with 8-12 assigned homes per clipboard for the purposes of damage assessment and personal injury reporting. Additionally, they recently started a series of Preparedness Seminars that take place on the second Thursday of each month.

## Community Preferences

According to households responding to the General Plan Resident Survey 84% rated public services as high.

## Additional Resources

- Ivins Emergency Preparedness Plan (need web link)

## Goal

Provide sufficient public safety services and resources to ensure residents and visitors feel safe and secure.

## Obstacles

- Changing Federal and State requirements may require costly new equipment and training.
- The cost of added and replacement fire and EMS apparatus is rapidly increasing.

## Action Plan

- Provide fire services sufficient to maintain an ISO rating of 4.
- Consider actions needed to improve the ISO rating to 3.
- Staff the two fire stations with at least five fire/EMS personnel always, with at least two personnel at each station always except when called out.
- Regularly evaluate and maintain accredited Public Safety services so that Ivins City remains a safe and well-protected community.
- Strive to ensure that training and equipment are kept to industry standards for all personnel.
- Ensure that all vehicles, apparatus and equipment are properly maintained to optimize their useful life.
- Schedule and budget for regular equipment and apparatus upgrades and replacement.
- Expand the animal shelter and add animal control staff as needed.
- Maintain clean, comfortable, and updated facilities for animals.
- Promote efficient processes and programs and work with volunteer groups to care for and find homes for the animals in our no-kill shelter.

## Public Safety Policies

- Retain highly trained and well-equipped Public Safety personnel.
- Ensure that Public Safety facilities, vehicles, apparatus, and equipment are adequate, up to date and well maintained.

- Maintain and adequately staff a minimum of two fire stations in Ivins and Santa Clara.
- Expand and upgrade the current centrally located Center Street Fire Station as growth requires delaying perhaps indefinitely the need to build and staff a second station.
- Strive to achieve the NFPA recommendation of a five-minute response time for 90% of all fire and EMS calls.
- Enlist the aid of Ivins City residents in establishing and maintaining a safe community through programs such as Neighborhood Watch and CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams).