

# FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTABLE RESPONSE RESISTANCE PROJECT



Year 2015



*A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency*

Jerry P. Dyer  
Chief of Police

Final Report

## **Use of Reportable Response Resistance (Force) Data Collection**

Despite Fresno police officers routine use of verbal commands, and attempts to negotiate peaceful solutions when involved in adversarial situations, there are times when physical force is necessary to make an arrest, prevent an escape, overcome resistance, or defend against injury to officers or citizens. Officers use force as a last resort, with the vast majority of confrontations resolved with very little, if any, force applied. On rare occasions, deadly force must be used; however, the public is often unaware of the vast majority of potentially deadly confrontations that are peacefully resolved without resorting to deadly force.

Closely monitoring our officers assures management oversight and helps to build public trust. In order to accomplish this, we require a review of each reportable use of force by field supervisors. Data is collected by the supervisors, forwarded through the department chain of command and reviewed at each level of supervision, to include Deputy Chiefs of Police.

After staff review is complete, the Professional Standards Unit reviews police reports and other force data for comparative analysis and composite reporting. This information is used to determine effectiveness and necessity of the force used, reliability of equipment, training needs, policy modifications, etc.

The Department defines reportable force as any force when:

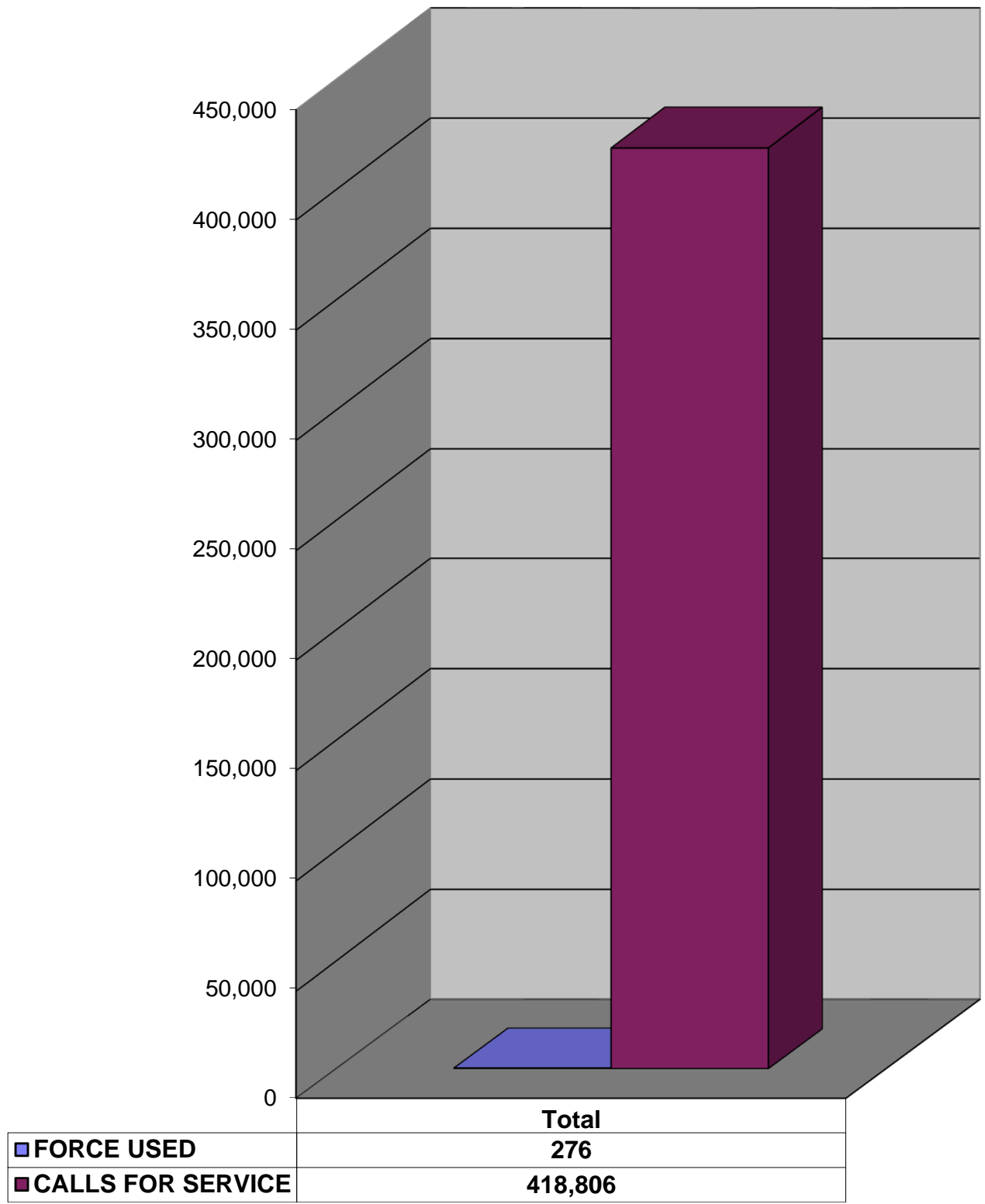
1. Officers (including canines) use force and a person is injured; or,
2. Officers strike a person with a body part (i.e. fist, foot, elbow, etc.) or any object (i.e. flashlight, clipboard, etc); or,
3. Officers use (not merely display) a department issued weapon (i.e. electronic immobilizing device, less-lethal impact projectile, chemical agents, baton, firearm, etc.).

Fresno police officers applied force in 276 incidents while responding to 418,806 calls for service (CFS). This equates to officers applying force in 0.066% of all calls for service for this reporting period.

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### Calls For Service (CFS) vs. Reportable Response Resistance (Force) Incidents



CFS does not include events handled telephonically.  
0.066% of all CFS resulted in the application of reportable force.

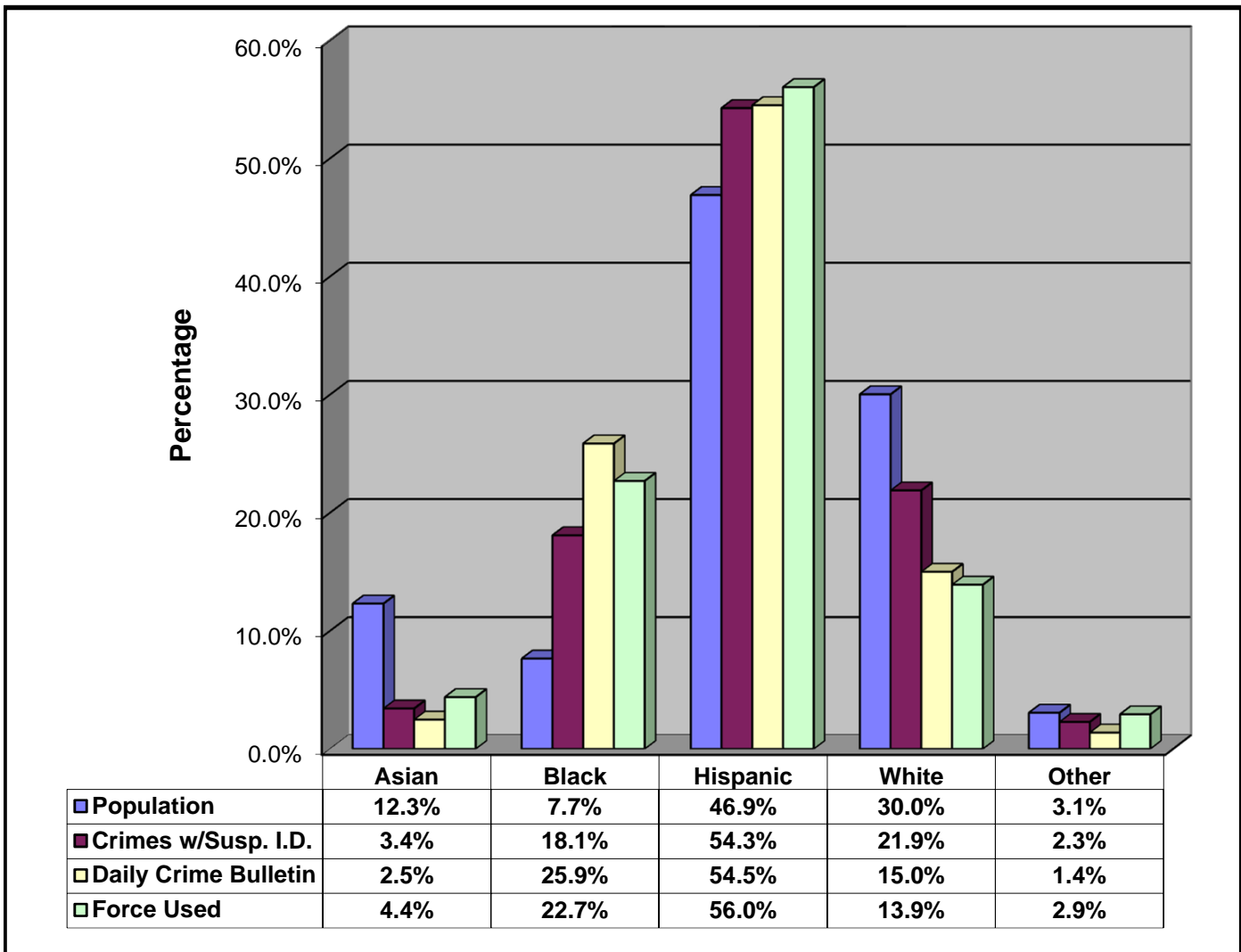
### Suspect Demographics

	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other
<b>City of Fresno Pop. (494,665)*</b>	60,939	37,885	232,055	148,598	15,188
<b>Percentage</b>	12.3%	7.7%	46.9%	30.0%	3.1%
<b>Crimes with Suspect's Race/Age Identified (47,787)</b>	1,639	8,651	25,936	10,467	1,094
<b>Percentage</b>	3.4%	18.1%	54.3%	21.9%	2.3%
<b>Daily Crime Bulletin Listings (1078)**</b>	27	281	592	163	15
<b>Percentage</b>	2.5%	25.9%	54.5%	15.0%	1.4%
<b>Force Applications (273)***</b>	12	62	153	38	8
<b>Percentage</b>	4.4%	22.7%	56.0%	13.9%	2.9%

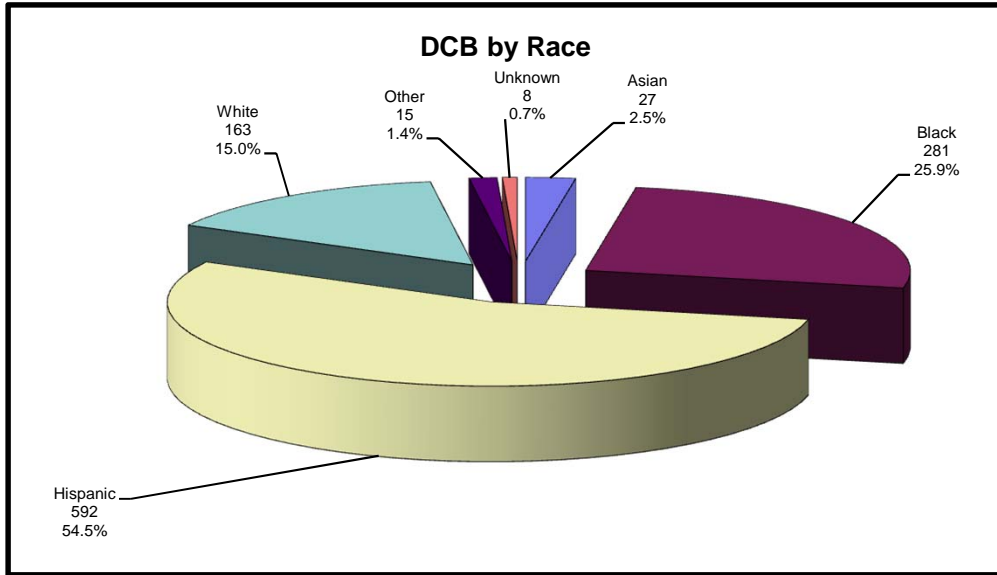
\* 2010 Census

\*\* 8 persons or 0.7% were listed as 'unknown' (see page 3 for definition of Daily Crime Bulletin - DCB)

\*\*\* Of the 276 reportable force cases, 3 had no age or race data available



**DAILY CRIME BULLETIN (WANTED PERSONS) BY RACE LISTINGS – 1086**

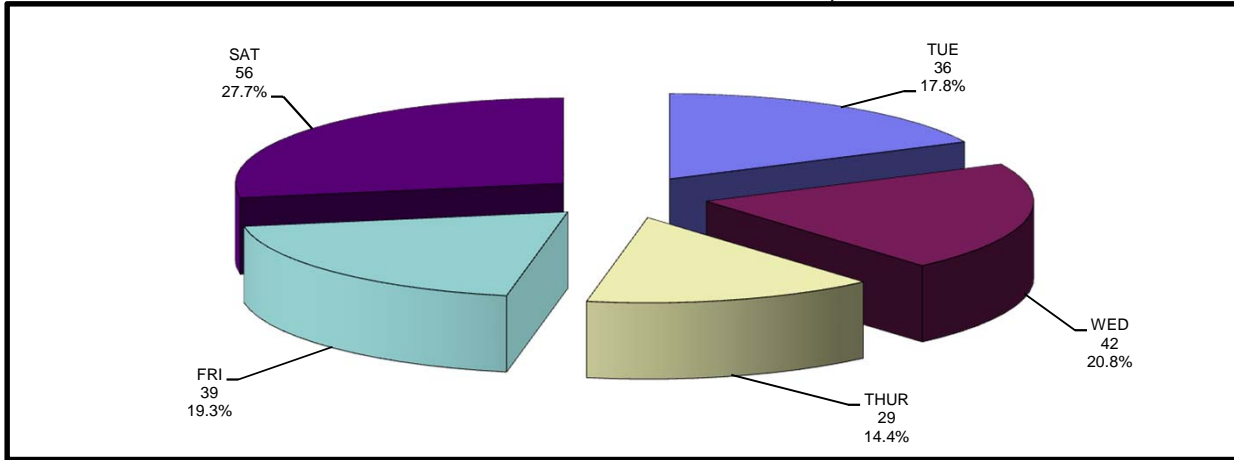


Order by Race:	Hispanic	-	54.5%
	Black	-	25.9%
	White	-	15.0%
	Asian	-	2.5%
	Other	-	1.4%
	Unknown	-	0.7%

The Daily Crime Bulletin (DCB) is a restricted, law enforcement use only document, issued department wide to all sworn personnel and twelve other local/state agencies to assist in locating/arresting suspects and wanted persons. The DCB is issued seven days a week and typically contains the following information:

- 1) Felonies with known, at-large, suspects
- 2) Wanted parolees
- 3) Officer safety information (vehicle occupants in possession of firearms, possible armed subjects, etc.)

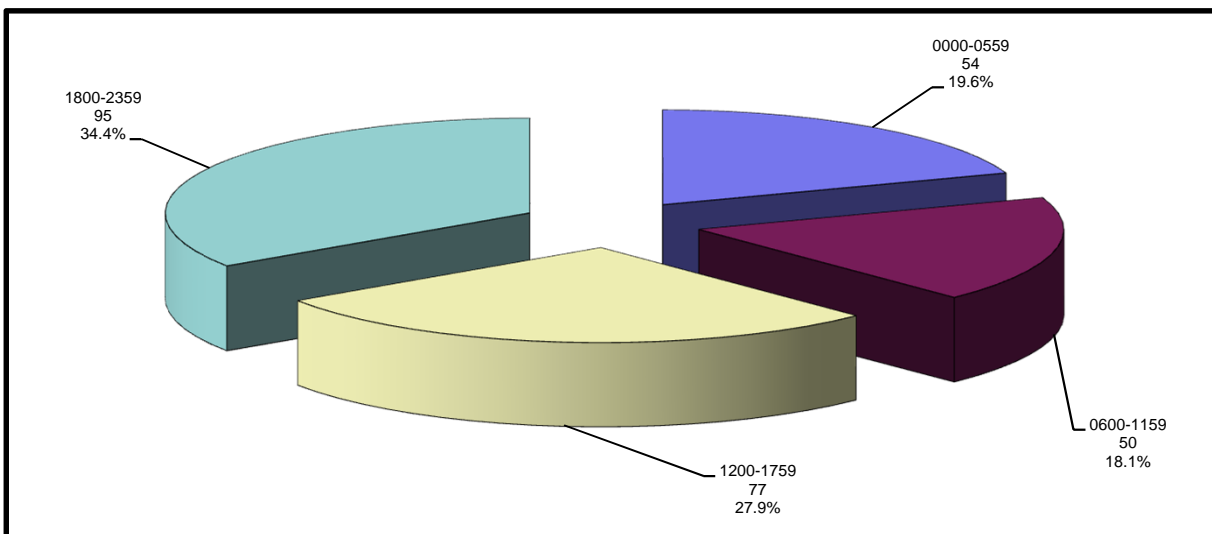
### FORCE INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK, CITY-WIDE



Order by Day of the Week:

Saturday	-	20.3%
Sunday	-	15.6%
Wednesday	-	15.2%
Friday	-	14.1%
Tuesday	-	13.0%
Monday	-	11.2%
Thursday	-	10.5%

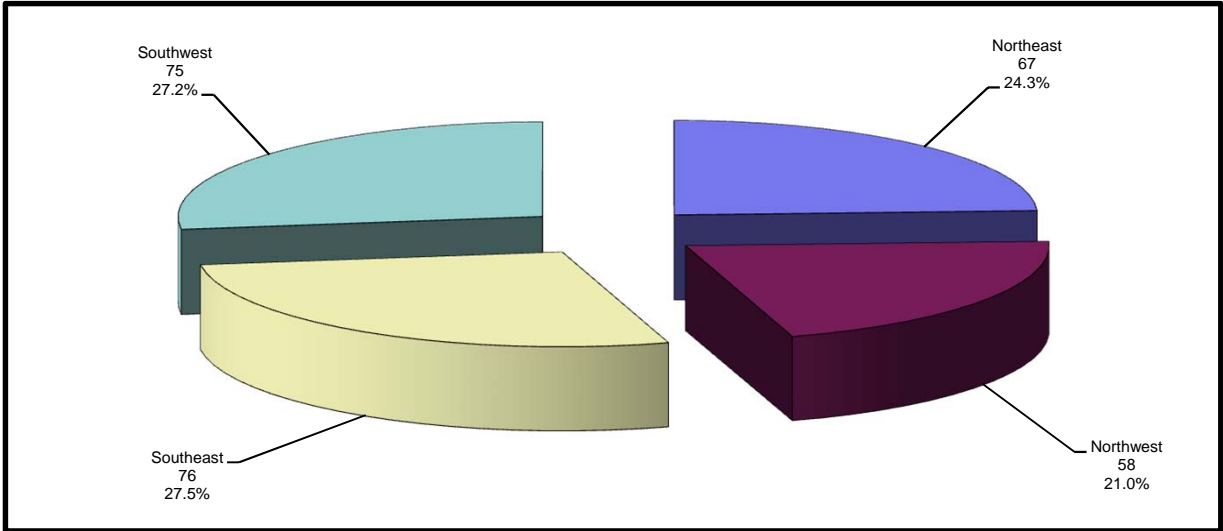
### FORCE INCIDENTS BY HOUR OF DAY, CITY-WIDE



Order by Hours of the Day:

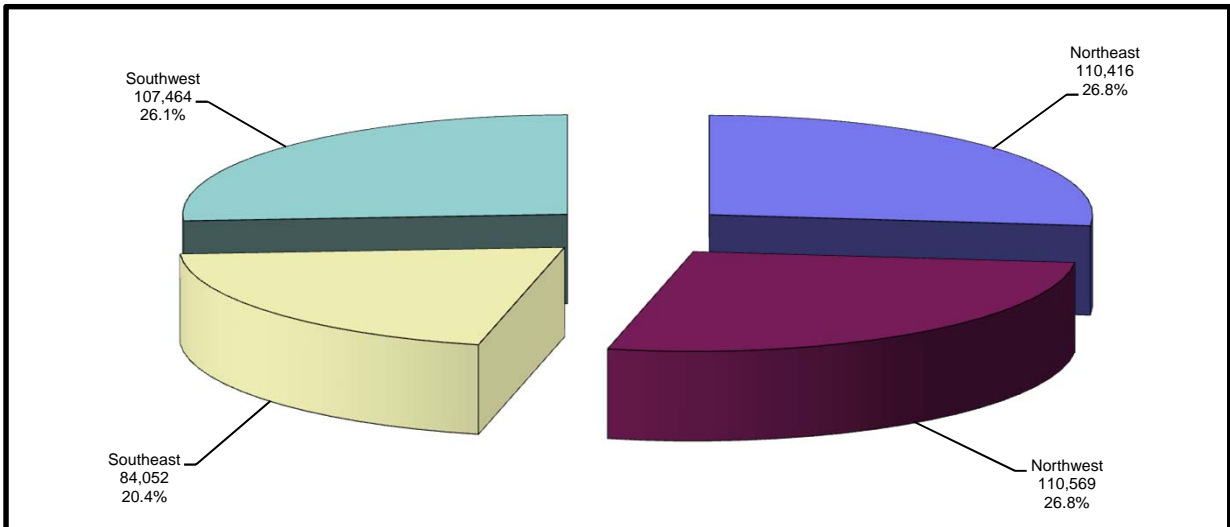
1800 to 2359 hrs	-	34.4%
1200 to 1759 hrs	-	27.9%
0000 to 0559 hrs	-	19.6%
0600 to 1159 hrs	-	18.1%

**FORCE INCIDENTS BY POLICING DISTRICT\***



Order by District:	Southeast	-	27.5%
	Southwest	-	27.2%
	Northeast	-	24.3%
	Northwest	-	21.0%

**ALL CALLS FOR SERVICE (CFS) BY POLICING DISTRICT\***



Of the 418,806 CFS, 6,305 were not assigned to a specific district.

Order by District:	Northwest	-	26.8%
	Northeast	-	26.8%
	Southwest	-	26.1%
	Southeast	-	20.4%

\* See page 6 for policing district boundaries.

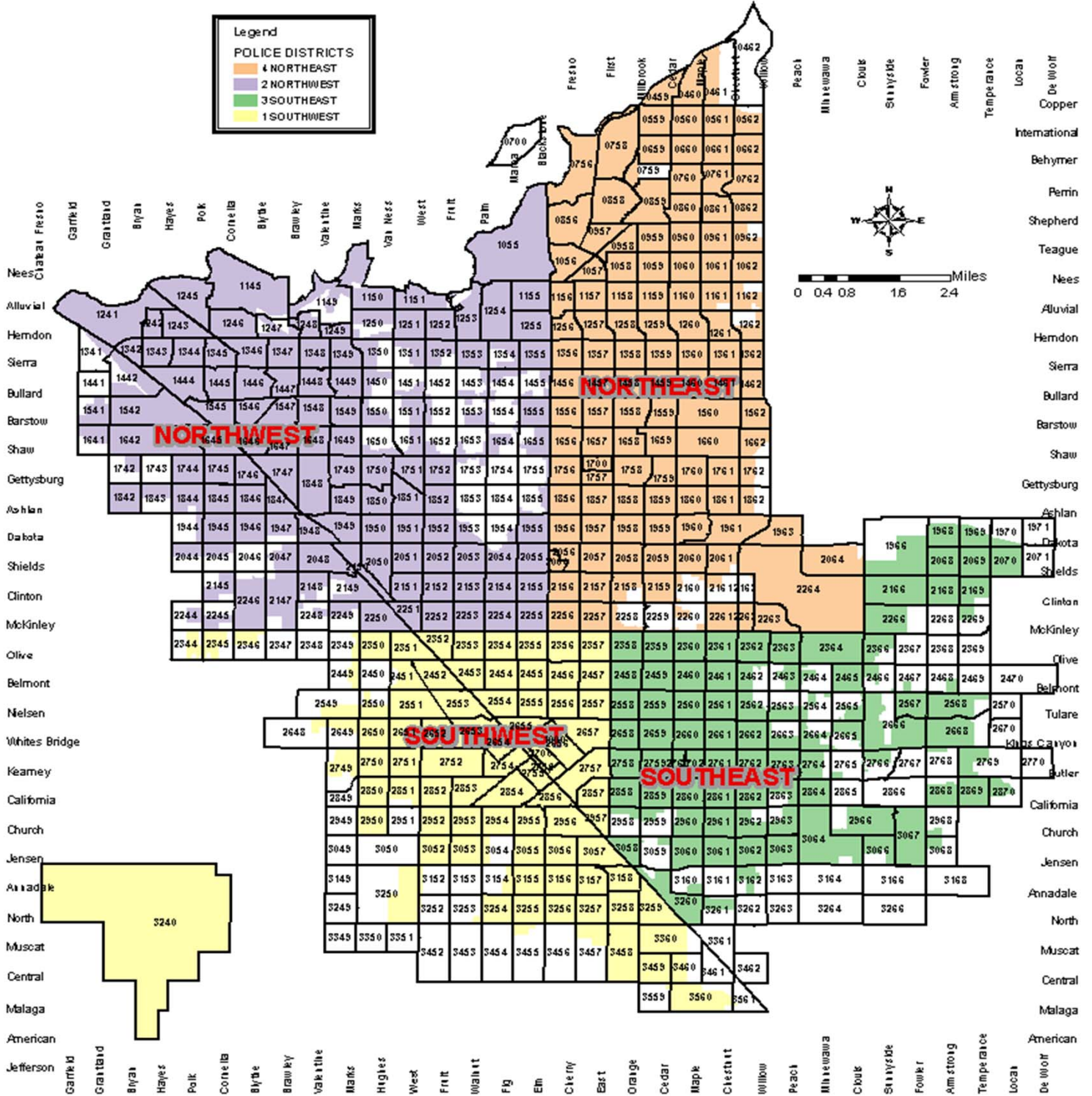


# Fresno Police Department

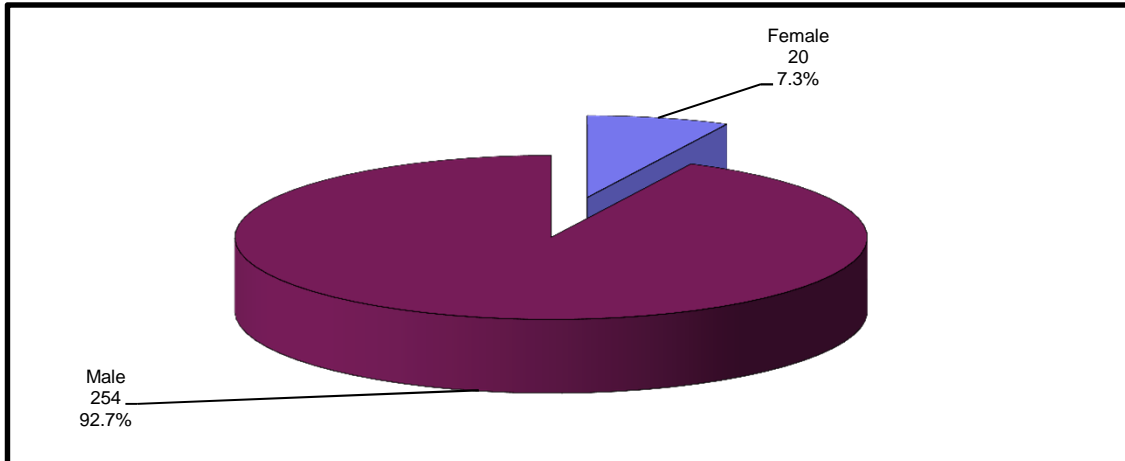
**Legend**

**POLICE DISTRICTS**

- 4 NORTHEAST
- 2 NORTHWEST
- 3 SOUTHWEST
- 1 SOUTHWEST



## FORCE INCIDENTS BY GENDER OF SUSPECTS



Of the 276 force incidents, 2 had no gender data available.

## REPORTED CRIMES BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS

Age Group	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	TOTAL
12-17	74	615	1,503	267	48	2,507
18-23	255	1,760	4,816	1,300	285	8,416
24-29	390	1,761	5,805	1,972	263	10,191
30-35	352	1,337	4,702	1,885	195	8,471
36-41	219	1,002	3,328	1,360	92	6,001
42-47	165	741	2,548	1,412	73	4,939
48-53	80	729	1,800	1,053	57	3,719
54-59	45	438	937	773	47	2,240
60-65	28	192	342	317	20	899
66 and Over	31	76	155	128	14	404
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>8,651</b>	<b>25,936</b>	<b>10,467</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>47,787</b>

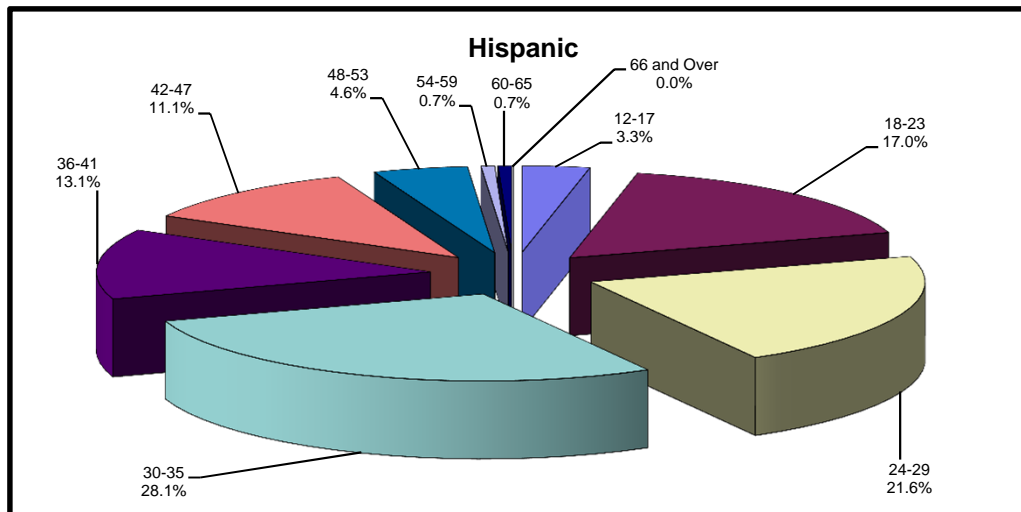
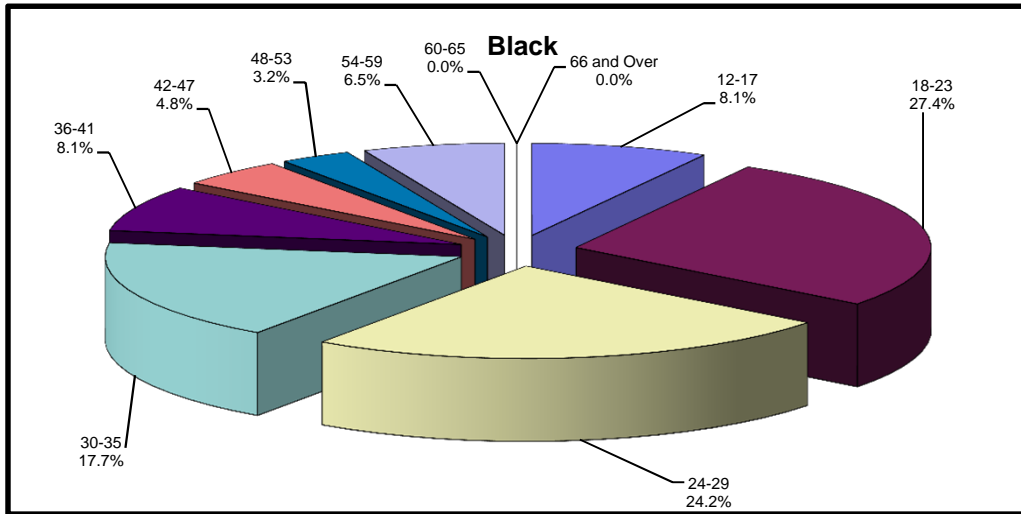
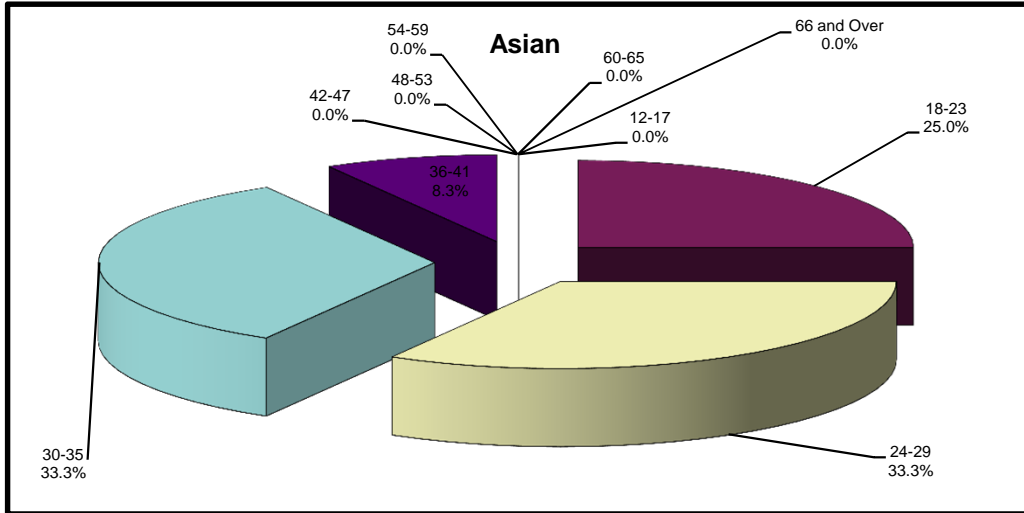
Of the 48,042 reported crime suspects, 47,787 had both age and race data.

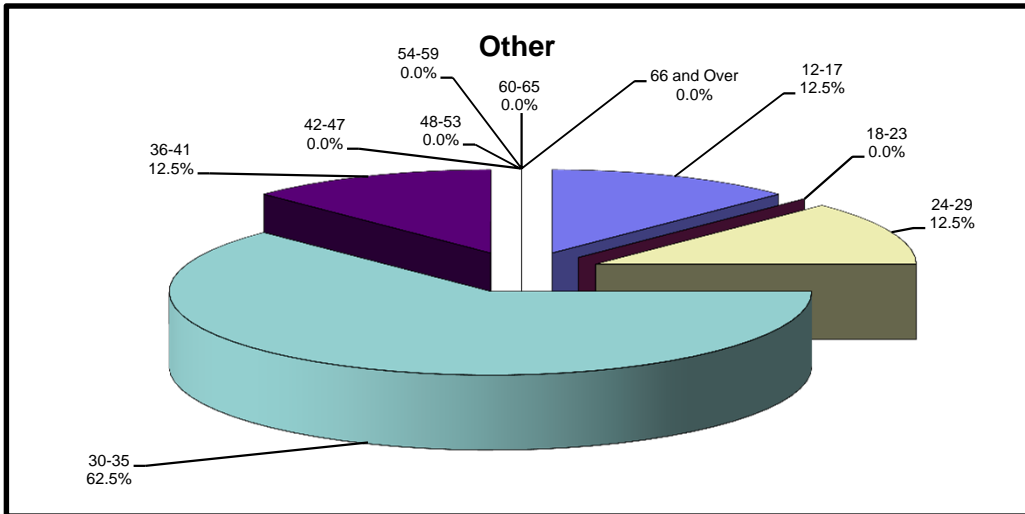
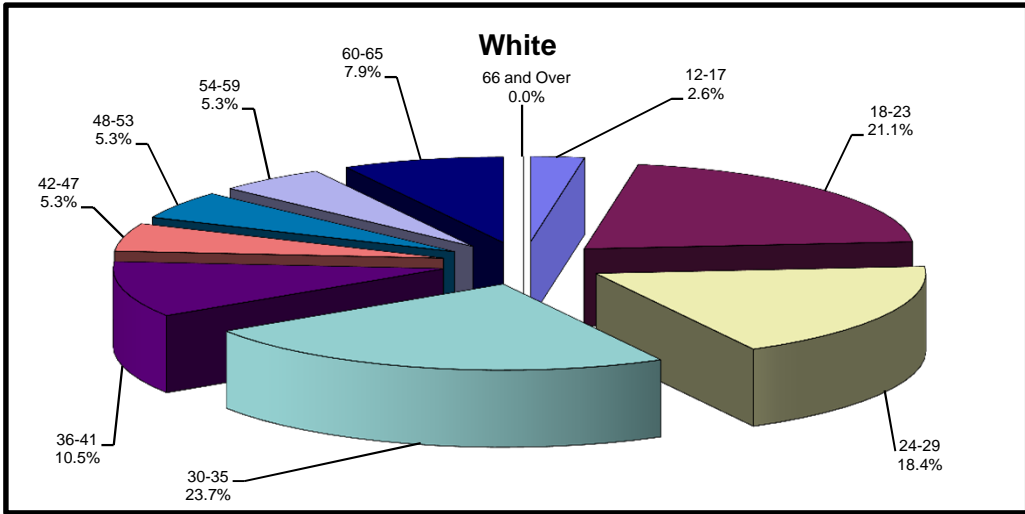
## REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS

Age Group	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	TOTAL
12-17		5	5	1	1	12
18-23	3	17	26	8		54
24-29	4	15	33	7	1	60
30-35	4	11	43	9	5	72
36-41	1	5	20	4	1	31
42-47		3	17	2		22
48-53		2	7	2		11
54-59		4	1	2		7
60-65			1	3		4
66 and Over						0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>273</b>

Of the 276 force incidents, 273 had both age and race data.

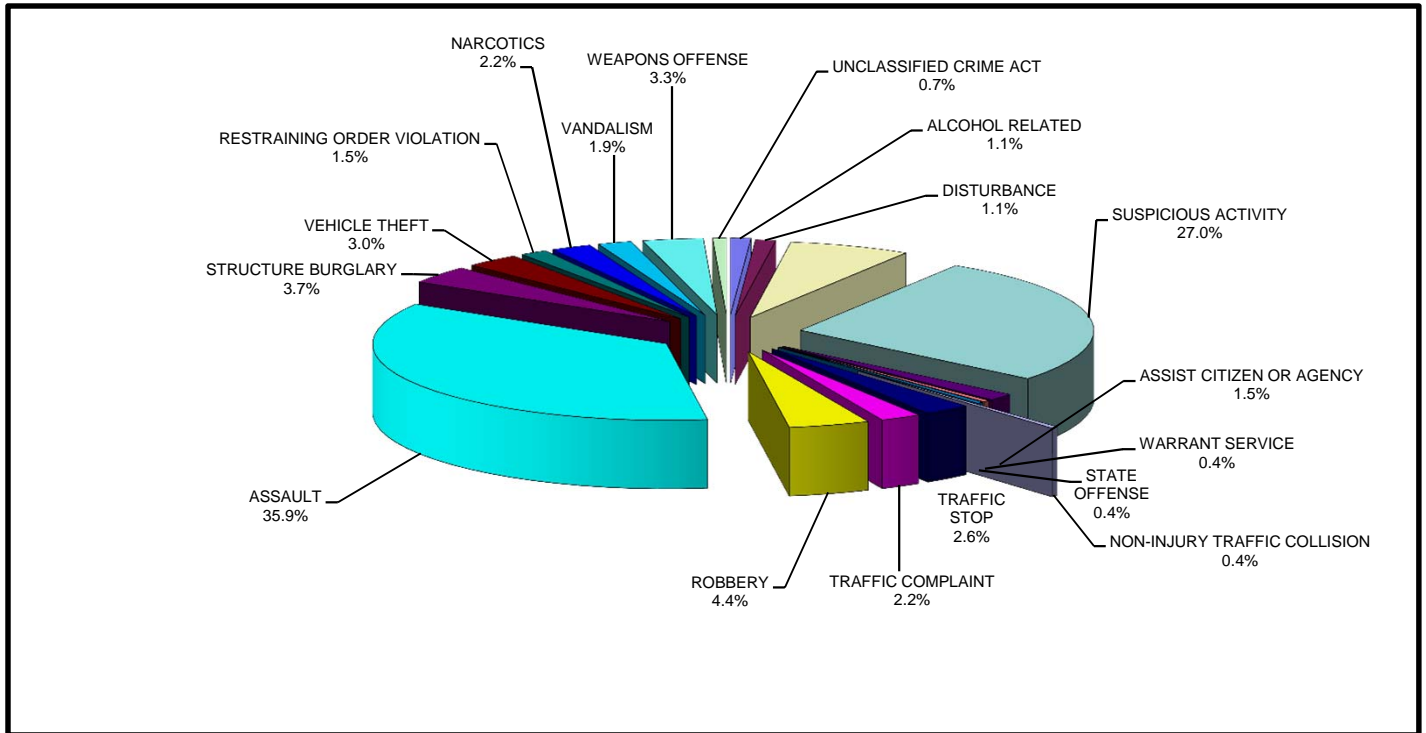
### REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS





"Other" refers to persons whose race is not defined as Asian, Black, Hispanic or White, i.e. persons from the Pacific Islands or American Indian.

### TYPE OF CFS RESULTING IN REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS

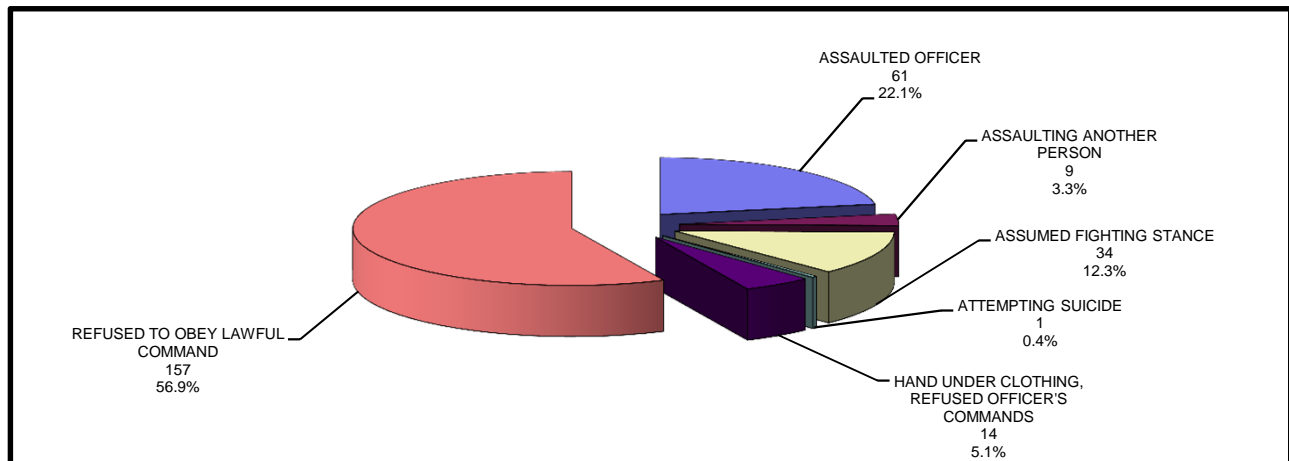


Order by Force Incident Clearance Code:

Force Incident Clearance Code	Force Incidents:	CFS Total:
ASSAULT	-	97
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	-	73
HEALTH/SUICIDE	-	18
ROBBERY	-	12
STRUCTURE BURGLARY	-	10
WEAPONS OFFENSE	-	9
VEHICLE THEFT	-	8
TRAFFIC STOP	-	7
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	-	6
NARCOTICS	-	6
VANDALISM	-	5
ASSIST CITIZEN OR AGENCY	-	4
RESTRAINING ORDER VIOLATION	-	4
ALCOHOL RELATED	-	3
DISTURBANCE	-	3
UNCLASSIFIED CRIME ACT	-	2
WARRANT SERVICE	-	1
STATE OFFENSE	-	1
NON-INJURY TRAFFIC COLLISION	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>*</b>

\* 6 force incidents had wrong or no clearance codes.

## SUSPECT'S ACTIONS NECESSITATING THE USE OF FORCE



Order by Action:

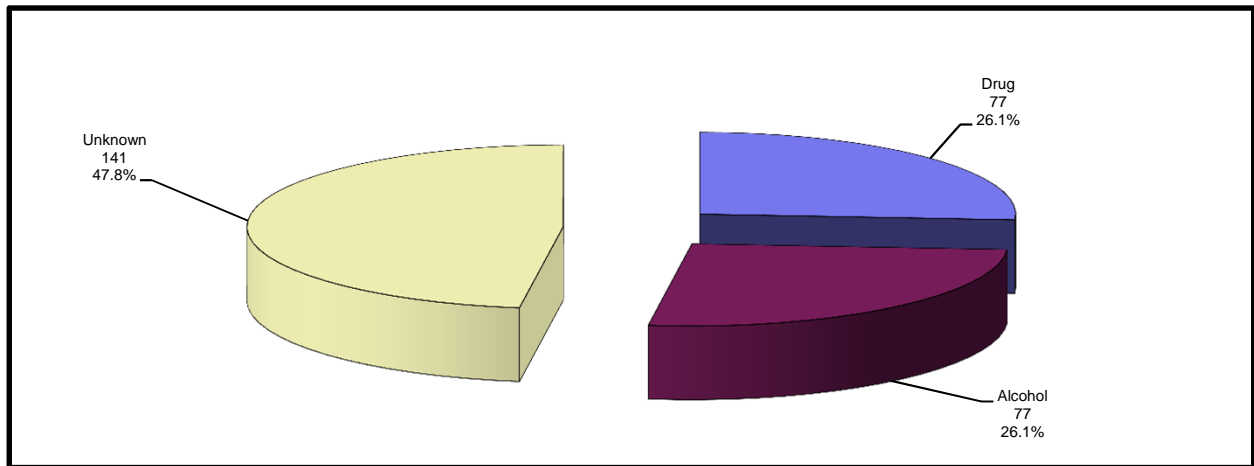
REFUSED TO OBEY LAWFUL COMMAND	-	56.9%
ASSAULTED OFFICER	-	22.1%
ASSUMED FIGHTING STANCE	-	12.3%
HAND UNDER CLOTHING, REFUSED OFFICER'S COMMANDS	-	5.1%
ASSAULTING ANOTHER PERSON	-	3.3%
ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	-	0.4%

## REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY TYPE OF CFS AND SUSPECT'S ACTION

TYPE OF CFS	ASSAULTED OFFICER	ASSAULTING ANOTHER PERSON	ASSUMED FIGHTING STANCE	ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	HAND UNDER CLOTHING, REFUSED OFFICER'S COMMANDS	REFUSED TO OBEY LAWFUL COMMAND
ALCOHOL RELATED	0	0	1	0	0	2
DISTURBANCE	1	0	0	0	0	2
HEALTH/SUICIDE	5	0	5	1	0	7
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	9	3	16	0	5	40
ASSIST CITIZEN OR AGENCY	0	0	1	0	0	3
WARRANT SERVICE	0	0	0	0	0	1
STATE OFFENSE	0	0	0	0	0	1
NON-INJURY TRAFFIC COLLISION	0	0	0	0	0	1
TRAFFIC STOP	0	0	0	0	0	7
TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	0	0	0	0	1	5
ROBBERY	3	0	0	0	2	7
ASSAULT	42	5	8	0	3	39
STRUCTURE BURGLARY	1	0	0	0	0	9
VEHICLE THEFT	0	0	0	0	1	7
RESTRAINING ORDER VIOLATION	0	0	0	0	1	3
NARCOTICS	0	0	2	0	1	3
VANDALISM	0	0	1	0	0	4
WEAPONS OFFENSE	0	0	0	0	0	9
UNCLASSIFIED CRIME ACT	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>152</b>

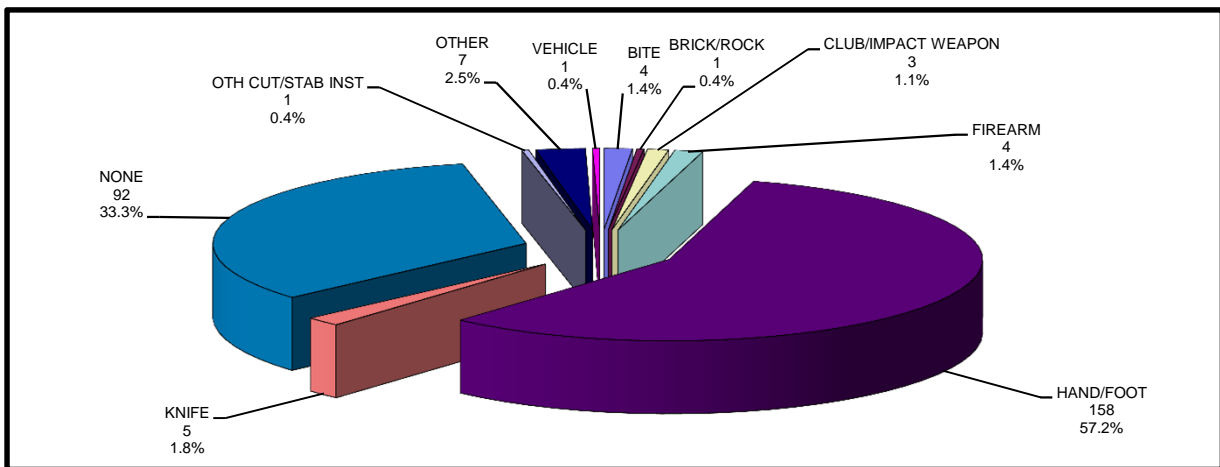
\* 6 force incidents had wrong or no clearance codes.

### SUSPECT'S DRUG/ALCOHOL USE WITH REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



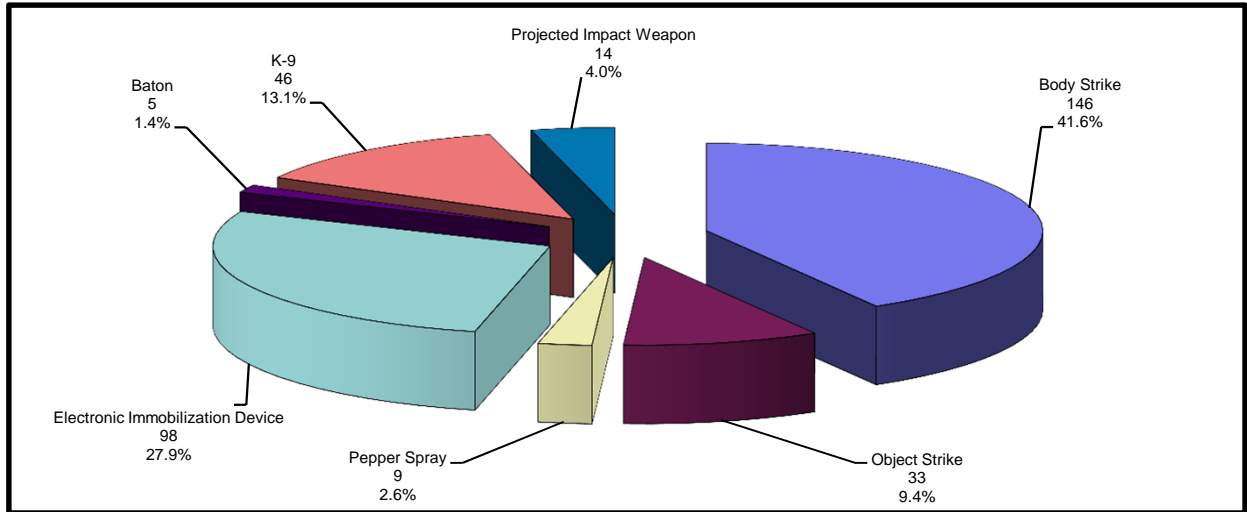
Some suspects were under the influence of both drugs and alcohol.

### SUSPECT WEAPONS WITH REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



Order by Weapon:	HAND/FOOT	-	57.2%
	NONE	-	33.3%
	OTHER	-	2.5%
	KNIFE	-	1.8%
	BITE	-	1.4%
	FIREARM	-	1.4%
	CLUB/IMPACT WEAPON	-	1.1%
	BRICK/ROCK	-	0.4%
	OTH CUT/STAB INST	-	0.4%
	VEHICLE	-	0.4%

## REPORTABLE FORCE USED BY OFFICERS



Some incidents require multiple applications of force to take a suspect into custody or stop an unlawful attack.

Order by Force:

Body Strike	-	41.6%
Electronic Immobilization Device	-	27.9%
K-9	-	13.1%
Object Strike	-	9.4%
Projected Impact Weapon	-	4.0%
Pepper Spray	-	2.6%
Baton	-	1.4%

Note: Electronic Immobilization Device is also referred to as a Taser.

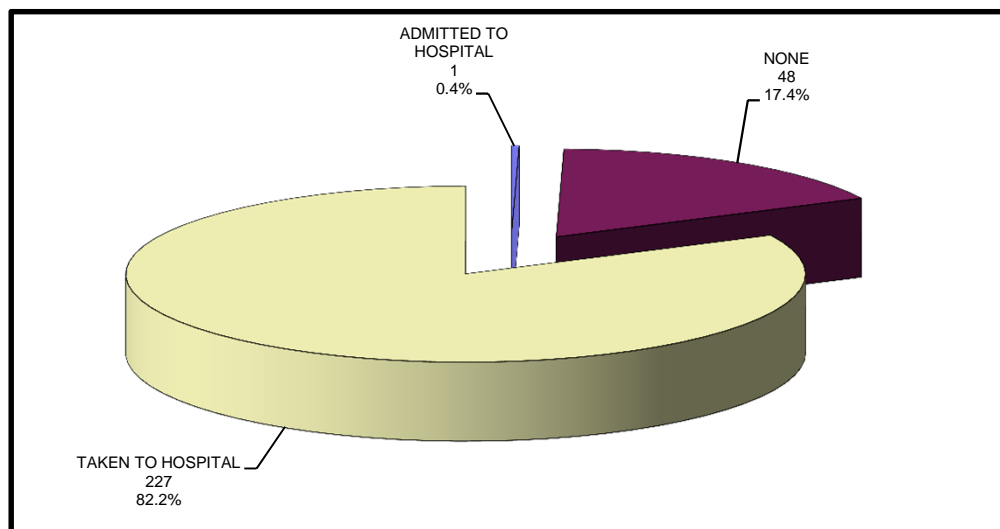
Projected Impact Weapon is also referred to as a Less Lethal Shotgun or bean bag gun.



## OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES, WEAPON RETENTION

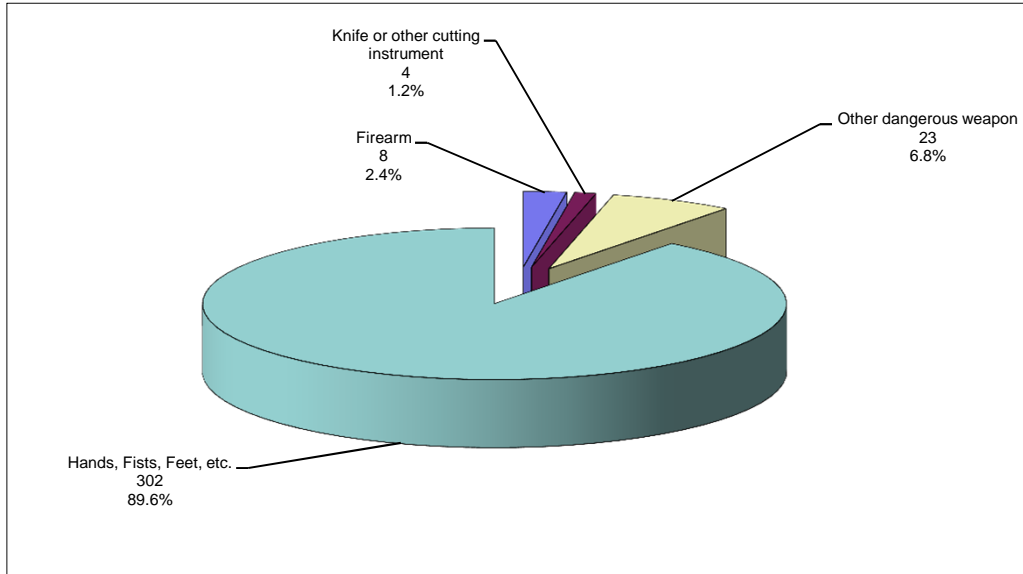
There were 10 incidents where a suspect removed or tried to remove an officers weapon.

## SUSPECT MEDICAL REVIEW AFTER REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



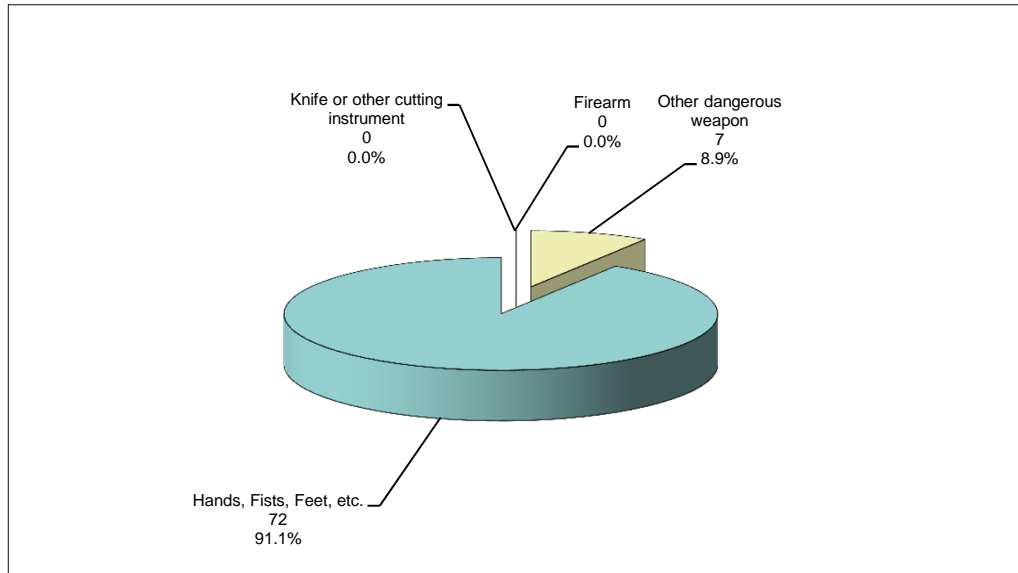
Not all suspects who received medical review were injured. Per Department policy, any person subjected to a chemical agent/mace, electronic immobilizing device (taser), less lethal impact projectile, or any force which causes injury or renders temporary disability to an arrestable subject, is automatically provided medical care by on-scene medical personnel or at a hospital.

**OFFICER'S ASSAULTED \***



337 officers were assaulted.

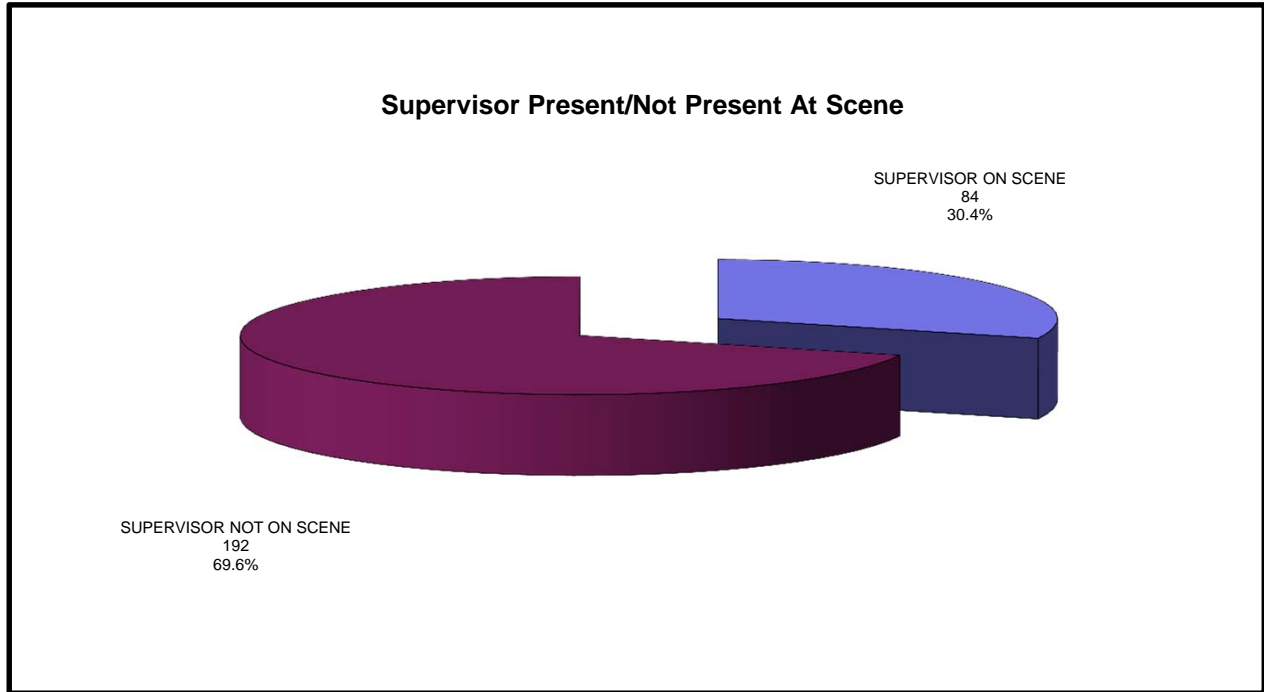
**OFFICER'S INJURED \***



79 officers were injured requiring immediate medical treatment.

\* Data based on the Year 2015 LEOKA (Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted) report. Not all incidents, where an officer was injured, involved a use of reportable force, i.e. the suspect gives up after injuring an officer.

### SUPERVISOR ON SCENE WHEN REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



A supervisor may be enroute to assist an officer on a call; however, the officer may be required to use reportable force prior to the supervisor's arrival. In these circumstances, the supervisor would be considered "not on scene."



POLICE DEPARTMENT

April 22, 2016

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR ASHLEY SWEARENGIN  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT STEVE BRANDAU  
COUNCIL MEMBERS

THROUGH: BRUCE RUDD, City Manager  
City Manager's Office

FROM: JERRY P. DYER, Chief of Police  
Police Department

BY: ROBERT A. NEVAREZ, Deputy Chief of Police  
Administrative Services

SUBJECT: REPORTABLE RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE REPORT (2015)

**OVERVIEW:**

On April 1, 2003, the Department began entering Use of Force (UOF) information into the *Reportable Response to Resistance* database. This data is compiled into a report on a quarterly basis. At the end of each calendar year, quarterly data is tabulated and a year-end report produced. The information gathered in this report helps the Department to measure how force is used by our officers and indicates if changes to policy, procedures or training should be considered. Each quarterly and year-end report is made available to the public and is posted on the City of Fresno internet website.

The *Reportable Response to Resistance* database contains data on any incident whereby:

1. Members (including K9's) use force and a person is injured; or
2. Members strike a person with a body part (i.e., fist, foot, elbow, etc.) or
3. Any object (i.e., flashlight, clipboard, etc.); or
4. Members use (not merely display) a Department issued weapon (i.e., baton, chemical agents, Taser, less-lethal shotgun, firearm, etc.) against another.

The Fresno Police Department responded to 418,806 calls for service in 2015 (excluding events handled telephonically). Of those calls, 276 resulted in reportable use of force. This equates to the application of reportable force less than one-tenth of one percent (0.066) of all calls for service Fresno police officers responded to in 2015.

In 2015, most use of force confrontations occurred on Saturdays and Sundays between the hours of 6 p.m. and 12 a.m. Male suspects between the ages of 24 and 29 most often engaged officers in use of force situations. The majority of reportable force incidents resulted from calls for service involving suspicious activity and assault related incidents. Approximately 52.2% percent of all persons who required reportable force were under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of both.

In 2015, there was a decrease of officers assaulted. In total 337, equating to an 8.6% decrease compared to 2014, during which 366 officers were assaulted.

In 2015, officers used reportable force options as follows:

Body Strike	41.6%
Taser	27.9%
K9	13.1%
Less Lethal Shotgun	4.0%
Baton	1.4%
Pepper Spray	2.6%
Firearm	2.4%
Object Strike	9.4%
Vehicle	0%

In comparing 2014 to 2015, officers' use of body strikes were down 8.4% in 2015, while the use of taser showed an increase of 4.1%. The use of less lethal shotgun and baton combined increased slightly by .08%. K9 applications decreased by 3.6% while the use of pepper spray decreased by .1%. There were 8 officer involved shootings in 2015, compared to 8 in 2014.

In 2015, there was a 16.4% decrease in the number of use of force incidents as compared to 2014 even with a 9.5% increase in calls for service. In 2015, we saw the lowest number of reportable force incidents since tracking began in 2004. The below table illustrates Calls for Service (CFS) compared to use of force applications over the last nine years. As compared to 2006, the Department has seen a 45.4% decrease in reportable force incidents.

YEAR	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
UOF	505	438	457	476	450	467	408	380	330	276
CFS	417,035	419,035	419,598	419,090	395,586	388,632	403,880	396,555	399,999	418,806

In 2010, the Fresno Police Department opened their, "state of the art" Regional Training Center. The facility has several gun ranges, mat rooms, class rooms, force option and driving simulators. Much of the training relates to high stress situations and focuses on use of force options.

In 2013, the Fresno Police Department automated the Early Alert System (EAS) using IA PRO to assist the Department and officers in recognizing patterns that include use of force. Since the automation of EAS through IA PRO, many officers have been notified of potential use of force patterns.

In addition, the Fresno Police Department implemented the use of body worn video cameras for patrol officers in 2015. The use of the cameras has made officers more conscientious in the manner in which they interact with citizens and citizens may be less confrontational knowing they are being video recorded. Another factor can be attributed to the national climate with law enforcement in general, whereas officers may have had reluctance to use force for fear of criticism.

Collectively, the Department's emphasis on use of force scenario based training, EAS through IA PRO, implementation of body worn video cameras and nation- wide criticism toward law enforcement has potentially led to the decrease in use of force incidents.

In 2015, there were multiple incidents that involved circumstances under which deadly force was justifiable, however officers demonstrated great restraint by finding alternative methods to de-escalate the situation. Examples of such incidents include:

**Domestic disturbance:**

Officers responded to an in progress domestic disturbance. When the officers arrived they saw a child on the second story landing pointing at the apartment where the disturbance was taking place. As they entered, the victim contacted them and started showing a video of the disturbance that just occurred. While watching the video, the suspect burst out of one of the bedrooms and took a fighters stance with clinched fists. The suspect swung at one of the officers, striking him on the face. The officer performed a leg sweep and took the suspect to the ground. During the fall to the ground, the officer injured one of his arms leaving him with only one arm to fight the suspect. During the struggle, the suspect attempted to remove the officer's gun on three separate occasions. At this point the assisting officer used their taser in a drive stun mode to the suspects back. The suspect immediately sprawled out, allowing the officers to handcuff him.

**Welfare check:**

Officers responded to a welfare check of a man on the ground. The man had a backpack that had a portion of a rifle sticking out of it. As the officers arrived they saw the man and attempted to make contact with him. As they ordered the man to sit on the curb, he started to walk towards the backpack that was still on the ground. He refused to comply with the officer's commands and walked to the backpack and picked it up. He put the backpack on with the gun/rifle on his front side instead of the normal back mounted pack. The weapon in the backpack had a long black barrel and a wooden butt stock. The gun/rifle was pointed at the ground but facing the officers as the man walked around in circles. The man would not comply with officers who were commanding the man to get on the ground. One officer deployed his taser, which had the desired effect and the suspect was taken into custody. The rifle was determined to be a "bb-gun."

**Brandishing of a firearm:**

Officers responded to a call of brandishing of a firearm. They arrived and saw the suspect on the front porch of his house. Every time the officers attempted to make contact the suspect ran into his house. A plan was put into action to use a less lethal shotgun on the suspect the next time he came out of the house. The suspect eventually came out on the porch and one officer deployed 4 rounds from the less lethal shotgun, striking the suspect 3 times. The suspect ran back into the house with the officers right behind him. As the suspect was running into the house he was reaching for his waistband. The officers tackled the suspect near his couch and struggled on the floor in an attempt to hand cuff him. The suspect continued to reach for his waistband as they struggled. The suspect was finally handcuffed and taken into custody. Under the suspect the officers located a replica handgun.

**Robbery:**

Officers responded to a robbery that had just occurred by a suspect armed with a knife. The officers found the suspect who immediately ran from them. The officers caught up to the suspect who stopped and confronted them. The suspect had a large hunting knife in one hand and was pacing back and forth asking the officers to shoot him. The officers gave him several commands to drop the knife and get on the ground. The suspect then put the knife to his own throat. The officers continued commanding the suspect to drop the knife. After several minutes of commands the suspect did drop the knife and then turned his back to the officers. The officers could see a second large knife in his back pants pocket. As his back was turned, one officer deployed his less lethal striking the suspect. The suspect fell to the ground and dropped the knife. As the officers approached, the suspect reached for the knife. One officer deployed his taser striking the suspect. The taser had the desired affect and the suspect was taken into custody.

**Traffic stop on a wanted subject:**

Officers conducted a traffic stop on a car that was occupied by a wanted subject. After making the traffic stop, the wanted subject exited the car and started fighting with the officer's. During the fight the subject started swinging his fists at the officers, at this time one officer yelled to his partner to tase the subject. The partner officer tased the subject who immediately fell to the ground. Once the tasing cycle ended, the subject continued to fight with the officer that tased him. The subject was striking the officer with his fists so the assisting officer removed his taser from his holster and deployed it in a drive stun mode to the subject's upper body. The officer applied the taser many times but it had no effect on the subject. The subject turned and starting fighting with the officer and took the taser from the officer. As the subject and the two officers were fighting on the ground, the subject was tasing one officer on the leg. The officer was concerned that he might be incapacitated and yelled to his partner officer to shoot the subject. The partner officer removed his handgun from his holster and pointed it at the subject. The subject threw the officer's taser to the ground and yelled, "No, don't shoot!", but continued to fight. The officer holstered his handgun, grabbed the taser that the subject threw on the ground and deployed the taser again on the subject in a drive stun mode. The subject continued to fight until back up officers arrived and they handcuffed the subject.