ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
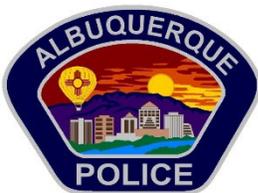
2021 Preliminary Use of Force Report

Albuquerque Police Department
Accountability Bureau

CONTENTS

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This report is a preliminary analysis of use of force by the **Albuquerque Police Department** (APD) for the year 2021. This report is considered preliminary due to APD's backlog of 667 Level 3 and Level 2 investigations of uses of force that occurred between July 2020 and July 2021.

Throughout 2021, APD took steps to address the backlog and stop its growth. In February 2021, a joint motion was filed with the court establishing a temporary **External Force Investigation Team** (EFIT) to assist APD in conducting quality and timely investigations of Level 2 and Level 3 uses of force by APD officers. In April 2021, the city of Albuquerque contracted a vendor to form EFIT after advertising a request for letters of interest outlining requirements for potential vendors while working closely with the **US Department of Justice** (DOJ) in the selection process. EFIT is

designed to assist, evaluate and provide guidance to APD's **Internal Affairs Force Division** (IAFD) personnel – the division responsible for investigating all Level 2 and Level 3 uses of force. EFIT began operations in July of 2021.

These efforts have been successful. No force investigations occurring after August of 2021 were left incomplete, and all Level 2 and Level 3 investigations since EFIT started were completed within the 90-day timelines stipulated by the **Court Approved Settlement Agreement** (CASA) and the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the **Albuquerque Police Officers Association** (APOA).

Monthly Percent of IAFD Investigations Completed (2021-2022)

Following APD and EFIT's success in stabilizing IAFD's investigatory operations, EFIT's role with the department and city was expanded in order to complete thorough investigations of all backlogged force cases. In June of 2022, EFIT began investigating the accumulated backlog of force cases. This review is expected to be completed in 2023. Once complete, updated 2020 and 2021 use of force reports will be published as the data presented in this analysis will be subject to revision and change.

APD is committed to completing outstanding investigations of force and providing a full accounting to the community on whether these cases were out of policy and the specific policy violations that would have been investigated if the force investigations were completed within
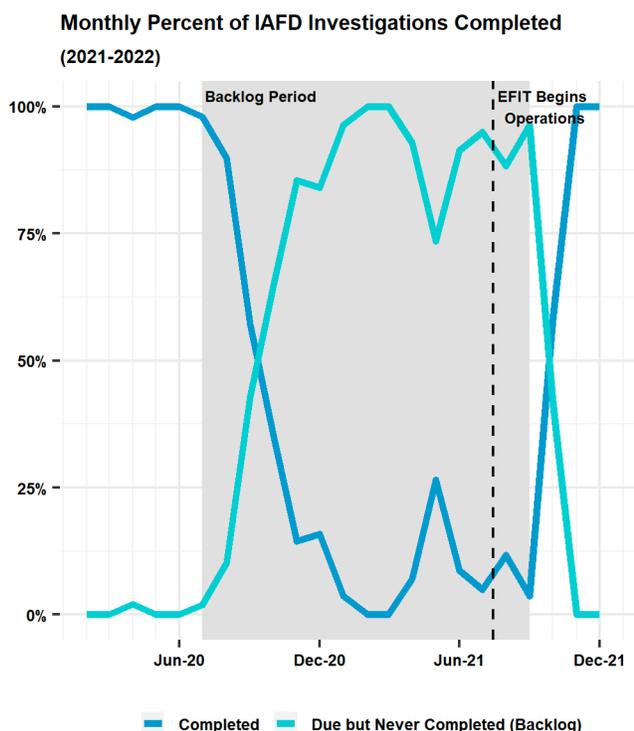
the appropriate timelines. Per the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the APOA, these investigations are beyond the timeline to impose discipline in most cases. If criminal conduct is found or there is a sanction 1 or 2 sustained allegation of misconduct (see **SOP 3-46: Discipline System**), the allegation(s) may still result in the discipline of the law enforcement officer responsible for misconduct. If misconduct is identified in force investigations that are not eligible for discipline, the officer may be referred for training or reassigned. APD also reviews all closed cases to determine whether policies, procedures, and/or training should be updated.

Level 1 uses of force are investigated in the field sequentially through the chain of command of the officer who used force and usually not by IAFD. IAFD is responsible for investigating Level 1 uses of force when an officer who applied force has a rank of sergeant or higher (see **SOP 2-57: Use of Force – Review and Investigation by Department Personnel**). *Section 1.2* below explains how APD categorizes uses of force into 3 levels.

1.2 COUNTING FORCE

In 2021, APD used force in 739 **force incidents**. The term "force incident" is used interchangeably with "force case" internally and in prior reporting done by APD. Within those force incidents, there were 761 **force interactions**. Force interactions are defined as force encounters with a single, distinct **involved individual** on whom force was used at a specific time and location. A force incident may contain more than one force interaction if more than one individual was subject to force and/or the same individual was subject to force in more than one location (e.g. once during arrest and again while the individual is receiving treatment at the hospital). A force interaction may also have multiple officers each applying multiple **force techniques** to an involved individual. Police departments across the country account for uses of force differently and use different language to describe the complex sequences of events that amount to a use of force.

APD categorizes the severity of force used in 3 levels (see **SOP 2-53: Use of Force Definitions**);

- **Level 1:** Force that is likely to cause only transitory pain, disorientation, and/or discomfort during its application as a means of gaining compliance;
    - Techniques that are not reasonably expected to cause injury, do not result in an actual injury, and are not likely to result in a complaint of injury (i.e., pain compliance techniques and resisted handcuffing);
    - Shows of force, including: pointing a firearm, beanbag shotgun, 40-millimeter impact launcher, OC spray, or Electronic Control Weapon (ECW) at an individual, or using an ECW to "paint" an individual with the laser sight or utilizing a warning arc;
    - Level 1 uses of force do not include interaction meant to guide, assist, or control an individual who is offering minimal resistance.
- **Level 2:** Force that causes injury, could reasonably be expected to cause injury, or results in a complaint of injury, including;
    - Use of an ECW, including where an ECW is fired at an individual but misses;

- o Use of a beanbag shotgun or 40 millimeter impact launcher, including where it is fired at an individual but misses;
- o OC spray use including where it is sprayed at an individual but misses;
- o Empty-hand techniques (e.g., strikes, kicks, takedowns, distraction techniques, or leg sweeps);
- o Strikes and attempted strikes with impact weapons;
  - ▪ This excludes strikes to the head, neck, throat, chest, or groin with a beanbag shotgun or 40-millimeter impact launcher and strikes to the head, neck, throat, torso, or groin with a baton or improvised impact weapon, which are considered Level 3 uses of force.
- **Level 3:** Force that results in, or could reasonably result in, serious physical injury, hospitalization, or death;
  - o Use of deadly force;
  - o Critical firearm discharges;
  - o Use of force resulting in death or serious physical injury;
  - o Use of force resulting in hospitalization;
  - o Use of force resulting in a loss of consciousness;
  - o Police Service Dog (PSD) bites;
  - o Neck holds;
  - o Three or more applications of an ECW on an individual during a single interaction, regardless of the mode or duration of the application and regardless of whether the applications are by the same or different officer;
  - o An ECW application on an individual during a single interaction for longer than 15 seconds, whether continuous or consecutive, regardless of the mode of application;
  - o Four or more strikes with a baton or improvised impact weapon;
  - o Any Level 2 use of force against a handcuffed individual.

Force incidents and force interactions are assigned an overall force level based on the highest level of force used by any one officer within the force interaction. The figure below illustrates the structure APD uses to count uses of force and assign an overall level of force to an interaction.
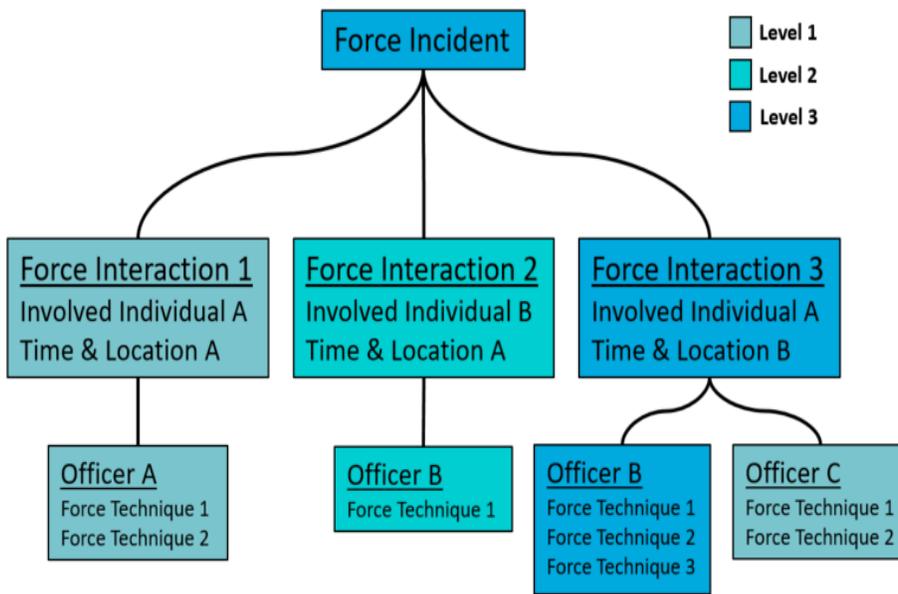
This example would be counted as:

1 Level 3 force incident with:

-3 force interactions:

- **2 level 1 interactions**
- **1 level 2 interaction**
- **1 level 3 interaction;**

-2 distinct involved individuals;

-2 distinct times and locations;

-3 distinct officers applying force; and

-8 force techniques applied

1.3 FORCE SUMMARY

Table 1.3 - 1	2021 Summary
Force Incidents	739
Force Interactions	761
Distinct Involved Individuals (Individuals may be involved in more than one force interaction)	697
Distinct Officers Involved in Force	584
Officers Applying Force in Force Interactions (Officers may be involved in more than one force interaction)	1,846
Force Techniques Applied (Any number of force techniques may be applied in one force interaction)	2,607

APD recorded 761 force interactions in 2021. This quantity reflects an annual decreasing trend in force interactions relative to preceding years. This trend in force is coupled with decreasing trends in both calls for service and arrests. APD used force in approximately 1.34% of custodial arrests and 0.2% of calls for service in 2021. *See Section 3.1 of this report for further analysis of trends in force, calls for service, and arrests over time.*

Monthly Force Interactions
(2017-2021)
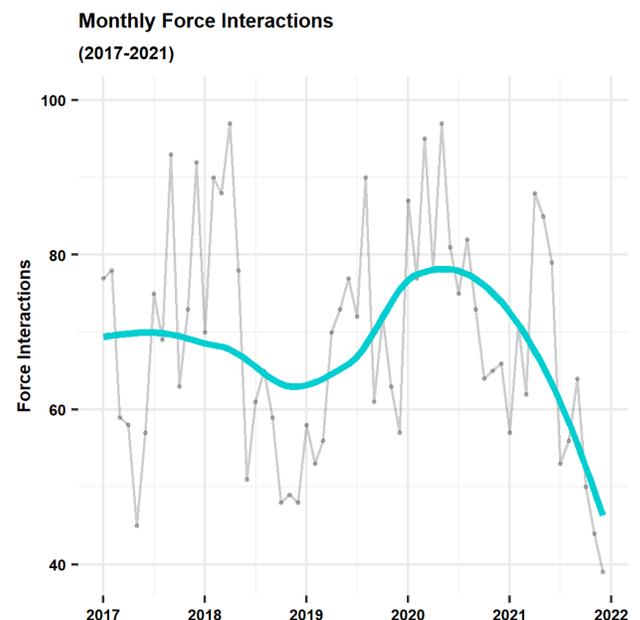
Among those interactions, 29% were Level 1 uses of force, 55% were Level 2, and 16% were classified as a Level 3. The Level 3 uses of force recorded in 2021 contain the ten **officer-involved shootings** (OIS) that occurred in the year, four of which were fatal. *See Section 3.3 for a synopsis of each OIS in 2021.*

Force Interactions by Force Level (2021)

Table 1.3 - 2		Force Interactions	% Total
Force Level	Level 1	219	29%
	Level 2	417	55%
	Level 3	125	16%
	Total	761	100%
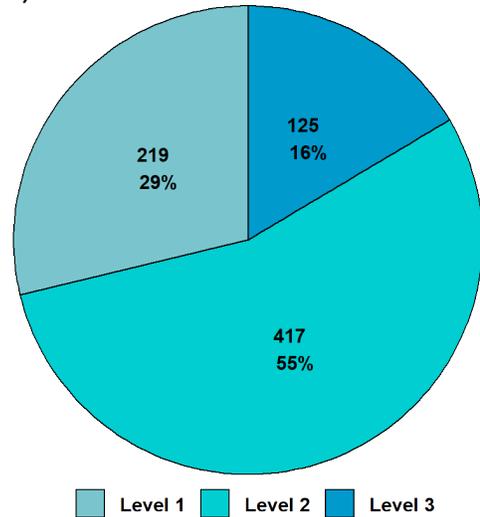
A total of 697 individuals were involved in one or more force interactions in 2021. As shown in **Table 1.3-3**, 48 individuals were involved in two (2) force interactions and 8 were involved in three (3) force interactions.

Table 1.3 - 3		
Number of Force Interactions	Number of Distinct Involved Individuals	
	n	%
1	641	92%
2	48	7%
3	8	1%
Total	697	100%

As shown in **Table 1.3-1** above, 1,846 officers applied 2,607 force techniques during force interactions in 2021. The 1,846 officers counted as having applied force was actually comprised of only 584 distinct officers since some officers may have applied force in more than one force interaction during this particular year. In fact, 70% of officers involved in force interactions in 2021 were involved in more than one force interaction. As shown in **Table 1.3-4**, 85% of the 584 distinct officers were involved in 5 or fewer force interactions in 2021. *See Section 2.3 for an analysis of the 2,607 force techniques that were applied by officers in 2021.*

Table 1.3 - 4		
Number of Force Interactions	Number of Distinct Officers Involved in Corresponding Number of Force Interactions	
	n	%
1	177	30%
2	121	21%
3	97	17%
4	49	8%
5	51	9%
6	34	6%
7	16	3%
8	14	2%
9	11	2%
10	5	1%
11	3	1%
12	4	1%
13	1	<1%
14	1	<1%
Total	584	100%

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change once the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

1.4   FORCE INVESTIGATIONS

To achieve lawful objectives, APD strives to use the minimum amount of force that is reasonable, necessary, and proportional based on the totality of the circumstances. After investigation, force is deemed in policy when every application of force is used correctly and was deemed to be reasonable, necessary, and proportional as defined in **SOP 2-52: Use of Force - General**.

An entire force interaction is considered to be out of policy if just one of the involved officer's application of a force technique was determined to be out of policy. An application of force may be deemed out of policy if it is an act of excessive force or if the use of force was deemed inappropriate due to a deficiency in training or tactics.

As seen in **Table 1.4-1**, 443 force interactions from 2021 (58% of the year's force interactions) had been investigated by the end of the second quarter of 2022. 414 (93%) of those 443 interactions were found to be within policy and the remaining 29 interactions (7%) were out of policy. When the additional backlog force investigations are completed, an updated report will provide all policy adjudications for 2021. *See Section 4 of this report for further analysis of force investigations and the backlog.*

Table 1.4 - 1		Force Interactions	% Total
Outcome	In Policy	414	93%
	Out of Policy	29	7%
	Total	443	100%

Policy Outcomes of Force Investigations (2021)

29
7%

414
93%

■ In Policy   ■ Out of Policy
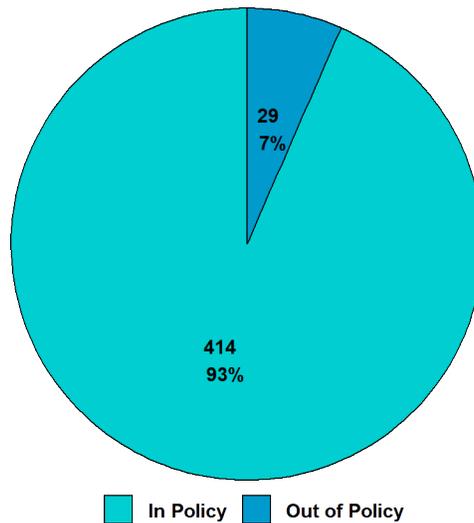
2 FORCE IN DETAIL

2.1 GEOGRAPHY OF FORCE
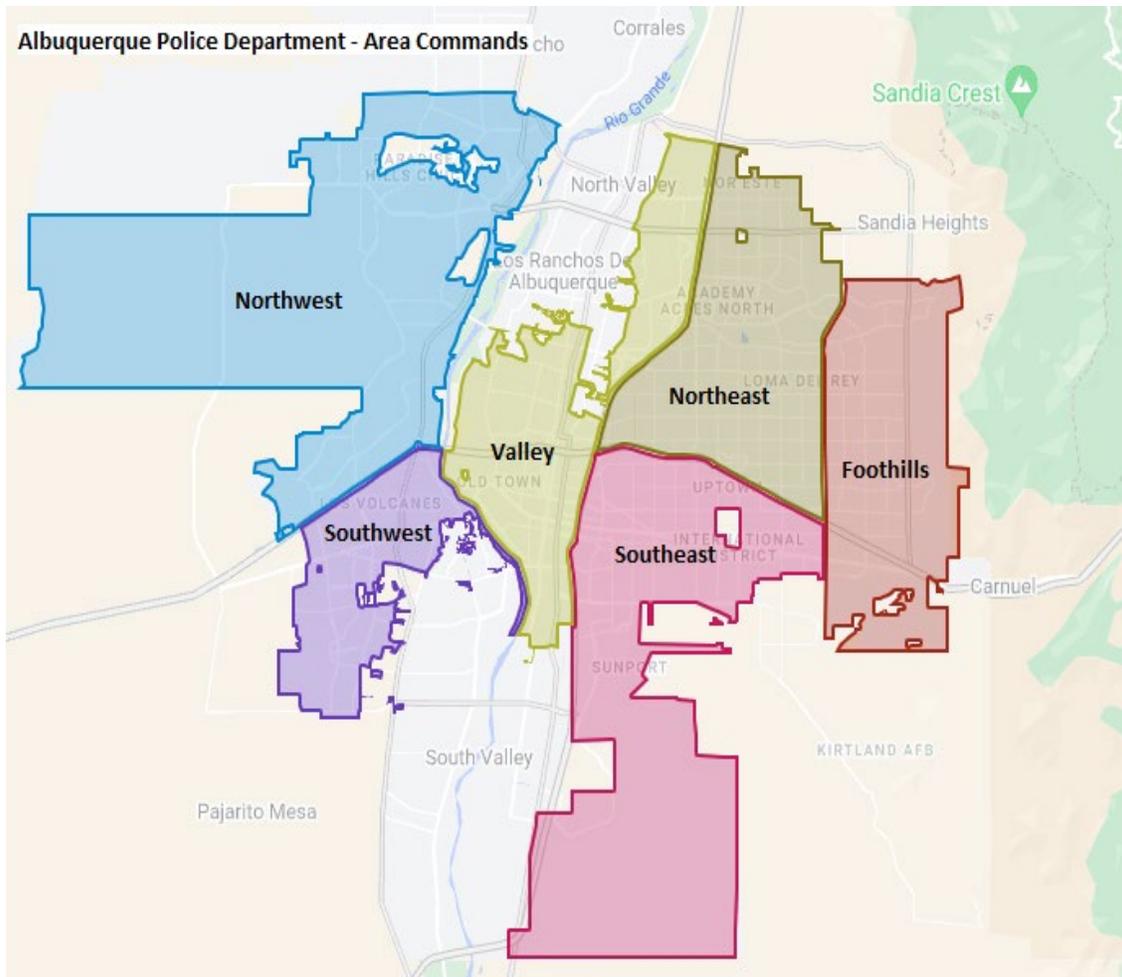
The jurisdiction that APD serves is divided into six Area Commands shown above. Each Area Command is managed by a Commander and staffed with law enforcement officers proportional to the size of the area and number of calls for service.

When a force interaction occurs, APD records the area command of the interaction as the Area Command where the use of force occurred— regardless of the Area Command of the initial call for service or the assignment of the officers involved, including specialized units who use force in a specific geographic area. Generally, the annual number of force incidents is proportional to the number of crime incidents and calls for service in an Area Command.

Table 2.1 - 1		Area Command														
		Southeast		Valley		Northeast		Foothills		Southwest		Northwest		Out of Area		Total*	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Force Level	Level 1	50	25%	60	33%	36	26%	35	31%	22	34%	13	26%	3	1%	219	29%
	Level 2	124	62%	91	49%	81	57%	61	54%	37	57%	20	40%	3	1%	417	55%
	Level 3	25	13%	33	18%	24	17%	16	14%	6	9%	17	34%	4	3%	125	16%
	Total	199	26%	184	24%	141	19%	112	15%	65	9%	50	7%	10	1%	761	100%

n = number of force interactions of each level of force (row) occurring in each Area Command (column)
% = percent of column total except bottom row which is percent of row total

Force Interactions within Area Commands by Level of Force (2021)
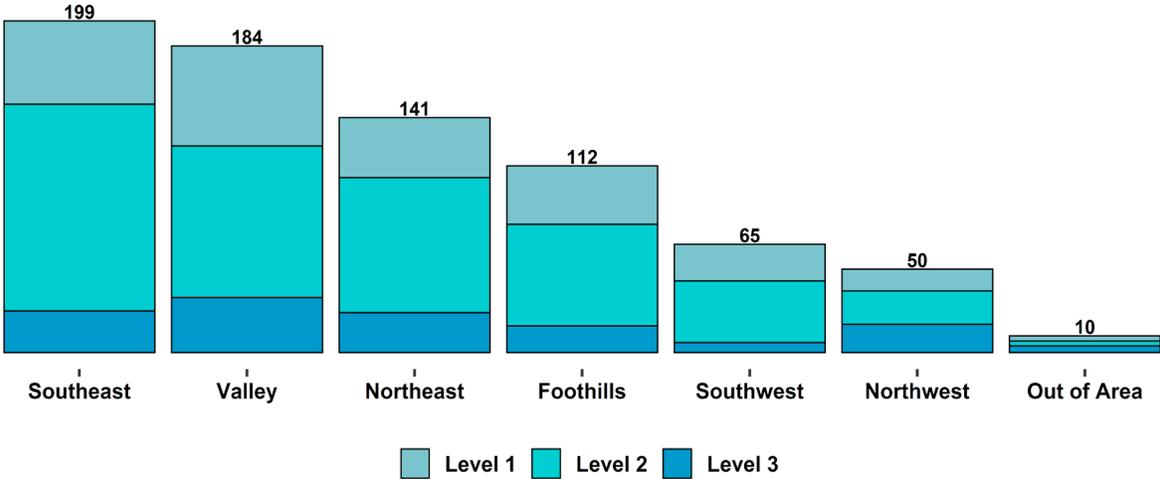
Half of force incidents in 2021 occurred in either the Southeast or Valley Area Commands, with the west side Area Commands (Southwest and Northwest) contributing 16% of the year's total force interactions. As shown in **Table 2.1-1**, the Southeast Area Command had the highest percentage of force interactions classified as Level 2 (124 interactions, or 62%), a 7% higher percentage of Level 2 interactions than the department as a whole (417 total Level 2 interactions, or 54.8%). The Northwest Area Command had the least number of total force interactions for the year, yet had the highest percentage of force interactions classified as Level 3 (34%)—an 18% higher percentage of Level 3 interactions than the department as a whole (16.4%). The Southwest Area Command had the lowest percentage of force interactions classified as Level 3 uses of force (6 interactions, or 9%). Ten force interactions occurred outside of the six Area Commands.

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

2.2 DEMOGRAPHICS OF INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS

2.2.1 How Demographics Are Captured

APD policies (**SOP 2-56: Use of Force Reporting by Department Personnel, SOP 2-57: Use of Force Review and Investigation by Department Personnel**) mandate that all officers, regardless of rank, shall immediately notify their on-duty supervisor following any use of force, prisoner injury, allegation of any use of force, or show of force. The officer(s) must then secure the scene and remain there until a supervisor responds and arrives on scene. The level of force used in the interaction is classified, and the investigation and data capture processes begin.

The reliability of demographic data may be affected by the perception of officers as well as the cooperation of the involved individual. Demographic categories, when not verified by an involved individual or through available documentation (i.e. a driver's license), are based on the perception of officers and may not fully reflect the identities of involved individuals. Identities that are not visible (e.g. sexual orientation, gender identity/gender expression, and mental illness or neurology) may not be apparent to officers which may make the data less reliable.

2.2.2 Race and Ethnicity of Individuals Involved in Force Incidents

Table 2.2.2 - 1		Race														
		White		Black		Native American		Mixed Race		Other		Asian/Pacific Islander		Unknown		Ethnicity Total	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Ethnicity	Hispanic	281	66%	3	4%	10	14%	21	70%	19	68%	0	0%	22	39%	356	51%
	Non-Hispanic	114	27%	64	81%	50	68%	7	23%	6	21%	3	60%	4	7%	248	36%
	Unknown	30	7%	12	15%	13	18%	2	7%	3	11%	2	40%	31	54%	93	13%
	Race Total	425	61%	79	11%	73	10%	30	4%	28	4%	5	1%	57	8%	697	100%

n = number of distinct involved individuals of corresponding race (column) and ethnicity (row)
% = percent of column total except bottom row which is percent of row total
Example: there were 281 distinct involved individuals who were white and Hispanic.

Distinct Individuals Involved by Individual's Race and Ethnicity (2021)
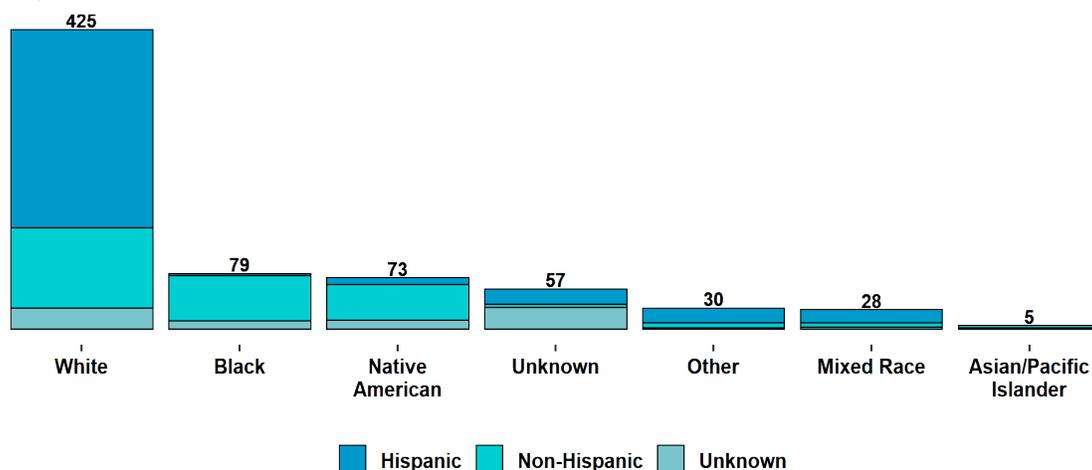
The majority of individuals involved in force interactions with APD in 2021 were racially identified as White (61%). The second and third largest racial groups were Black individuals and Native American individuals (11% and 10%, respectively) followed by individuals whose race could not be identified (8%), individuals of mixed race (4%), individuals of other races (4%), and Asian/Pacific Islander individuals (1%).

In addition, APD tracks the ethnicity of individuals involved in force interactions in three categories: Hispanic, Non-Hispanic, and unknown. Hispanic individuals were a majority of individuals involved in force interactions (51%). Individuals identified as Non-Hispanic were involved in 36% of force interactions in 2021.

When examining the intersections of race and ethnicity, a clearer pattern of use of force emerges. Two-thirds of White individuals were considered Hispanic—thus, White-Hispanic individuals made up 40% of all individuals involved in force interactions. White-Non-Hispanic individuals made up 16% of individuals involved in force interactions, accounting for the second largest cohort of individuals involved in force interactions in 2021.

2.2.3   Ages of Individuals Involved in Force

Table 2.2.3 - 1	
Distinct Involved Individuals - Age	
Mean	32.3
Median	31
Standard Deviation	10.59
Max	83
Min	9

The typical age of individuals—defined as one standard deviation below or above the mean—was between 22 and 42 years old, with an average age of 32.3 years old. The oldest involved individual was 83 years old while the youngest was 9 years old. Among all individuals, 40 individuals were minors (under the age of 18) and 6 individuals were senior citizens (65 years of age or older), which amounts to 5% and <1% of force interactions respectively.

For the 44 force interactions involving minors, 16% of those interactions were classified as a Level 3 use of force, 48% were a Level 2 use of force, and 36% were a Level 1 use of force. One minor (16 years old) was the involved individual in an OIS. For the 6 force interactions involving senior citizens, 4 interactions were classified as a Level 2 use of force, and 2 interactions were classified as a Level 1 use of force. None of the involved individuals 65 years of age or older were involved in a Level 3 use of force in 2021.

Count of Distinct Individuals Involved by Age (2021)
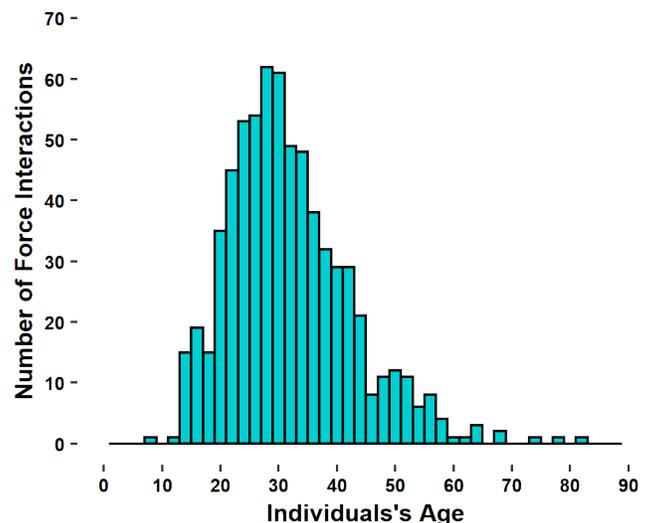
25 force interactions wherein Individual's age is unknown are excluded

2.2.4 Gender and Perceived Sexuality of Individuals Involved in Force

Distinct Individuals Involved by Individual's Gender (2021)
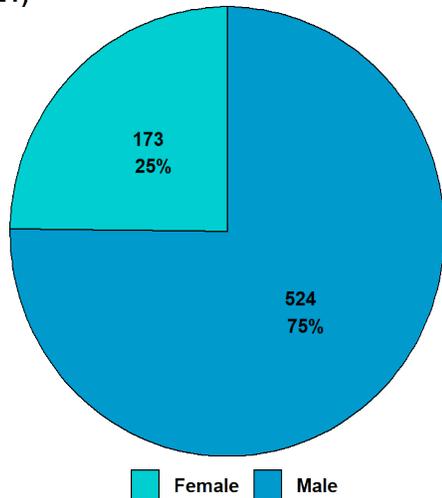
Table 2.2.4 - 1		Involved Individuals	% Total
Gender	Female	173	25%
	Male	524	75%
	Total	697	100%

The gender data presented in this section is drawn from reports that identify an individual's gender in one of three ways: an individual's gender as perceived by the officer, gender that was documented on official identification (such as a driver's license), or self-reported by the involved individual after a force interaction. An officer does not inquire, inspect, or presume an individual's sex beyond their apparent gender presentation or through documentation that includes their gender. Of the 697 distinct involved individuals, 524 were identified as Male (74%) and 173 were identified as Female (25%). One woman was indicated as transgender.

Table 2.2.4 - 2		
Involved Individual's Perceived or Self-Reported Sexual Orientation		
Orientation	Force Interactions	% Total
Unknown	406	53%
Heterosexual	307	40%
Asexual	21	3%
Bisexual	11	1%
Homosexual	9	1%
Other	7	1%
Total	761	100%

Sexual orientation is reported per interaction and not per distinct individual involved in force. In several instances where an individual was involved in more than one force interaction, their sexual orientation did not match. Most of individuals' sexual orientation is unknown (53%).

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

2.3 APPLICATIONS OF FORCE BY TECHNIQUE

Table 2.3 - 1		Interaction Level of Force Where Technique Was Applied							
		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		All Levels	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%*
Force Technique	Resisted Handcuffing	176	21%	568	66%	111	13%	855	33%
	Empty Hand: control	194	31%	296	47%	146	23%	636	24%
	Empty Hand: takedown	0	0%	411	76%	132	24%	543	21%
	Firearm: pointing	67	46%	62	43%	16	11%	145	6%
	ECW	0	0%	39	75%	13	25%	52	2%
	Impact Munition	0	0%	41	87%	6	13%	47	2%
	Chemical Munition: CS	0	0%	31	79%	8	21%	39	1%
	Empty Hand: leg sweep	0	0%	26	81%	6	19%	32	1%
	ECW: painting	15	48%	14	45%	2	6%	31	1%
	Impact Munition: pointing	13	43%	15	50%	2	7%	30	1%
	ECW: pointing	9	33%	13	48%	5	19%	27	1%
	Empty Hand: strike	0	0%	16	67%	8	33%	24	1%
	Chemical Munition: OC, pointing	1	5%	17	77%	4	18%	22	1%
	Pain Compliance	7	33%	10	48%	4	19%	21	1%
	Ordered Force	0	0%	17	89%	2	11%	19	1%
	Authorized Deployment	0	0%	15	88%	2	12%	17	1%
	Firearm - OIS	0	0%	0	0%	17	100%	17	1%
	Noise/Flash Diversionary Device (Flashbang)	0	0%	13	81%	3	19%	16	1%
	Chemical Munition: OC	0	0%	9	100%	0	0%	9	<1%
	K9 Apprehension - Bite	0	0%	1	13%	7	88%	8	<1%
	OC Spray (Pepper Spray)	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	6	<1%
	Empty Hand: kick	0	0%	4	80%	1	20%	5	<1%
	Improvised Weapon	0	0%	3	100%	0	0%	3	<1%
	PIT 35 mph or below	0	0%	3	100%	0	0%	3	<1%
	Total	482	18%	1,630	63%	495	19%	2,607	100%

n = number of times a force technique (row) was applied to an involved individual by an officer in force interactions of each level of force (column)

% = percent of row total except bottom row which is percent of row total

%* = percent of grand total

Example 1: An officer applied resisted handcuffing to an involved individual 176 times in level 1 force interactions. 21% of all the 855 applications of resisted handcuffing in 2021 occurred in level 1 force interactions.

Example 2: 17 officers fired their guns at an involved individual in the 10 officer involved shootings in 2021.

Example 3: Officers applied a total of 1,630 force techniques in level 2 force interactions, 63% of all force techniques applied in 2021.

Force Techniques Applied in Force Interactions by Interaction Force Level

**Force Techniques Applied in Force Interactions
by Interaction Force Level
(2021)**

Force Technique	Value
PIT 35 mph or below	3
Improvised Weapon	3
Empty Hand: kick	5
OC Spray	6
K9 Apprehension - Bite	8
Chemical Munition: OC	9
Noise/Flash Diversionary Device	16
Firearm - OIS	17
Authorized Deployment	17
Ordered Force	19
Pain Compliance	21
Chemical Munition: OC, pointing	22
Empty Hand: strike	24
ECW: pointing	27
Impact Munition: pointing	30
ECW: painting	31
Empty Hand: leg sweep	32
Chemical Munition: CS	39
Impact Munition	47
ECW	52
Firearm: pointing	145
Empty Hand: takedown	543
Empty Hand: control	636
Resisted Handcuffing	855

Legend: Level 1, Level 2, Level 3

In reference to **Table 2.3-1**, "Resisted handcuffing" is the most common force type, occurring in all force levels because it is part of the process of placing an individual under custodial arrest. Resisted handcuffing is the act of placing handcuffs onto an individual who is actively resisting the application of the restraints. Resisted handcuffing comprises one-third of all force applied in 2021.

"Empty Hand" force applications are unarmed applications of force. These include forcibly restraining an individual; an officer tackling or pinning an individual to the ground (a "takedown"); a strike or blow to an individual with an officer's hand; or kicks and leg sweeps meant to bring an individual to the ground. Together, these applications of force (Empty Hand: Control, Empty Hand: Takedown, Empty Hand: Strike, Empty Hand: Kick, and Empty Hand: Leg Sweep) make up almost half of all force applied in 2021 (47.5%). Empty Hand techniques occur in all levels and are commonly combined with other force techniques.

A "show of force" is the act of an officer pointing a firearm, impact munition, chemical munition, or an **Electronic Control Weapon** (ECW) at an individual. Shows of force aim to create compliance with a law enforcement officer's commands. Shows of force make up around 10% of force techniques applied in 2021. Independently, a show of force is considered a Level 1 use of force—however, shows of force often occur with other types of force so they appear in all levels of force.

APD uses several varieties of **less lethal impact munitions** and corresponding launchers, including beanbag rounds and 40mm impact rounds. Use of these weapons accounted for 3% of applied force techniques. APD also uses several varieties of **chemical munitions** (sprays and foggers) that deploy one of two chemical different compounds; **oleoresin capsicum** (OC), commonly referred to as pepper spray, and **chlorobenzylidene malononitrile** (CS), commonly

referred to as tear gas. The deployment of chemical munitions accounted for 3% of applied force techniques in 2021.

"Ordering Force" and "Authorized Deployment" pertain to instances of supervisors authorizing or ordering subordinate officers to show or apply force and are included as reportable uses of force.

Reporting on **Pursuit Intervention Technique** (PIT) maneuvers as a force technique is a relatively new requirement for the department. Per **SOP 2-12: Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)** published May 26th 2021, all uses of the PIT maneuvers 35 MPH or below is considered a Level 2 use of force and thus investigated as a Level 2 use of force. If the use of the PIT maneuver 35 MPH or below results in, or could reasonably result in, serious physical injury, hospitalization, or death then it is considered a Level 3 use of force and thus investigated as a Level 3 use of force. All uses of the PIT maneuver above 35 MPH shall be considered deadly force, and reported and investigated as a Level 3 use of force. There were no applications of PIT maneuvers over 35 MPH reported between when **SOP 2-12: Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)** was published and the end of 2021.

Table 2.3 - 2	By Interaction Level of Force, Average Number of;	
Interaction Force Level	Officers Applying Force	Force Techniques Applied
Level 1	1.99	2.34
Level 2	2.56	4.25
Level 3	2.74	4.24

There was an average of 3.13 officers present during Level 1 force interactions – this includes officers who only witnessed the application of force and did not apply any force themselves. There was an average of 2 officers applying an average of 2.34 techniques to an involved individual in Level 1 force interactions. In Level 2 interactions, there was an average of 3.74 officers present during the interaction, with an average of 2.56 officers applying an average of 4.25 force techniques to an involved individual. In Level 3 interactions, there was an average of approximately 4 officers present during the interaction, with an average of 2.74 officers applying 4.24 force techniques to an involved individual.

On average, the number of officers present (as well as the number of officers who applied force to an individual) in a force interaction increases as the severity of force in an interaction increases. All three levels of force have an average of between 3-4 officers present with 2-3 officers applying force. The amount of techniques applied between Level 1 force incidents and amount applied in Level 2 and 3 force incidents nearly doubles, with Level 2 and 3 incidents having approximately the same average number of force techniques being applied to an involved individual.

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

2.3.1   Officer Involved Shootings

Table 2.3.1-1	2021 - Officer Involved Shootings						
	Involved Individual's Demographics			Situational Factors and Outcomes			Investigation
Date	Race and Ethnicity	Gender	Age	Was the Incident Fatal	Was the Subject Armed	Call Type	IAFD Investigation Status
2/13/21	White, Hispanic	Male	33	No	Yes	Onsite Suspicious Person/ Vehicle	Completed, In Policy
2/20/21	White, Hispanic	Male	40	Yes	Yes	Suspicious Person/ Vehicle	Completed, In Policy
3/7/21	White, Non-Hispanic	Male	56	No	No	Traffic stop	Completed, Out of Policy
4/16/21	Unknown	Male	51	Yes	Yes	Shooting	Backlog
7/5/21	White, Non-Hispanic	Male	26	No	Yes	Burglary	Backlog
8/15/21	White, Hispanic	Male	33	Yes	Yes	Onsite Suspicious Person/ Vehicle	Completed, In Policy
8/19/21	White, Hispanic	Male	27	No	Yes	Armed Robbery	Completed, In Policy
8/20/21	White, Hispanic	Male	26	No	Yes	Onsite Suspicious Person/ Vehicle	Completed, In Policy
9/7/21	Native American, Non-Hispanic	Male	46	Yes	Yes	Mutual Aid (Outside Agencies)	Completed, In Policy
12/2/21	White, Hispanic	Male	16	No	Yes	Shots Fired	Completed, In Policy

During the 10 OIS force interactions, 17 officers shot at an individual with their firearms in 2021—four of which resulted in the death of the involved individual. Two of the OISs (one of which was fatal) are part of the backlog of force investigations. As such, whether the uses of force were within policy has yet to be determined. Of the remaining eight OISs that have been investigated, one OIS was found to be out of APD policy. As a result of the out-of-policy determination, the officer involved was terminated and no longer employed by APD by the end of 2021. **Table 2.3.1-1** is a summary of 2021's OIS. There were no incidents of an officer shooting at or from a moving vehicle in 2021.

2.3.2 K-9 Deployments and Tactical Activations

Table 2.3.2 - 1	2021 K-9 Utilization Summary			
	K-9 Deployed	Apprehensions	K-9 Bites	Bite Ratio
January	77	12	0	0%
February	82	10	1	10%
March	93	11	0	0%
April	69	7	0	0%
May	68	13	2	15%
June	71	8	0	0%
July	72	17	1	6%
August	88	12	0	0%
September	112	15	1	7%
October	125	10	2	20%
November	102	9	1	11%
December	91	4	0	0%
Total	1050	128	8	Bite Ratio = 6%

In 2021, **police service dogs** (PSD, or K-9 units) were deployed a total of 1,050 times. Per APD policy (**SOP 2-23: Use of Canine Unit** and **SOP 1-64: K-9 Unit**), PSDs are deployed in a given situation for three purposes: building searches, tracking individuals/area searches, and the apprehension of fleeing or resisting individuals. K-9 Units can be used to apprehend individual(s) fleeing or resisting arrest when there is reason to believe that the individual(s) has committed a felony. The decision to use the K-9 for apprehension is based on the threat posed by the individual. When a PSD bites an individual (excluding an accidental bite), it is a reportable act of force. In 2021, individuals were bitten by a PSD during 8 apprehensions. The department's **Bite Ratio** is the number of apprehensions with a bite *divided* by the total number of apprehensions in a given period of time. The department had a bite ratio of 6% in 2021.

As shown in **Table 2.3.2-2**, **tactical activation** refers to the act of putting **specialized tactical units** on notice of potential deployment. Tactical units focus on tactical solutions to critical incidents that involve a threat to public safety or high-risk situations. Critical incidents include crisis negotiation team responses, hostage situations, barricaded and armed individuals, high-risk arrests, execution of search and arrest warrants with exigent or dangerous circumstances, major jail disturbances, civil disturbances, and specialized patrol functions.

In 2021, there were 61 department tactical activations associated with various **call types**. The most common call type were calls where APD tactical units assisted other law enforcement agencies.

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

Table 2.3.2 - 2	2021 - Tactical Activations	
Call Type		Activations
Mutual Aid (Outside Agencies)		19
Wanted Person		9
Family Dispute		7
Pre-Planned Warrant Service		6
Disturbance		5
Aggravated Assault/Battery		3
Suspicious Person/Vehicle		4
Shooting		1
Vandalism		1
Domestic Violence Escort		1
Commercial Armed Robbery		1
Bomb Threat		1
Contact		1
Abduction		1
Fight in Progress		1
Total		61

2.3.3 Electronic Control Weapon Use and Efficacy

An **electronic control weapon** (ECW), also referred to by the brand name Taser, is a less lethal weapon designed primarily to discharge electrical charges into an individual that will cause involuntary muscle contractions and override the individual's voluntary motor responses. For an ECW deployment to immobilize an individual, two probes must penetrate the skin. If one probe does not hit the target or the individual is wearing clothing that prevents the probe from penetrating the skin, the ECW may not achieve the desired result. The ECWs used by APD have a targeting assistance feature in the form of a laser sight. An ECW's laser sight may or may not be activated when an ECW is pointed at an individual.

In 2021, APD applied force techniques involving an ECW—including pointing—110 times, amounting to 4% of all force techniques applied. An ECW was discharged at an individual 52 times (47% of ECW use and the fifth most common force technique applied); an ECW was pointed at an individual while utilizing the laser sight as a force technique 31 times (28% of ECW use); and an ECW was pointed at an individual without activating the laser sight as a force technique 27 times (25% of ECW use).

When an ECW is used, the officer is asked a "yes" or "no" question to determine if the use of their ECW was effective to take the individual into custody. In 2021, half (50%) of force applications where an ECW was deployed were reported as effective. In instances where the ECW was not deployed, pointing an ECW without painting an individual was effective in 56% of uses. When an ECW was pointed and the laser sight was activated, 68% of applications were reported as effective.

Table 2.3.3 - 1	Was Force Effective					
Efficacy of ECW in Force Interactions Given Specific Lighting Conditions	Yes		No		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%*
ECW Was Discharged						
Dark	8	73%	3	27%	11	10%
Daylight	13	42%	18	58%	31	28%
Dark: Exterior Lighting	4	66%	2	33%	6	5%
Interior Lighting	1	25%	3	75%	4	4%
Total (Discharged)	26	50%	26	50%	52	47%
ECW Was Only Pointed at Subject						
Dark	2	40%	3	60%	5	5%
Daylight	13	76%	4	24%	17	15%
Dark: Exterior Lighting	0	0%	1	100%	1	1%
Interior Lighting	0	0%	4	100%	4	4%
Total (Only Pointed)	15	56%	12	44%	27	25%
ECW Was Pointed and Subject Was Painted With ECW's Laser Sight						
Dark	3	60%	2	40%	5	5%
Daylight	10	62%	6	38%	16	15%
Dark: Exterior Lighting	4	80%	1	20%	5	5%
Interior Lighting	4	80%	1	20%	5	5%
Total (Pointed and Painted)	21	68%	10	32%	31	28%
Grand Total	**62**	**56%**	**48**	**44%**	**110**	**100%**

(Left side vertical label: Lighting Condition)

n = number of times ECW application was effective or not (column) and the lighting conditions where it was applied (row).
% = percent of row total
%* = percent of grand total

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

2.4 SITUATIONAL FACTORS AND OUTCOMES OF FORCE INTERACTIONS

2.4.1 Situational Factors in Force Interactions

In addition to reporting the demographics of an individual involved in force and the types of force techniques that were applied, there are situational factors regarding the force interaction that are collected following a force interaction or during the investigation. This includes information such as whether an involved individual was armed, unhoused, arrested, injured, or hospitalized, as well as their ability to communicate in English and their mental state.

Reiterating the preliminary nature of this report, many of these data points are subject to change when backlogged investigations are completed and an updated report is published.

Table 2.4.1 - 1		Force Interactions by Level of Force							
		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		All Levels	
Situation		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Involved Individual Was Armed	Yes	39	18%	64	15%	17	14%	120	16%
	No	162	74%	329	79%	96	77%	587	77%
	Unknown	18	8%	24	6%	12	10%	54	7%
Involved Individual Was Unhoused	Yes	34	16%	88	21%	12	10%	134	18%
	No	129	59%	234	56%	78	62%	441	58%
	Unknown	56	26%	95	23%	35	28%	186	24%
Involved Individual Was Experiencing a Crisis	Yes	69	32%	101	24%	33	26%	203	27%
	No	70	32%	135	32%	42	34%	247	32%
	Unknown	80	37%	181	43%	50	40%	311	41%
Involved Individual Self-Reported Mental Illness	Yes	19	9%	85	20%	18	14%	122	16%
	No	125	57%	202	48%	66	53%	393	52%
	Unknown	75	34%	130	31%	41	33%	246	32%
Involved Individual Was Arrested	Yes	123	56%	299	72%	99	79%	521	68%
	No	96	44%	118	28%	26	21%	240	32%
Involved Individual Had Limited or No English Language Proficiency	Yes	7	3%	10	2%	6	5%	23	3%
	No	199	91%	379	91%	108	86%	686	90%
	Unknown	13	6%	28	7%	11	9%	52	7%

n = number of force interactions by level of force (column) per the individual's situation (row)
% = percent of situation (row) total and force level (column) total
Example: *An involved individual was armed in 18% of level 1 force interactions in 2021.*

The involved individual in force interactions was unarmed in the majority (77%) of force interactions in 2021. Individuals were armed in 120 force interactions (16%).

Whether or not an individual was unhoused is another data point that is subject to officer perception and the willingness of an involved individual to self-report. A majority (58%) of individuals involved in force were not unhoused. This was similar across all three force levels.

APD defines a behavioral health crisis (crisis) as an incident in which an individual is experiencing intense feelings of personal distress (e.g., anxiety, depression, fear, anger, panic, hopelessness), obvious changes in functioning (e.g., neglect of personal hygiene, unusual behavior), or catastrophic life events (e.g., disruptions in personal relationships, support systems, or living arrangements; loss of autonomy or parental rights; victimization; or natural disasters), which may, but shall not necessarily, result in an upward trajectory or intensity that culminates in thoughts or acts that are possibly dangerous to the individual in crisis and/or others (**SOP 2-19: Response to Behavioral Health Issues**).

27% of involved individuals were identified by the officer as experiencing a crisis. In 41% of force interactions, it was unknown whether an individual involved in the force interaction was in a state of crisis. Involved individuals were most commonly identified as being in crisis in Level 1 force interactions.

Roughly half of individuals in force interactions did not explicitly self-report mental illness in the course of their interaction with law enforcement. Involved individuals explicitly self-reported mental illness most often in Level 2 force interactions. Whether or not an individual self-reported a mental illness was recorded as "unknown" approximately one-third of the time across all three force levels.

Most involved individuals were under arrest (in lieu of summons) during or arrested after a force interaction in 2021 (68%). The vast majority of individuals involved in Level 2 and 3 force interactions were arrested (72% and 79% respectively) at the conclusion of a force interaction. In Level 1 force interactions, slightly more than half of involved individuals were arrested (56%).

2.4.2   Injuries Sustained in Force Interactions

Injuries are reported in force interactions for both individuals involved in force and officers who apply force. Injuries are recorded in distinct categories—"abrasions," "bruises," etc. Injuries sustained by involved individuals *may or may not* have been caused by an application of force by a law enforcement officer; APD differentiates between injuries that *were* caused and injuries that *were not* caused by law enforcement officers in use of force data. An involved individual and an officer may experience more than one injury.

In 2021, an involved individual sustained at least one injury from *any source* (injuries sustained by involved individuals *may or may not* have been caused by an application of force by a law enforcement officer) in 61% of all force interactions. Injuries *from any source* were much more common in Level 2 and Level 3 force interactions (72% and 82%, respectively) than in Level 1 force interactions (28%). This disparity shows the escalated nature of the situations and the necessary severity of force techniques that make up Level 2 and 3 uses of force.

Of the 465 force interactions in which *any* injury was sustained by the involved individual, 80% of those interactions include injuries that *were caused* by a law enforcement officer. Those force interactions may also include injuries that were *not caused* by an officer. In 20% of the force interactions with an injury, none of the injuries were caused by an officer. In 7% of Level 1 force interactions, an officer caused an injury or the involved individual complained of an injury. The majority of Level 2 and 3 force interactions included injuries caused by an officer (65% and 72% respectively). The types on injuries are detailed in **Table 2.4.2-1**, below.

In the 521 force interactions in which an arrest was made, roughly half (52%) resulted in an injury to the involved individual that was caused by a law enforcement officer. Most Level 1 force interactions with an arrest did not result in an injury caused by an officer (7%). Level 2 and 3 force interactions with arrests were more injurious to involved individuals, with 65% and 70% respectively including an officer-caused injury to an individual.

Few individuals (9%) were hospitalized during or after a force interaction. Counter-intuitively, Level 1 force interactions had the greatest percentage of individuals recorded as being hospitalized (15%). An involved individual may not necessarily be hospitalized as a result of any injuries sustained by a use of force. Often, individuals may be transported by law enforcement or medical professionals to a psychiatric or behavioral healthcare facility for treatment and intervention after a behavioral health crisis, or need to be treated for injuries not sustained in the course of an interaction with law enforcement. These instances would still be recorded as hospitalizations.

A law enforcement officer was injured in 21% of force interactions in 2021. More than one officer may have been injured in a single interaction. Due to their respective injuries, 23 officers were hospitalized. Officers were not injured in 92% of Level 1 interactions, 76% of Level 2 interactions and 69% of Level 3 interactions.

| Table 2.4.2 - 1 | | Force Interactions by Level of Force | | | | | | | |
| | | Level 1 | | Level 2 | | Level 3 | | All Levels | |
Outcome		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
The Involved Individual Was Injured (From *Any* Cause)	Yes	61	28%	301	72%	103	82%	465	61%
	No	158	72%	116	28%	22	18%	296	39%
Involved Individual Was Injured by a Law Enforcement Officer	Yes	15	7%	269	65%	90	72%	374	49%
	No	204	93%	148	35%	35	28%	387	51%
Involved Individual Was Injured by a Law Enforcement Officer During Arrest (Only Individuals Arrested)	Yes	9	7%	195	65%	69	70%	273	52%
	No	114	93%	104	35%	30	30%	248	48%
Involved Individual Was Hospitalized (For *Any* Reason)	Yes	33	15%	25	6%	10	8%	68	9%
	No	186	85%	392	94%	115	92%	693	91%
An Officer Was Injured	Yes	17	8%	102	24%	39	31%	158	21%
	No	202	92%	315	76%	86	69%	603	79%
n = number of force interactions by level of force (column) where outcome occurred (row) **%** = percent of outcome (row) total and force level (column) total **Example:** An involved individual was armed in 18% of level 1 force interactions in 2021.									

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

2.4.2.1 Types of Injuries Sustained in Force Interactions

As mentioned previously, injuries are recorded in distinct categories (i.e. abrasions, bruises, etc.). An involved individual or an officer may sustain multiple injuries during any one force interaction. APD differentiates between injuries *caused* and *not caused* by law enforcement officers in a force interaction and counts the number of injuries by category. Figures in **Table 2.4.2.1-1** differ from figures in **Table 2.4.2-1** because each injury is counted separately.

Table 2.4.2.1 - 1	Interaction Force Level in Which Injury Was Sustained							
Injuries to Involved Individuals Caused by a Law Enforcement Officer	Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		All Levels	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%*
Abrasions	3	2%	140	71%	55	28%	198	43%
Complaint of Pain/Injury	9	7%	103	75%	26	19%	138	30%
Lacerations	1	3%	23	77%	6	20%	30	7%
Bruises	1	4%	23	88%	2	8%	26	6%
Puncture	0	0%	14	61%	9	39%	23	5%
Other Injury	2	13%	8	50%	6	38%	16	3%
OC Exposure	0	0%	8	89%	1	11%	9	2%
Gunshot	0	0%	0	0%	7	100%	7	2%
Welt	0	0%	4	80%	1	20%	5	1%
Death	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	4	1%
Broken Bones	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%	2	<1%
Lost Consciousness	0	0%	1	50%	1	50%	2	<1%
Bloody Nose	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1	<1%
All Injuries	16	3%	325	70%	120	26%	461	100%

n = number of injuries by type (row) sustained in force interactions of each level of force (column)
% = percent of row total
%* = percent of column total
Example 1: 71% of abrasions caused by an officer occurred in level 2 force interactions.
Example 2: 26% of all injuries caused by an officer occurred in level 3 force interactions.

Injuries to Individuals Caused by a
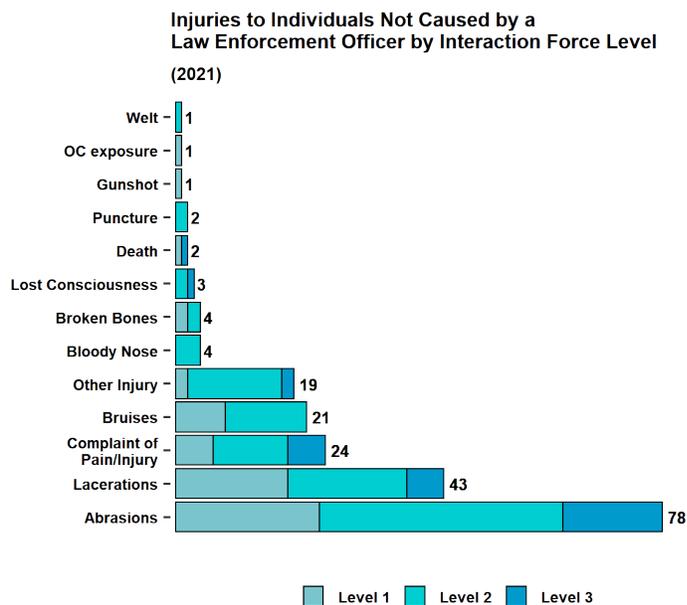Law Enforcement Officer by Interaction Force Level
(2021)
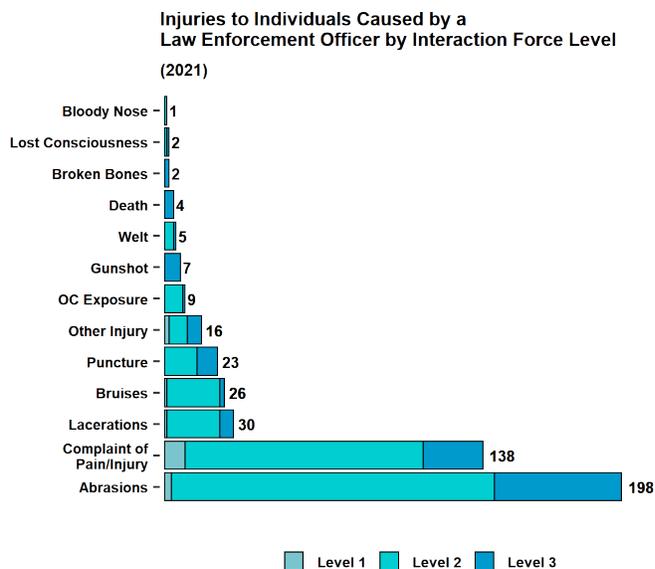
Officers caused 461 injuries to individuals involved in force interactions in 2021. The most common injuries caused by a law enforcement officer were "abrasions" (43%), followed by "complaint of pain/injury" (30%).

Most officer-caused injuries occur in Level 2 force interactions, which are the most common force interactions. This is likely due to the fact that Level 2 encounters include takedowns and other hands-on tactics that often lead to abrasions and complaints of pain or injury.

24

Per policy (**SOP 2-53: Use of Force Definitions, SOP 2-56: Use of Force Reporting by Department Personnel**), Level 1 force interactions *should not* cause injury to an involved individual. The 16 injuries sustained in Level 1 force interactions—3% of which were officer-caused injuries—indicate that there may have been several misclassifications of force in the field and APD will actively monitor for instances of potential misclassification.

Table 2.4.2.1 - 2		Interaction Force Level in Which Injury Was Sustained							
Injuries to Involved Individuals *Not* Caused by a Law Enforcement Officer		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		All Levels	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%*
Injury	Abrasions	23	29%	39	50%	16	20%	78	39%
	Lacerations	18	42%	19	44%	6	14%	43	22%
	Complaint of Pain/Injury	6	25%	12	49%	6	24%	24	12%
	Bruises	8	38%	13	61%	0	0%	21	11%
	Other Injury	2	11%	15	79%	2	10%	19	10%
	Bloody Nose	0	0%	4	100%	0	0%	4	2%
	Broken Bones	2	50%	2	44%	0	0%	4	2%
	Lost Consciousness	0	0%	2	67%	1	27%	3	2%
	Death	1	50%	0	0%	1	40%	2	1%
	Puncture	0	0%	2	100%	0	0%	2	1%
	Gunshot	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
	OC exposure	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
	Welt	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1	1%
	All Injuries	62	31%	109	54%	32	16%	203	100%

n = number of injuries by type (row) sustained in force interactions of each level of force (column)
% = percent of row total
%* = percent of column total
Example 1: 50% of abrasions *not* caused by an officer occurred in level 2 force interactions.
Example 2: 31% of injuries *not* caused by an officer occurred in level 1 force interactions.

Injuries to Individuals Not Caused by a Law Enforcement Officer by Interaction Force Level (2021)

Welt	1
OC exposure	1
Gunshot	1
Puncture	2
Death	2
Lost Consciousness	3
Broken Bones	4
Bloody Nose	4
Other Injury	19
Bruises	21
Complaint of Pain/Injury	24
Lacerations	43
Abrasions	78

Level 1   Level 2   Level 3

Involved individuals sustained 203 injuries that were not caused by law enforcement officers in 2021. 31% of these injuries occurred in Level 1 force interactions.

Table 2.4.2.1 - 3	Interaction Force Level in Which Injury Was Sustained							
Injuries to Law Enforcement Officers	Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		All Levels	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%*
Abrasions	7	5%	104	74%	29	21%	140	54%
Other Injury	6	12%	28	56%	16	32%	50	19%
Lacerations	1	4%	18	64%	9	32%	28	11%
Bruises	3	20%	8	53%	4	27%	15	6%
Bite Marks	3	25%	9	75%	0	0%	12	5%
Biohazard Contamination	0	0%	2	33%	4	67%	6	2%
Gunshot	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	4	2%
Broken Bones	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	1	0%
Stab Wound	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	1	0%
Welt	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	1	0%
Total	20	8%	169	66%	69	27%	258	100%

n = number of injuries by type (row) sustained in force interactions of each level of force (column)
% = percent of row total
%* = percent of column total
Example 1: 100% of the 4 gunshots sustained by officers occurred in level 3 force interactions.
Example 2: 66% of injuries to an officer occurred in level 2 force interactions.

Injuries to Law Enforcement Officers by Interaction Force Level (2021)
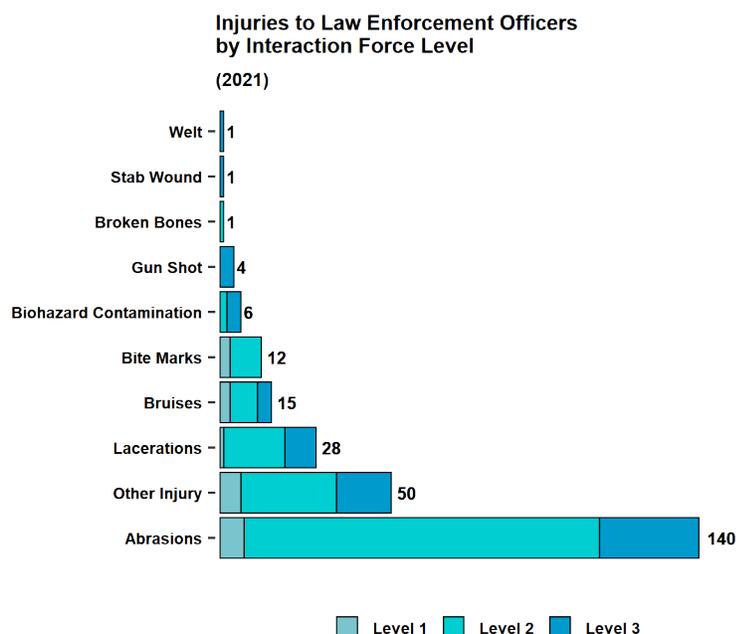
Law enforcement officers sustained 258 injuries during force interactions in 2021. The most common injuries sustained by law enforcement officers in the course of a force interaction are similar to those experienced by individuals involved in force interactions. The distribution of officer injuries across force levels is also similar to the distribution of officer-caused injuries sustained by an involved individual.

The most severe injuries sustained by officers occurred only within Level 3 interactions—further evidence of the elevated risks inherent to situations where a Level 3 use of force is necessary. 23 officers were hospitalized due to injuries sustained in a force interaction in 2021.

Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

3 USE OF FORCE, CALLS FOR SERVICE, AND ARRESTS OVER TIME

Table 3 - 1		Department Use of Force, Calls For Service, Arrests, and Force Rates Over Time				
		Year				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Calls for Service		442,518	440,371	399,334	393,243	386,657
Proactive Calls for Service	n	97,568	118,036	121,010	144,819	153,417
	%	22%	27%	30%	37%	40%
Reactive Calls for Service	n	344,950	322,335	278,324	248,424	233,240
	%	78%	73%	70%	63%	60%
Force Interactions		839	804	802	951	761
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service	n	102	121	101	148	107
	%	12%	15%	13%	16%	14%
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Call for Service	n	737	683	701	803	654
	%	88%	85%	87%	84%	86%
Custodial Arrests		80,370	91,296	89,520	74,322	56,910
Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service		1.90	1.83	2.01	2.42	1.97
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Proactive Calls for Service		1.05	1.03	0.83	1.02	0.70
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Reactive Calls for Service		2.14	2.12	2.52	3.23	2.80
Force Interactions per 100 Custodial Arrests		1.04	0.88	0.9	1.28	1.34

n = number of calls for service/force interactions (row) in given year (column)
% = percent of total calls for service/force interactions that were proactive or reactive (row) in given year (column)

3.1 Use of Force, Calls for Service, and Arrests (2017-2021)

3.1.1 Use of Force

Monthly Force Interactions (2017-2021)
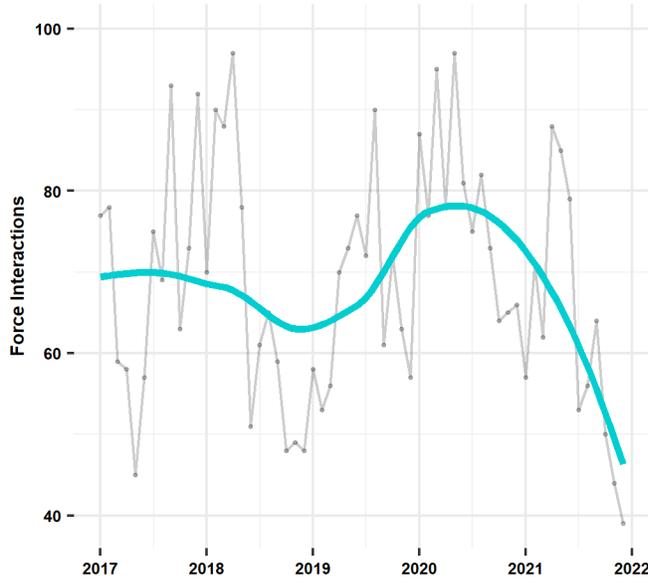
APD recorded a lower annual quantity of force interactions in 2021 than it had in any other year since 2017. APD's annual number of force interactions in 2021 represents a 20% year-over-year decrease in the number of force interactions than those recorded in 2020, in which 951 force interactions were recorded – the highest number of force interactions in the five-year (2017 – 2021) period.

Since accelerating in the latter half of 2019 and peaking in the first half of 2020, the monthly average number of recorded force interactions has declined. This trend is notable even when considering the seasonality of law enforcement activity throughout any given year (higher in warmer weather, lower in colder). Between 2017 and 2019, the number of annual force interactions recorded by the department was stable, ranging from 802-839 annual interactions across the three-year period. These trends hold when examining force interactions across the six Area Commands (see Appendix, Section 6).

3.1.2 Calls for Service

A **call for service** is a record of a distinct law enforcement event generated, maintained, and managed through APD's **computer-aided dispatch system** (CADs). A call for service is typically generated in one of two ways: when a call is made to '911' for emergency assistance or to a non-emergency number (242-COPS), and then an officer responds; and when an officer initiates a law enforcement event when a situation warrants their action or intervention (such as a traffic stop). These calls for service are referred to as **reactive calls for service** and **proactive calls for service**, respectively.

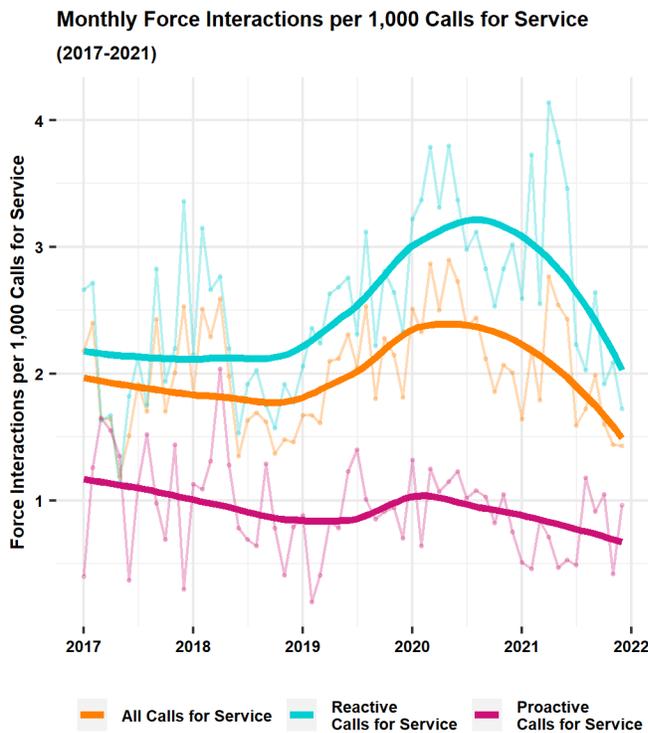When calculating the number of calls for service for this report, a call for service was counted when;

Monthly Calls for Service (2017-2021)
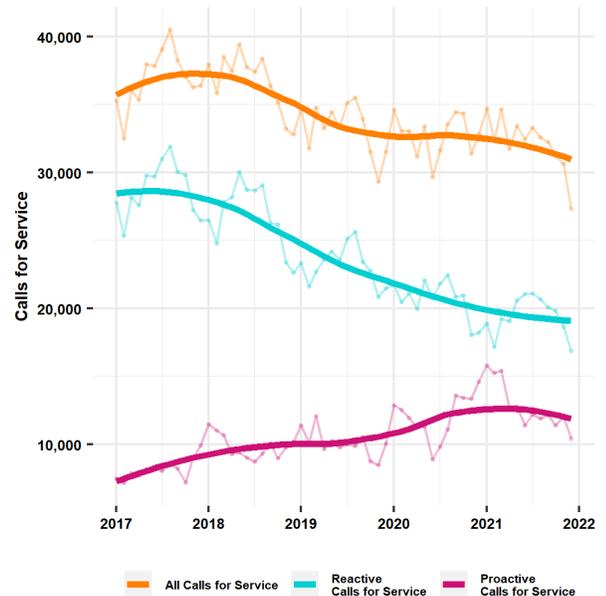
- The call was not cancelled by law enforcement or a law enforcement dispatcher;
- Law enforcement was dispatched (reactive) or onsite (proactive); and
- There was an interaction, or an interaction was probable, between a law enforcement officer and the public.

This methodology was employed in order to have the best understanding of how many uses of force occur relative to the number of interactions the public has with law enforcement officers, and not to bias rates by counting calls where a use of force was impossible.

In the five-year period beginning in 2017, total calls for service steadily decreased. This decrease was driven by decreases in reactive calls for service, which make up the majority of calls. Proactive calls for service steadily increased over this same period. These trends generally hold across the six Area Commands (see Appendix, Section 6).

Monthly Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service (2017-2021)

3.1.3 Uses of Force per 1,000 Calls for Service

Since the number of force interactions may be a function of the number of calls for service, a rate of force interactions per 1,000 calls for service was calculated. A rate of 1 per 1,000 can be interpreted as .1%. This calculation controls for fluctuations in the volume of calls for service and the effect those fluctuations may have on the number of force interactions in a given period of time. This calculation was done using the ratio of all calls for service and force interactions, all reactive calls for service and all force interactions that occurred during a reactive call for service; and all proactive calls for service and all force interactions that occurred during a proactive call for service.

Reactive calls for service were more likely to be associated with a force interaction than proactive calls for service and calls for service as a whole. Between 2017 and the first half of 2019, the rates of force per 1,000 calls for service were steady. In 2019 and into 2020, force interactions increased relative to the amount of total law enforcement interactions with the public as a whole. After peaking in mid-2020, force rates returned to approximately pre-2019 rates for each type of call and calls for service as a whole. This increase then decrease is apparent in each Area Command except Northeast Area Command where force incidents per 1,000 proactive calls for service increased throughout 2021 (see Appendix, Section 6).
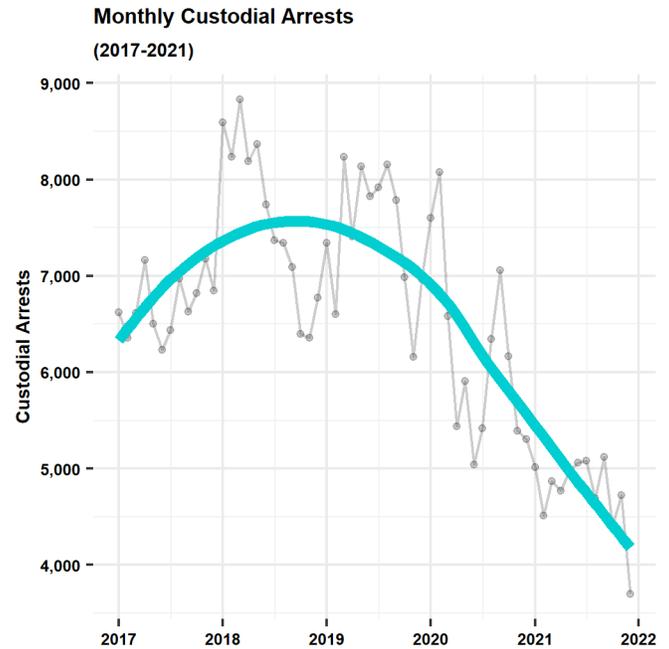
3.1.4 Custodial Arrests

Custodial arrests made by APD have been consistently decreasing since the middle of 2018.

3.1.5 Use of Force per 100 Custodial Arrests

A rate of force interactions per 100 custodial arrests was calculated to control for the volume of arrests and the impact that fluctuations in the number of arrests have on the amount of force interactions in a given period of time. A rate per 100 can be interpreted as a percentage.

The percentage of all arrests that involved a force interaction decreased throughout 2017 and 2018. In 2019, an increase in the rate of force interactions during arrests occurred similarly to the increase in force rates relative to calls for service and the total number of force interactions at that time. The average percentage of all arrests that involved a force interaction by the end of 2021 was slightly higher than pre-2019 lows but had returned to around the average exhibited at the start of 2017.

Monthly Custodial Arrests (2017-2021)

The cause of the increase in force interactions between 2019 and 2020 cannot adequately be explained by the amount of calls for service or the number of arrests occurring at that time alone. This report and its contents cannot suggest an evidence-based cause of the increase. Part of the increase coincided with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, although if and how the pandemic is related to the increase cannot be determined in this analysis.
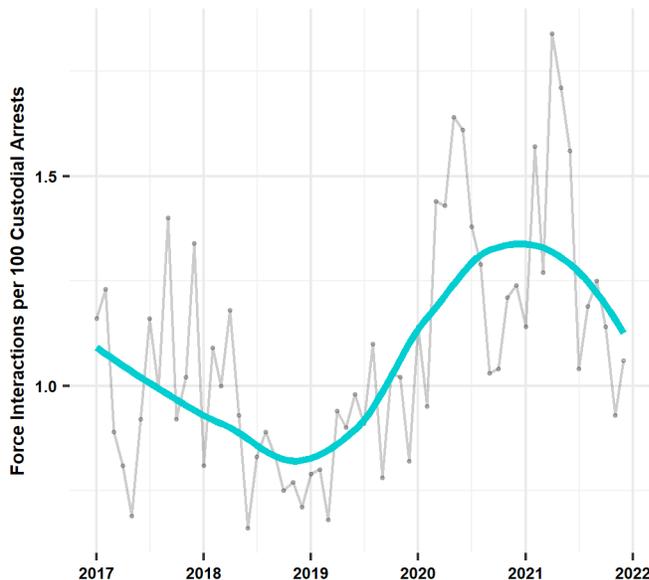
Due to the preliminary nature of this report, counts presented in this section are subject to change as the backlog of force investigations is completed. When the backlog is completed, an updated report will provide final counts of the items presented in this section.

Monthly Force Interactions per 100 Custodial Arrests (2017-2021)

4 INVESTIGATIONS OF FORCE AND DISCIPLINE

4.1 BACKLOG OF INVESTIGATIONS

Table 4.1 - 1		Interaction Force Level						
		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Total	
Investigation Status	Complete	200[1]	91%	193	46%	48	38%	441	58%
	Incomplete (Backlog)	18	8%	224	54%	77	62%	319	42%
	Incomplete (Other)	1[2]	.5%	0	0%	0	0%	1	.1%
	Total	219	29%	417	55%	125	16%	761	100%
	n = number of investigations that are complete or incomplete (row) and the force level of the investigation (column) **%** = percent of column total except bottom row, which is percent of column total [1]Includes 53 cases that, at the time the data were pulled for the report were complete but queued for review by the Performance Review Unit [2]One level 1 investigation was started by a Field Sergeant who retired while the investigation was open. When cases were reviewed and the investigation was found not to be completed, the case was reassigned to a Sergeant in the Field. As of July 1, 2022 when the data was pulled for this report, the investigation was still open.								

As of mid-year 2022, 42% of force interactions that occurred in 2021 have not been investigated completely and are part of the backlog of force investigations. This comprises 8.5% of Level 1 force interactions, 54% of Level 2 force interactions, and 62% of Level 3 force interactions. Data pertaining to the interactions presented in this report will change in the course of investigating the backlog, and these changes will be reflected in an updated report. All but one Level 1 use of force interactions investigated within the Area Commands were completed within mandated timelines. When a Level 1 investigation is completed in the field, it is forwarded to the Performance Review Unit which is responsible for reviewing the investigation for process compliance. These investigations are marked with a status of 'Forwarded' but are considered complete. The 18 backlogged Level 1 cases are situations where an officer with a rank of sergeant or above applied force—which are IAFD's responsibility to investigate.

4.2   POLICY OUTCOMES OF FORCE INVESTIGATIONS

Policy Outcomes of Force Investigations (2021)
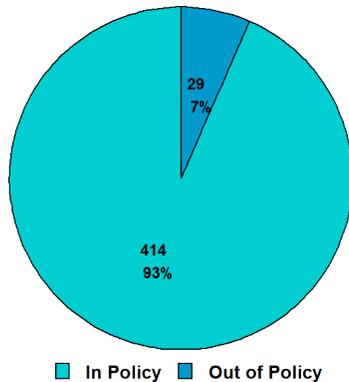
Of the 443 force interactions investigated completely or partially to the point of a policy outcome being determined (*five Level 3 and six Level 2 backlogged force investigations had been investigated to the point of a policy determination, but not completed*) by mid-year 2022, 29 (7%) force interactions were out of policy. 14 of the 29 out-of-policy force interactions were out of policy due to excessive force while the remaining 15 force interactions were out of policy due to inappropriate force (a deficiency in training and tactics). Five were Level 1 force interactions, 19 were Level 2 interactions, and five were Level 3 interactions.

37 officers applied an out-of-policy use of force in the 29 out of policy force interactions in 2021. 16 of those officers (43%) applied excessive force and 17 officers applied inappropriate force (57%). Six officers who applied an out-of-policy use of force in 2021 are no longer employed by the department. One officer was terminated as a result of APD's disciplinary process, and five officers resigned before the disciplinary process was completed.

Table 4.2 - 1		Out of Policy Force Interactions	% Total
Out of Policy Reason	Excessive Force	14	48%
	Inappropriate Force	15	52%
	Total	29	100%

Table 4.2 - 2		Out of Policy Force Interactions	% Total
Force Level	Level 1	5	17%
	Level 2	19	66%
	Level 3	5	17%
	Total	29	100%

5 CONCLUSIONS

The Albuquerque Police Department worked in 2021 to improve force investigation procedures to avoid a future backlog. APD worked on improving the use of force investigative process and assigning leaders that would ensure IAFD is completing its obligations to the Albuquerque community. With the support of the Mayor's Office, City Council, and Department of Justice, APD brought an External Force Investigation Team (EFIT) to provide close oversight and training to IAFD. These reforms have led to tangible results. Since EFIT began on August 17, 2021, IAFD has had no new Level 2 or Level 3 use of force cases that have failed to be investigated and completed within the timelines required by APD policy.

The use of force cases that were not completed are being investigated and APD is committed to full transparency of the results from those investigations. A supplement to this preliminary report will be issued when the investigations are complete.

In 2021, APD also made progress in using force in fewer arrests and calls for service than 2020. Police officers aim to use the minimum force necessary and de-escalate situations whenever possible. The decline in the rate of use of force relative to calls for service and arrests compared to 2020 shows that there has been progress in institutionalizing reform efforts in the agency.

The policy outcomes from force investigations show that APD is holding officers accountable. In 2022, APD has continued to develop and reinforce use of force training for both new officers and in-service training for existing officers that emphasize a variety of topics in policy including de-escalation. APD has also made progress in improving training for force investigators and supervisors who are responsible for force investigations.

"APD's vision is an Albuquerque where citizens and the police department work together through mutual trust to build a thriving community."

"APD's mission is to build relationships through community policing that will lead to reduced crime and increased safety."

6 APPENDIX

| Force, Calls for Service, and Force Rates Over Time by Area Command					
	Year				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	Foothills Area Command				
Calls for Service	60,638	63,156	52,136	57,447	57,470
Proactive Calls for Service	12,438	17,954	14,400	21,596	25,756
Reactive Calls for Service	48,200	45,202	37,736	35,851	31,714
Force Interactions	137	110	141	127	112
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service	14	14	17	13	10
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Call for Service	123	96	124	114	102
Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service	2.3	1.7	2.7	2.2	1.9
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Proactive Calls for Service	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.4
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Reactive Calls for Service	2.6	2.1	3.3	3.2	3.2
	Northeast Area Command				
Calls for Service	92,906	89,338	80,716	79,507	73,516
Proactive Calls for Service	19,360	22,095	22,959	28,182	26,308
Reactive Calls for Service	73,546	67,243	57,757	51,325	47,208
Force Interactions	189	145	137	169	141
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service	10	22	13	23	26
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Call for Service	179	123	124	146	115
Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service	2.0	1.6	1.7	2.1	1.9
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Proactive Calls for Service	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.0
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Reactive Calls for Service	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.4

Force, Calls for Service, and Force Rates Over Time by Area Command					
	Year				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	Northwest Area Command				
Calls for Service	52,527	57,104	55,886	51,556	44,024
Proactive Calls for Service	14,203	20,390	23,456	23,217	18,828
Reactive Calls for Service	38,324	36,714	32,430	28,339	25,196
Force Interactions	64	85	69	86	50
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service	2	7	5	16	3
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Call for Service	62	78	64	70	47
Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.1
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Proactive Calls for Service	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.2
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Reactive Calls for Service	1.6	2.1	2.0	2.5	1.9
	Southeast Area Command				
Calls for Service	108,074	102,273	91,221	88,833	99,574
Proactive Calls for Service	20,954	23,883	24,951	30,028	41,639
Reactive Calls for Service	87,120	78,390	66,270	58,805	57,935
Force Interactions	214	193	211	255	199
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service	32	34	36	52	39
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Call for Service	182	159	175	203	160
Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.9	2.0
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Proactive Calls for Service	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.7	0.9
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Reactive Calls for Service	2.1	2.0	2.6	3.5	2.8

| Force, Calls for Service, and Force Rates Over Time by Area Command					
	Year				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	Southwest Area Command				
Calls for Service	47,838	45,536	42,029	42,915	40,503
Proactive Calls for Service	10,689	10,448	10,833	13,380	11,852
Reactive Calls for Service	37,149	35,088	31,196	29,535	28,651
Force Interactions	97	93	86	121	65
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service	13	10	9	18	6
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Call for Service	84	83	77	103	59
Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.8	1.6
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Proactive Calls for Service	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.3	0.5
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Reactive Calls for Service	2.3	2.4	2.5	3.5	2.1
	Valley Area Command				
Calls for Service	80,535	82,964	77,346	72,985	71,570
Proactive Calls for Service	19,924	23,266	24,411	28,416	29,034
Reactive Calls for Service	60,611	59,698	52,935	44,569	42,536
Force Interactions	138	178	158	182	184
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service	31	34	21	26	23
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Call for Service	107	144	137	156	161
Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service	1.7	2.1	2.0	2.5	2.6
Force Interactions Corresponding to Proactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Proactive Calls for Service	1.6	1.5	0.9	0.9	0.8
Force Interactions Corresponding to Reactive Calls for Service per 1,000 Reactive Calls for Service	1.8	2.4	2.6	3.5	3.8

Monthly Force Interactions
by Each Area Command (2017-2021)
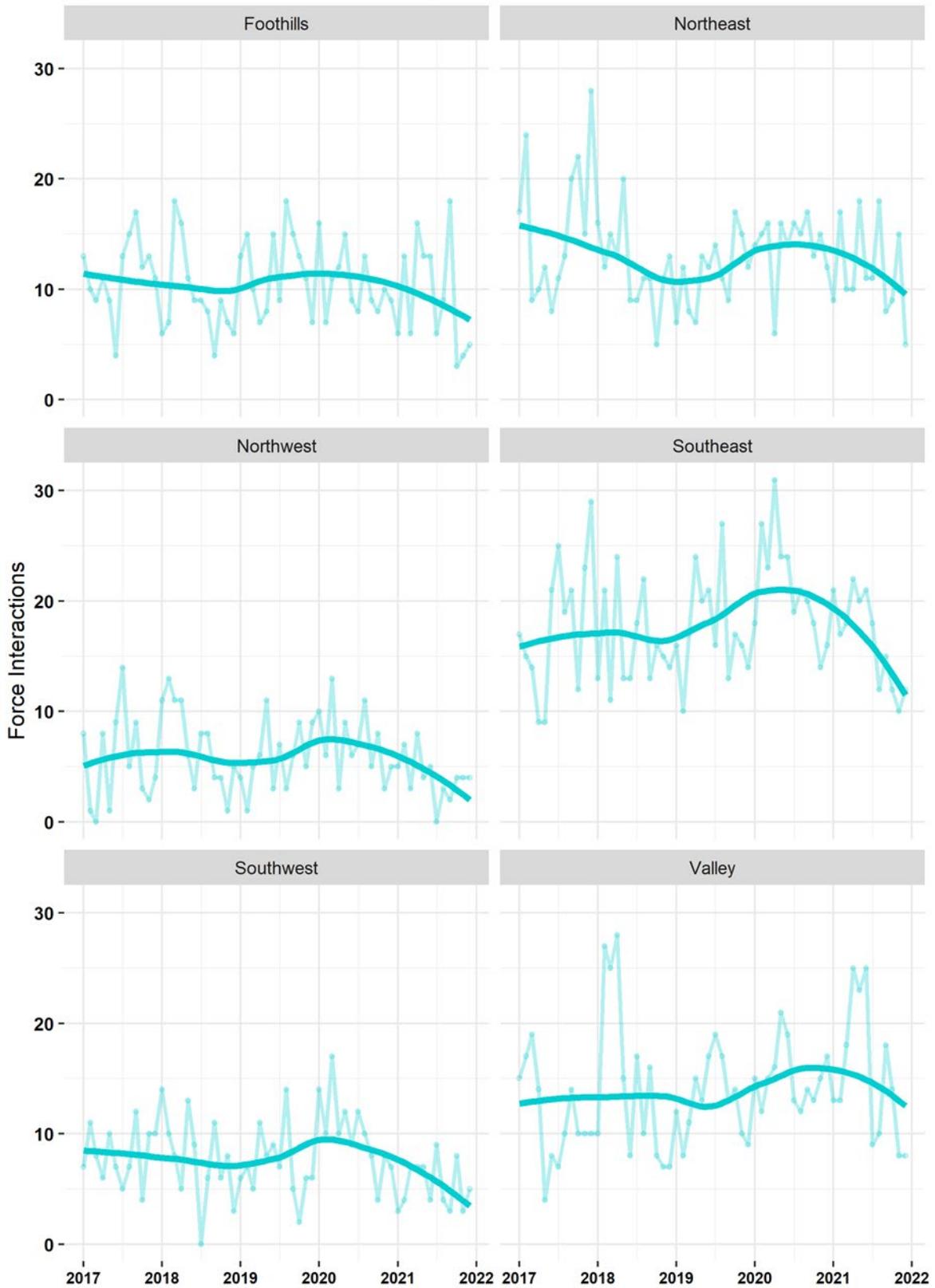
Monthly Calls for Service
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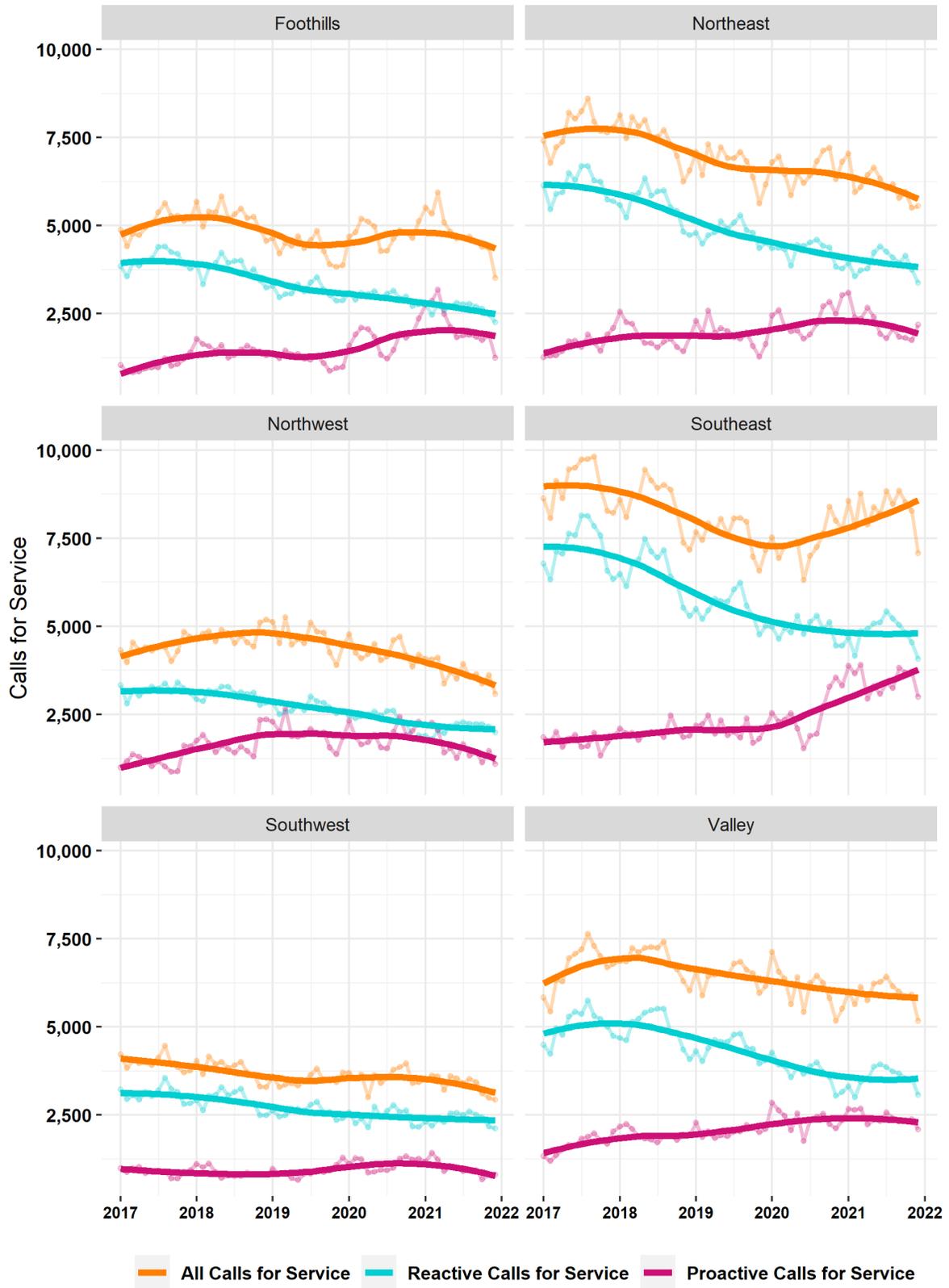
Monthly Force Interactions per 1,000 Calls for Service
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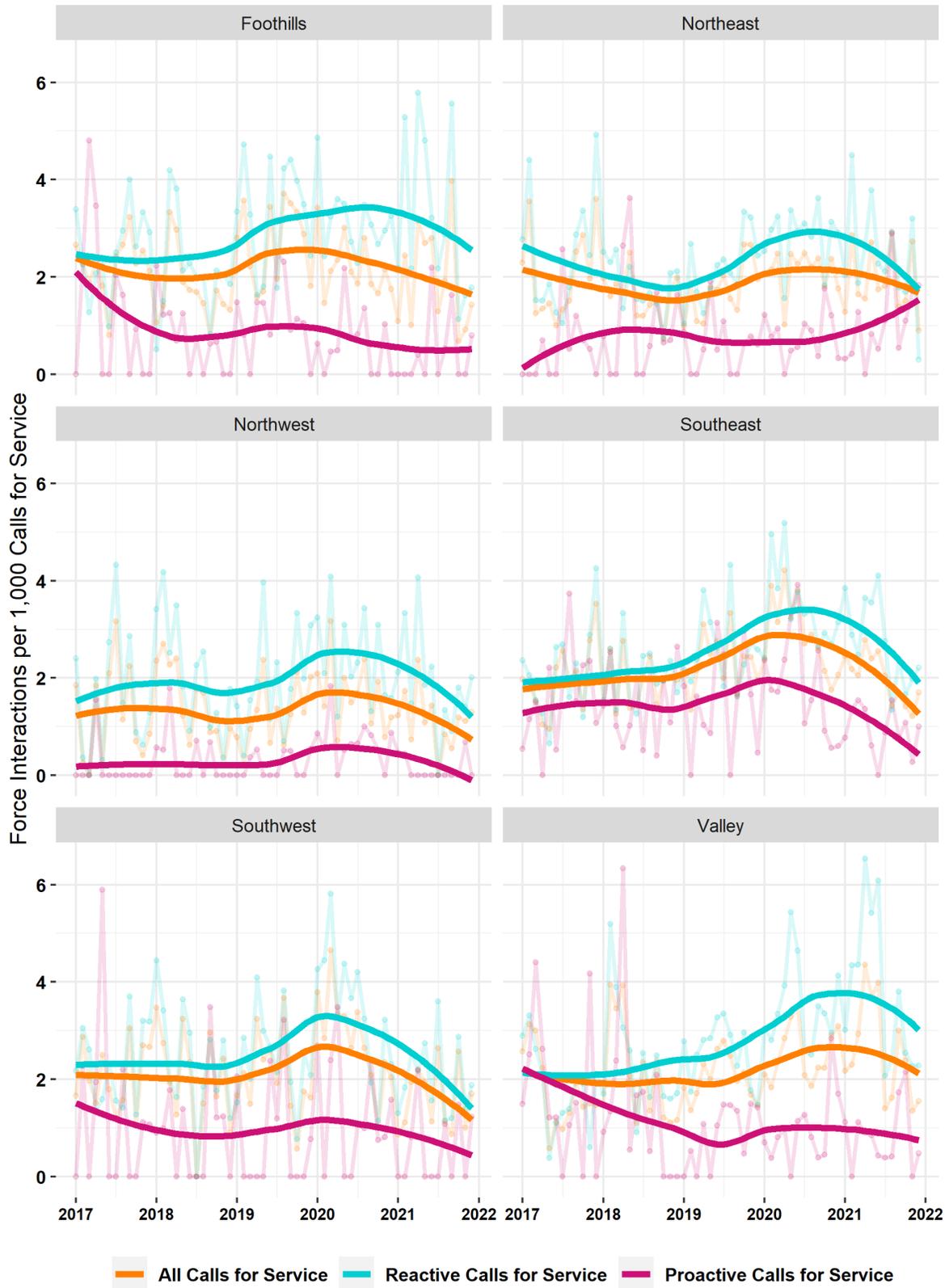
7 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

40 MM – Less-lethal launcher used for less lethal ammunition by trained Department personnel

Accidental Firearm Discharge – Unintended discharge, on-duty or not, of any firearm equipment by APD sworn personnel outside of a training environment or legal recreational activity

Active Resistance—Resistance exhibited by a suspect that is between passive resistance and aggressive resistance (e.g., attempts to leave the scene, flee, hide from detection, or pull away from the officer's grasp).

Animal Shooting – The intentional discharge of a firearm at any animal by APD personnel during the scope of the officer's duties

Apprehension - The arrest, capture, or taking into custody of a person

Area Command – Police service areas of APD located throughout Albuquerque that are led through the chain of command by an Area Commander. There are six area commands: Foothills, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest and Valley

Arrest – The taking of one person into custody by another. To constitute arrest there must be an actual restraint of the person. The restraint may be imposed by force or may result from the submission of the person arrested to the custody of the one arresting the person. An arrest is a restraint of greater scope or duration than an investigatory stop or detention. An arrest is lawful when supported by probable cause

Beanbag – Small fabric pillow which is filled with lead pellets and fired from a dedicated less lethal 12-gauge shotgun

Bite Ratio – Calculation of the number of bite apprehensions divided by the total number of apprehensions for a given time period. For the purpose of this calculation, PSD bites will not include accidental or directed bites

CASA – Court-Approved Settlement Agreement designed to ensure police integrity, protect officer safety and prevent the use of excessive force

Critical Firearm Discharge – Discharges of a lethal firearm by an officer, including accidental discharges and discharges where no person is struck. Range and training firings, destruction of animals, and off-duty hunting discharges where no person is struck are not critical firearm discharges

ECW - Cycle – The period during which electrical impulses are emitted from the ECW following activation. In most models, a standard cycle is 5 seconds for each activation. The duration of a cycle may be shortened by turning the ECW off but may be extended in certain models by continuing to hold the trigger

Demographic Category – Race, ethnicity, age, sex, gender expression or gender identity, sexual orientation, and limited English proficiency, if known

Display of Weapon – Drawing and exhibiting a weapon, to include firearm and ECW, as part of a warning tactic, typically accompanied by appropriate verbalization

ECW – Electronic Control Weapon; a weapon, including those manufactured by TASER International, designed primarily to discharge electrical charges into an individual that will cause involuntary muscle contractions and override the individual's voluntary motor responses

ECW Arcing – Activating an ECW without discharging the probes, sometimes done as a warning to an individual

ECW Painting – The act of unholstering and pointing an ECW at an individual and activating the ECW's laser dot to show that the weapon is aimed at the individual

ECW Drive-Stun Mode – Pressing and holding the ECW against the individual as it is cycled. This can be done in two configurations:

i. Drive-stun only – This technique involves pressing the ECW against the individual while it is energized without probe deployment, causing pain but minimal or no neuro-muscular incapacitation. This technique is solely a pain compliance technique and is prohibited.
ii. Follow-up Drive-stun – This technique is used as a follow-up to a probe deployment. It can increase the effectiveness of the ECW by increasing the spread between the connections in the event of a close-quarter probe deployment, completing the circuit in the event of a clothing disconnect or when only one probe has made a connection with the individual

ECW Standoff Mode – Discharging the ECW with a cartridge on the device, which propels the probes towards the individual and, upon effective contact, is intended to cause neuromuscular incapacitation

Empty Hand Technique – Strikes, grabs, kicks, takedowns, distraction techniques and proper arrest techniques to control an actively resistant individual

English Proficiency – Ability to use the English language to make and communicate meaning verbally and in writing

Firearm – A pistol, revolver, shotgun, carbine, or machine gun, as well as any instrument capable of discharging a bullet or shot

Firearm Discharge – When the trigger is pulled on a firearm and releases a projectile

Force – Any physical means used to defend the officer or others, restrain, overcome resistance, or otherwise gain physical control of an individual

Gender – The attitudes, feelings, and behaviors that a given culture associates with a person's sex. Behaviors that are viewed as incompatible with these cultural associations may be considered gender non-conformity. For purposes of entering information in a database, an individual's gender is determined based on an officer's perception and observations, which may or may not be verified with information displayed on the individual's government, NGO or company identification card or through self-identification. In this context, individuals may be categorized as either male, female, or transgender

Gender Expression – The way in which a person expresses their gender identity, typically through their appearance, dress, and behavior

Involved Individual – The person upon whom force was used or shown

Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) - The division of the Department responsible for timely, fairly, impartially, and thoroughly investigating internal complaints of policy violations by Department personnel and uses of force.

Involved Officer

    i.   An officer who used force or a show of force; or

    ii. A supervisor who used force, ordered force, authorized force, or participated in a use of force

Less Lethal force – Force application not intended or expected to cause death or serious injury and which is commonly understood to have less potential for causing death or serious injury than conventional, more lethal police tactics. Use of less lethal force can nonetheless result in death or serious injury

OC – Oleoresin capsicum; an inflammatory agent meant to assist officers in the control of actively resistant individuals. Commonly known as "pepper spray."

OC Fogger – Non-lethal pepper spray fog that evaporates instead of leaving a residue behind. It is optimized for riot control in confined areas.

OC Spray – A temporarily disabling aerosol composed partly of capsicum oleoresin and causes irritation and blinding of the eyes and inflammation of the nose, throat, and skin

OC Vapor – Non-flammable vapor designed to primarily affect a person's respiratory system. Ideal for cell extractions or barricade situations where the use of pyrotechnic, powder or liquid devices is not practical or desired

Officer – Personnel who are certified law enforcement officers through the New Mexico Department of Public Safety

On-Body Recording Device (OBRD) – A recording device issued by the Department that is affixed to the body

Out of Area – Any area outside the normal APD response area

Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) – A precision maneuver, which involves intentional, vehicle-to vehicle contact and consists of a pursuing officer applying lateral pressure with the front corner or their vehicle to the rear quarter panel of the fleeing suspect's vehicle, resulting in a predictable spin

PSD – Police Service Dog (Also known as K9/Canine)

Probe Deployment – Pulling the trigger to release the probes from the cartridge to make contact with the individual and achieve neuromuscular incapacitation

Race/Ethnicity – Race and ethnicity are two independent and distinct fields. An individual's race/ethnicity is determined based on an officer's initial perception and observations, which may or may not be verified with information displayed on the individual's government, NGO, or company identification card or through self-identification. In this context, individuals may be categorized as one of the following races: African-American, American Indian, Asian, White, and Unknown. Unknown includes all other categories not covered by those previously listed. An individuals' ethnicity is either Hispanic or non-Hispanic.

Serious Physical Injury – Physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death; causes death or serious and protracted disfigurement; or impairment of the function of any bodily organ or limb

Show of Force – Pointing a firearm, beanbag shotgun, 40 millimeter impact launcher, OC spray, or ECW at an individual, or using an ECW to "paint" an individual with the laser sight or utilizing a warning arc

SOP – Standard Operating Procedure

SWAT – Special Weapons and Tactics considered to be a Specialized Tactical Unit within the Department

Tactical Activation – To put Specialized Tactical Units whose focus is on tactical solutions to critical incidents that involve a threat to public safety or high risk situations on notice of potential deployment (referred to as SWAT deployment in the CASA)

Takedowns – Solo – The act of a single officer bringing an individual to the ground by utilizing a hands on approach in order to gain control of the individual

Takedowns – Team – The act of more than one officer bringing an individual to the ground by utilizing a hands on approach in order to gain control of the individual

Taser – A brand of an electronic control weapon used by APD officers

Use of Force – Physical effort to compel compliance by an unwilling individual above un-resisted handcuffing