

Herbert T. Jenkins

Atlanta Police Academy



2022 Use of Force Report

Completed By

Sgt. Thomas Gleason

PDU Supervisor

Use of Force Policy

The following excerpts are taken from the Atlanta Police Department Policy Manual, APD.SOP.3010 Use of Force:

The Atlanta Police Department recognizes and respects the value of human life and the right of people to be secure in their persons and property. Sworn employees, who in the performance of their duties, encounter situations where the use of force reasonably appears necessary to affect an arrest or detention, overcome resistance, control a subject, or protect themselves or others from injury or death will only use that force which is reasonable and necessary in order to accomplish lawful objectives.

Any employee who points or aims a firearm at a subject or applies force or takes an action that results in, or is alleged to have resulted in, the physical injury or death of another person is required to immediately notify his or her supervisor. An incident report describing the incident must be completed and submitted prior to the end of that employee's tour of duty

An employee may use deadly force to apprehend a suspected felon only when:

1. He or she reasonably believes that the suspect possesses a deadly weapon or any object, device, or instrument which, when used offensively against a person, is likely to or actually does result in serious bodily injury or death and when he or she reasonably believes that the suspect would create a continuing danger of serious physical harm or death to any person.
2. When there is probable cause to believe that the suspect has committed a crime involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious physical harm (O.C.G.A. Section 17-4-20) and the employee reasonably believes that the suspect's escape would create a continuing danger of serious physical harm to any person.
3. Where feasible, some warning has been given [Tennessee v. Garner, 471 US 1 (1985)]

The supervisor responding to the scene is required to complete a Use of Force Report in the Axon Standards UOF Module on Evidence.com. The UOF Report will be

forwarded to the Lieutenant or Unit Commander of the employee who used force. An incident report describing the incident must be completed and submitted at that time as well.

The Training Section will conduct an annual analysis of all use of force reports filed to determine if any patterns or trends in the use of force exist within the Department that would affect the training needs of employees, equipment issued to employees, or Departmental policy and procedure. Copies will be provided to the Chief of Police, the Assistant Chief of Police, the Office of Professional Standards, Planning and Research/Accreditation Unit, and the City Attorney. Copies of this report will be kept on file for five years.

C.A.L.E.A. Manual for Law Enforcement Standards
2021 Use of Force Report and Use of Force Standards

4.2.4 (LE1)

(M M M M) (LE1) Analyze Reports from Use of Force

- **Annually, the agency conducts an analysis of its use of force activities, policies and practices. The analysis should identify:**
 - a. Date and time of incidents;**
 - b. Types of encounters resulting in use of force;**
 - c. Trends or patterns related to race, age and gender of subjects involved,**
 - d. Trends or patterns resulting in injury to any person including employees, and**
 - e. Impact of findings on policies, practices, equipment, and training,**
- **Commentary--**
- **A review of incidents of force may reveal patterns or trends that could indicate training needs, equipment upgrades, and/or policy modifications. The process of collecting and reviewing the reports is also critical to this analysis. Time sensitive standard. (M M M M) (LE1)**

4.2.5

[Print]

(M M M M) Assault on Sworn Officer Review

- **Annually, the agency conducts a review of all assaults on law enforcement officers to determine trends or patterns, with recommendations to enhance officer safety, revise policy, or address training issues. --**
- **Commentary--**
- **Assaults on law enforcement officers are critical events that significantly impact the safety of public safety personnel. These events can include felony or misdemeanor charges or related charges, and the review should evaluate the 4**

implications of each type of event based on these and other criteria. Other criteria

might include time of day, type of initial call, presence of multiple officers, or prior history of the arrestee(s). The purpose of the review is to determine what actions the agency may take to enhance officer safety, prepare the organization for request for information regarding use of force events, and maintain training curriculums that are predicated on real data from field-based events.

Executive Summary

Atlanta Police officers arrested 17922 individuals in 2022, compared to 18822 individuals in 2021. That puts our arrest totals down – 4.8% for the year. The Atlanta Police Academy reviewed 579 Use of Force Reports associated with those arrests, compared to 523 Use of Force Reports in 2021.

It is important to note that these statistics do not take into account the hundreds of thousands of other police-citizen encounters that did not result in any use of force or arrest. (These include traffic stops, 911 calls for service and routine police encounters)

Totals	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Arrests	17922	18822	20976	31080	31034
Use of Force Reports	579	523	380	615	528

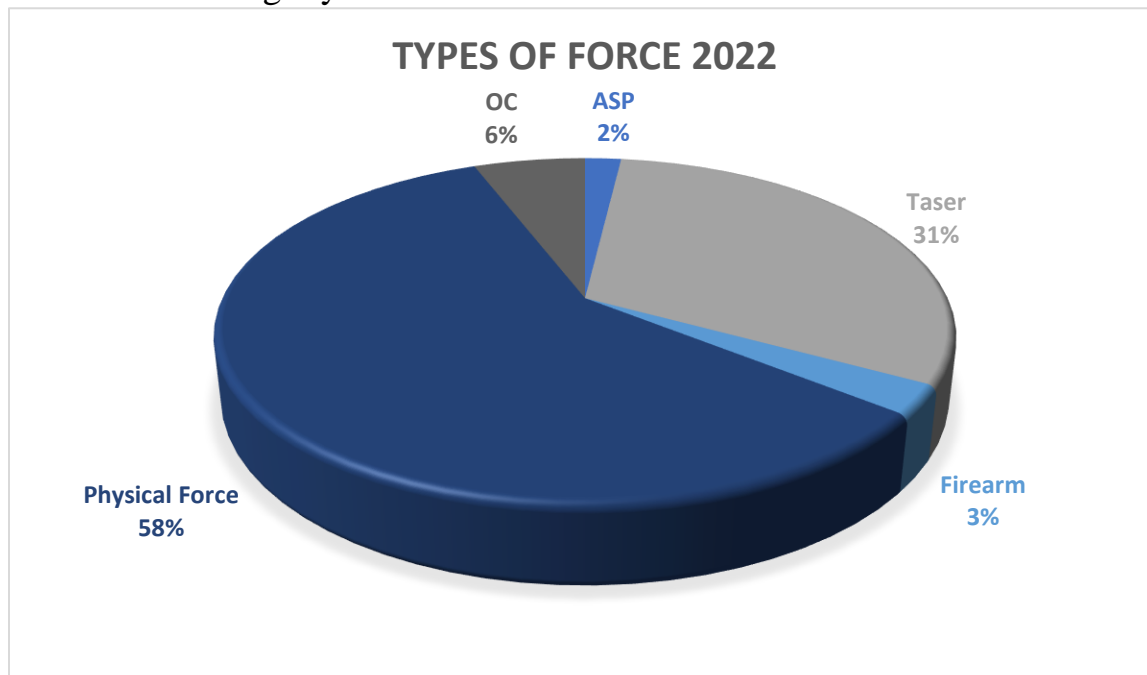
In 2022 the Atlanta Police Department received a total of Use of Force Reports (423 Person, 154 Property and 2 Animal) compared to 523 Use of Force Reports received in 2021 for an increase of 10.7 % in reported use of force incidents.

Type of Force	2022	2021	Change	% Change
Physical/Breach/Stop Stick	338	299	40	13%
O.C.	34	25	9	36%
ASP Baton	11	1	10	1000%
Firearm	16	14	2	14%
Taser	180	184	-4	-2%
Total Reports	579	523	57	10.7%

In 2022, most of the Use of Force incidents involved officers using physical force to obtain control of an arrestee or make entry into a building. The use of **Physical Force** increased from 299 in 2021 to 338 in 2022 (13%) when attempting to control perpetrators or force entry into a building. Of the remaining

use of force options, officers used O.C. Spray in 34 incidents, up from 25 occurrences in 2021 (36%); ASP Batons in 11 incidents, up from 1 in 2021 (1000%); Firearms in 16 incidents, up from 14 in 2021 (14%); and taser in 180 incidents, down from 184 in 2021 (-2%).

The 2022 analysis shows that force usage is up in the categories of Physical Force, OC Spray, Baton, and firearms. According to the 2022 Use of Force Analysis, Taser is down slightly.



The introduction of the Conducted Electronic Weapon (CEW - Taser) and its usage has minimized the amount of physical force and injury causation to both officers and arrestees. Taser dependence amongst officers has grown continuously since the introduction of the device in 2013. More than 95% of the department has been outfitted with the Taser. This increase of personnel having access to the Taser device as an option of force has increased its use and dependency. The CEW (Taser) has been a very effective tool in gaining compliance with potentially combative subjects, as well as actual combative subjects with minimal mechanical issues and minimal injury to both officers and subjects.

In 2020 the Atlanta Police Department transitioned from the X2 Taser to the more effective Taser 7 model. The Taser 7 model offered officers a more accurate device

at greater distances. The deployment and use of the CEW-Taser amongst officers have been consistent of the last couple of years with an increase of forty-eight (48) incidents in 2021. In 2022 the number of Taser incidents remained relatively unchanged from 2021.

Remedial training has been provided to officers who have used their Tasers in conditions that would present a hazard to the suspect (i.e., rain, wet conditions, uneven terrain and while the suspect is fleeing). Nine (8) officers were given remedial training with their Taser at the Academy.

One of the main issues this year requiring remedial training was officers using the taser on individuals who climbing fences, on elevated surfaces or attempting to flee.

The remedial training was conducted in a classroom via PowerPoint (Use of Force/Taser 7) and the gymnasium using practical application of the Taser.

During the practical application of the Taser, officers were instructed to run the length of the gymnasium towards a suspect in a fighting stance. The officer was then given a command (Threat) at which time the officer would draw their Taser and fire one live cartridge at the target. The Officer would then be given instruction on how to “Arc” their Taser, best and safest location on the body of the suspect to make contact with prongs and how to safely remove fired cartridges from the Taser. Along with the practical the officers were informed of the departments policy on the use of the CEW APD.SOP.3042.

Officers who received remedial training for other types of UOF. One (1) officer was recommended for remediation for what was perceived as excessive or improper use of force, but review determined that it was a proper use of force and within policy.

Those cases that presented evidence indicating that unreasonable or unnecessary force was used were directed to the department's Office of Professional Standards (OPS) Unit for further review. OPS handled 11 cases of UOF in 2022, compared to the 28 cases 2021 which was a (60%) decrease. There were 16 incidents of officer involved shootings or displayed weapons, 1 incident involving an in-custody death and 11 UOF complaints for the year of 2022.

Firearm UOF Categories and Complaints Filed
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There were 16 incidents where a weapon was displayed or discharged in 2022, 1 in-custody death and 11 other UOF complaints handled by the Office of Professional Standards.

Date	IA; NO	Status
02.08.22	22I0047OIS	Open
02.11.22	22I0054OIS	Open
02.15.22	22I0058OIS	Open
03.29.22	22I0118OIS	Open
04.19.22	22I0139OIS	Open
04.29.22	22I0157OIS	Open
05.04.22	22I0164OIS	Open
05.10.22	22I0175OIS	Open
05.18.22	22I0185OIS	Open
07.27.22	22I0257OIS	Open
08.04.22	22I0277OIS	Open
08.09.22	22I0283OIS	Open
08.20.22	22I0299OIS	Open
08.21.22	22I0301ICD	Open
10.25.22	22I0386OIS	Open
10.28.22	22I0401OIS	Open
12.31.22	22I0477OIS	Open

*These are the OPS cases in which an officer used a firearm or had in-custody death, all incidents involved an Atlanta officer on the scene, but they were not necessarily the officer who fired a weapon.

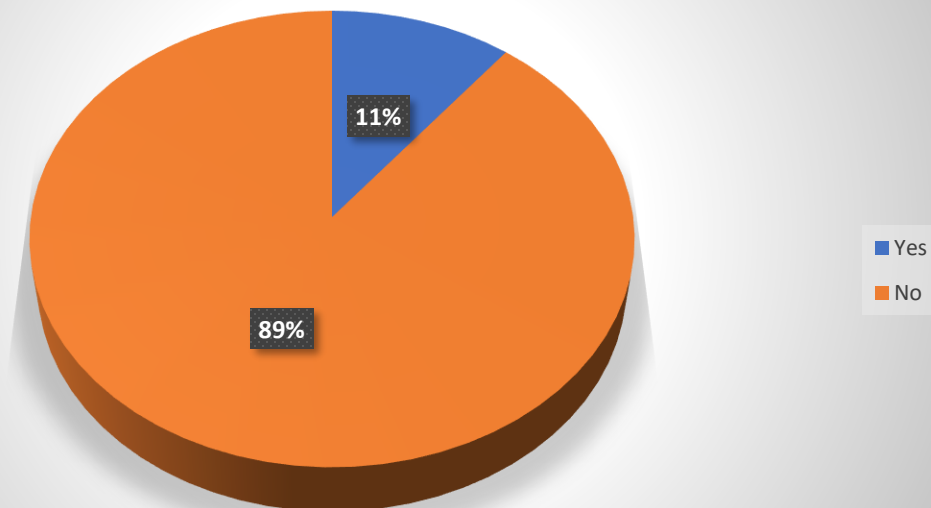
Use of Force Complaints 2022

Date	IA; NO	Status
11-14-22	22I0417UAF	Open
8-4-22	22I0271UAF	Ex Closed
7-26-22	22C0275UAF	Open
6-28-22	22I0220UAF	Open
5-23-22	22C0192UAF	Open
3-30-22	22C0122UAF	Open
3-23-22	22I0113UAF	Open
2-23-22	22C0074UAF	Open
1-27-22	22I0029UAF	Not Sustained
1-26-22	22C0073UAF	Open
1-26-22	22C0026UAF	Open

Officers Injured During Use of Force

Officer Injured	2022
No	512
YES	67

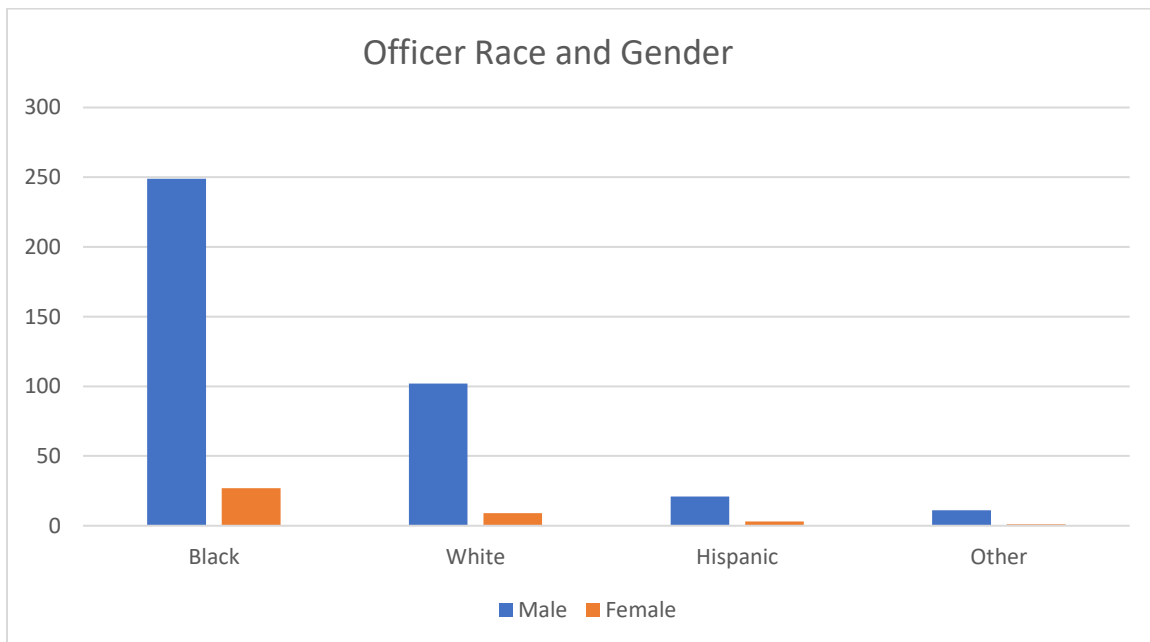
Officers Injured



Assault on Officers

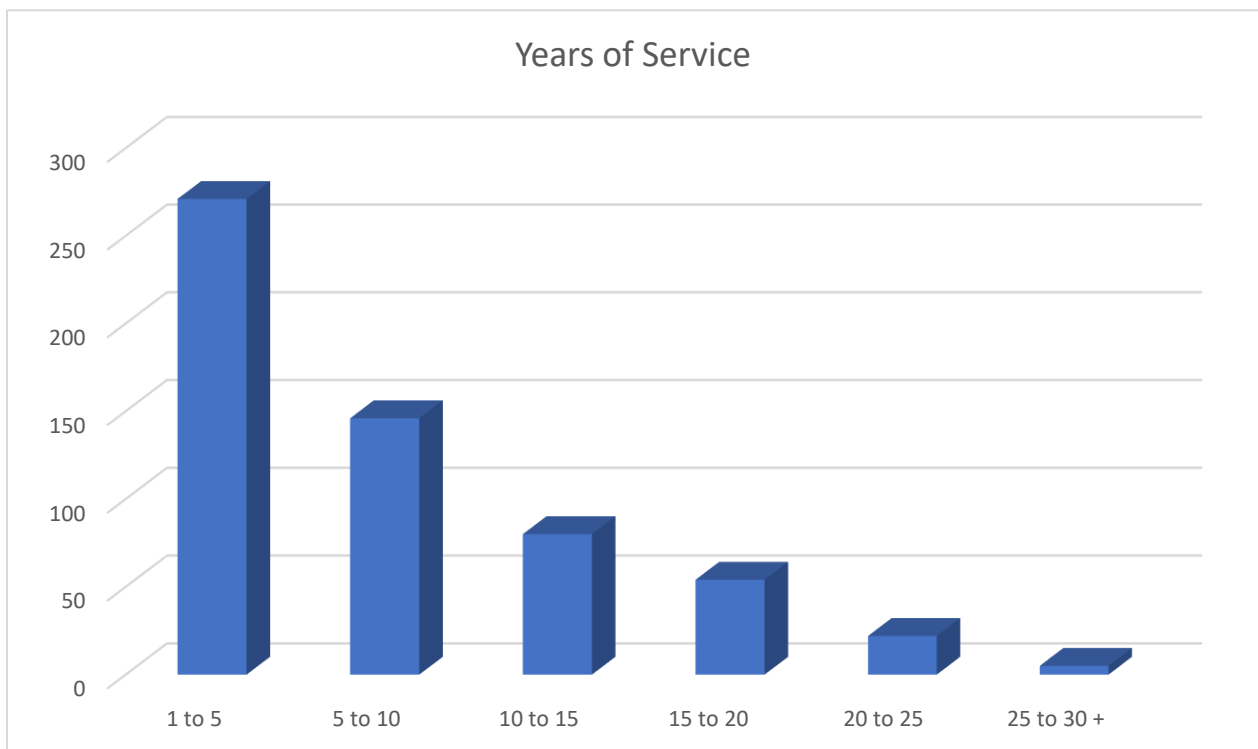
The Atlanta Police Department has a total of 27 UOF incidents where officers were assaulted. These incidents were from subjects actively striking, kicking and/or biting officers. The remaining 40 UOF incidents where an officer sustained injuries, were due to struggles securing the handcuffs during the ensuing struggles and falling to the ground.

Officers Race and Gender				
Gender	Black	White	Hispanic	Other
Male	249	102	21	11
Female	27	9	3	1



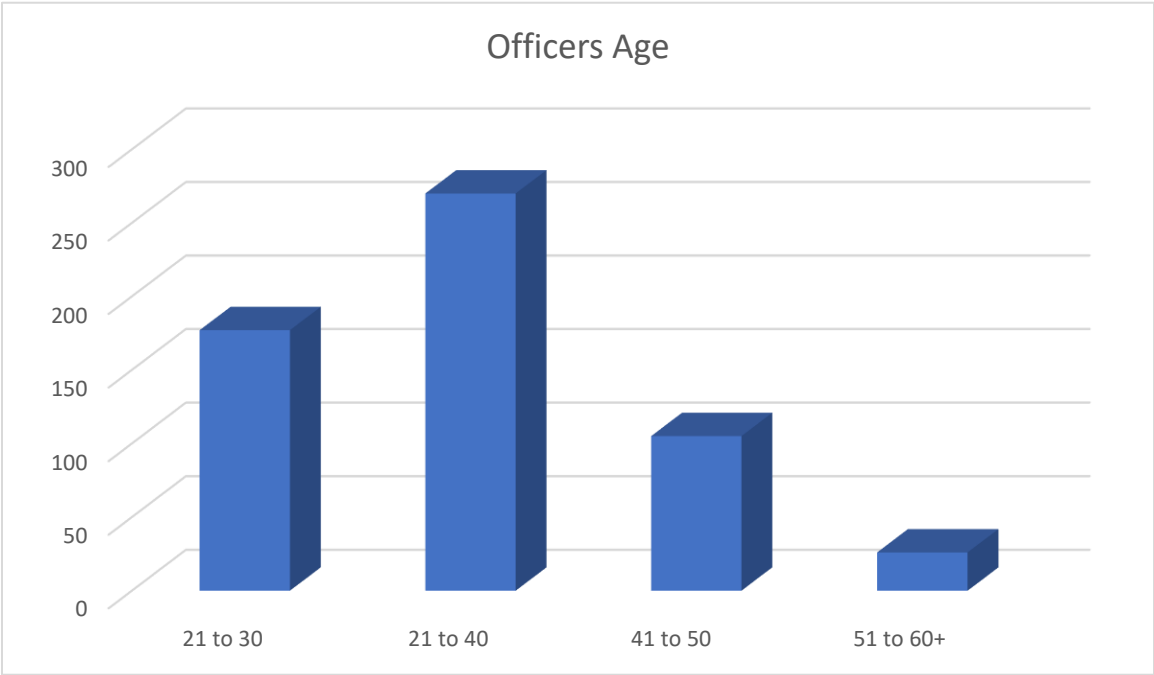
*Officer demographics is based on the Use of Force towards a person and not property, which explains the difference in total numbers.

Officer's Years of Service	
Years of Service Range	Number of Officers
1 to 5	271
5 to 10	146
10 to 15	80
15 to 20	54
20 to 25	22
25 to 30 or more	5



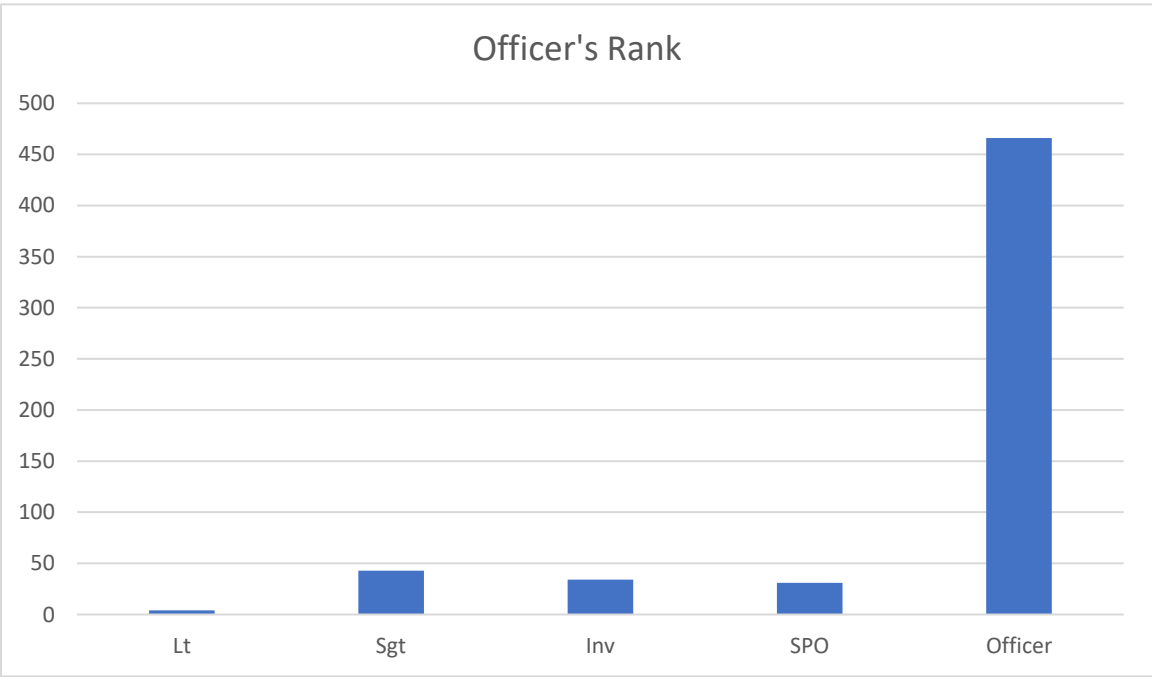
Officer's Age

Age Range	Total Officers
21 to 30	177
31 to 40	270
41 to 50	105
51 to 60 or more	26



Officer's Rank

Rank	Total Officers
Lt.	4
Sgt.	43
Inv.	34
SPO	31
Officer	467



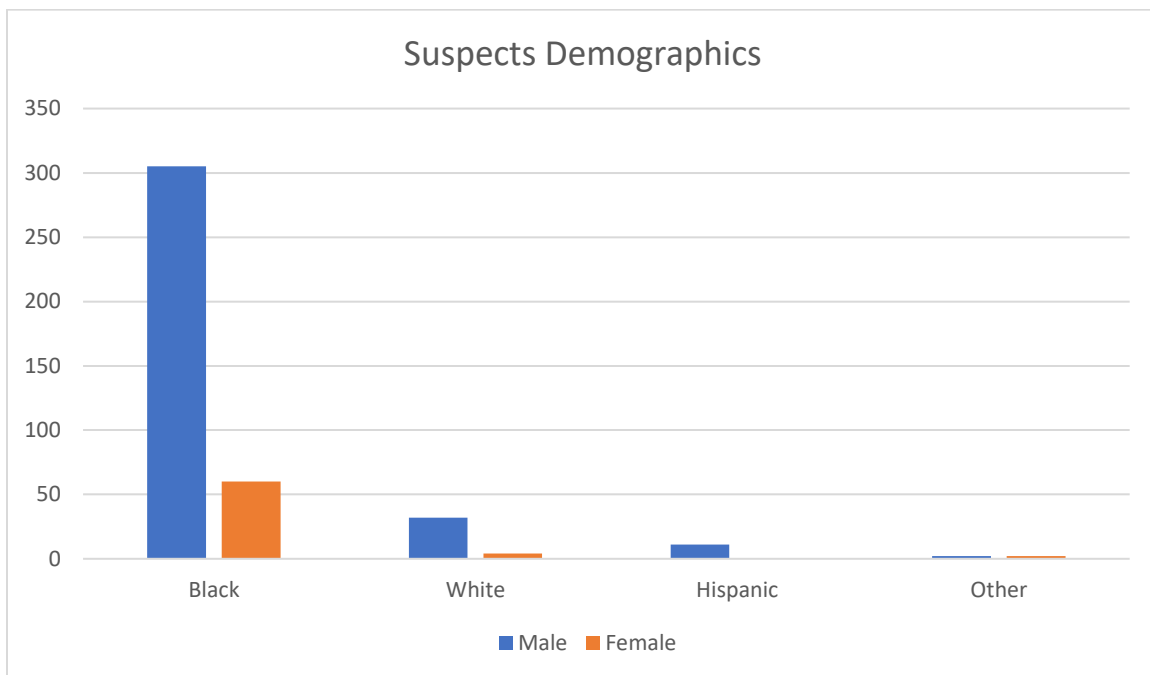
Suspect Injured

Injured	Black	White	Hispanic	Other
Yes	228	24	8	4
No	133	10	3	6
Unknown	4	2	0	1

Suspect's Race / Gender

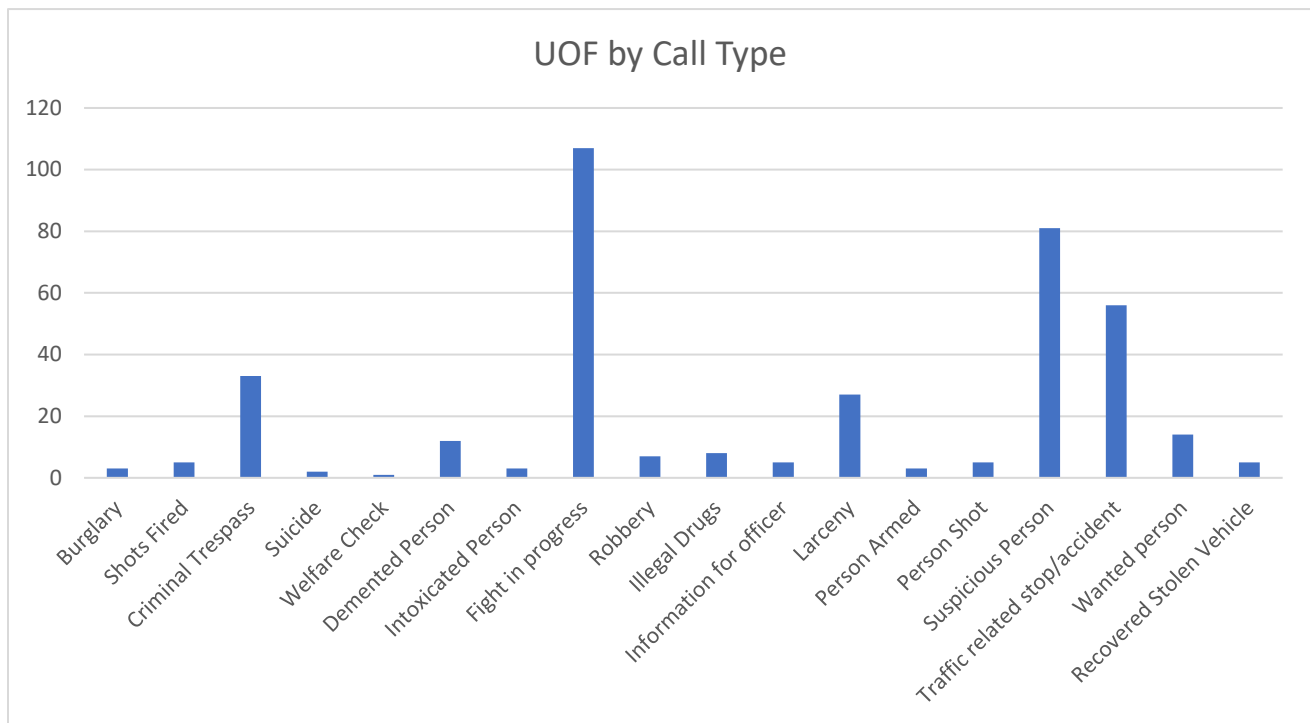
Gender	Black	White	Hispanic	Other
Male	305	32	11	2
Female	60	4	0	2

*7 incidents do not indicate the suspects race or gender in the report resulting in 416 total.



*Please note that some incidents of UOF involved multiple suspects and/or property damage.

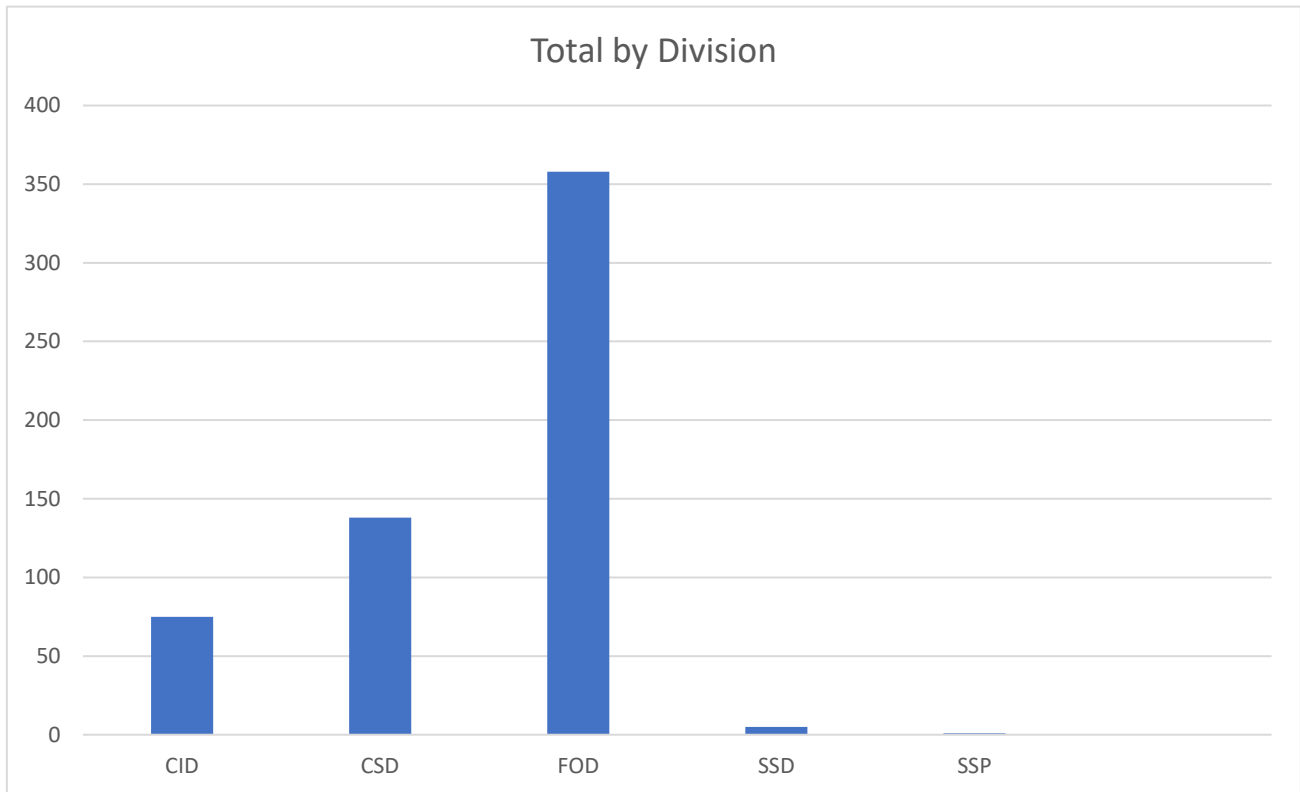
Use of Force by Call Type	
Burglary	3
Shots Fired	5
Criminal Trespass	33
Suicide	2
Welfare Check	1
Demented Person	12
Intoxicated Person	3
Fight in progress	107
Robbery	7
Illegal Drugs	8
Information for officer	5
Larceny	27
Person Armed	3
Person Shot	5
Suspicious Person	81
Traffic related stop/accident	56
Wanted person	14
Recovered Stolen Vehicle	5



*This does not indicate all calls for service just the more common.

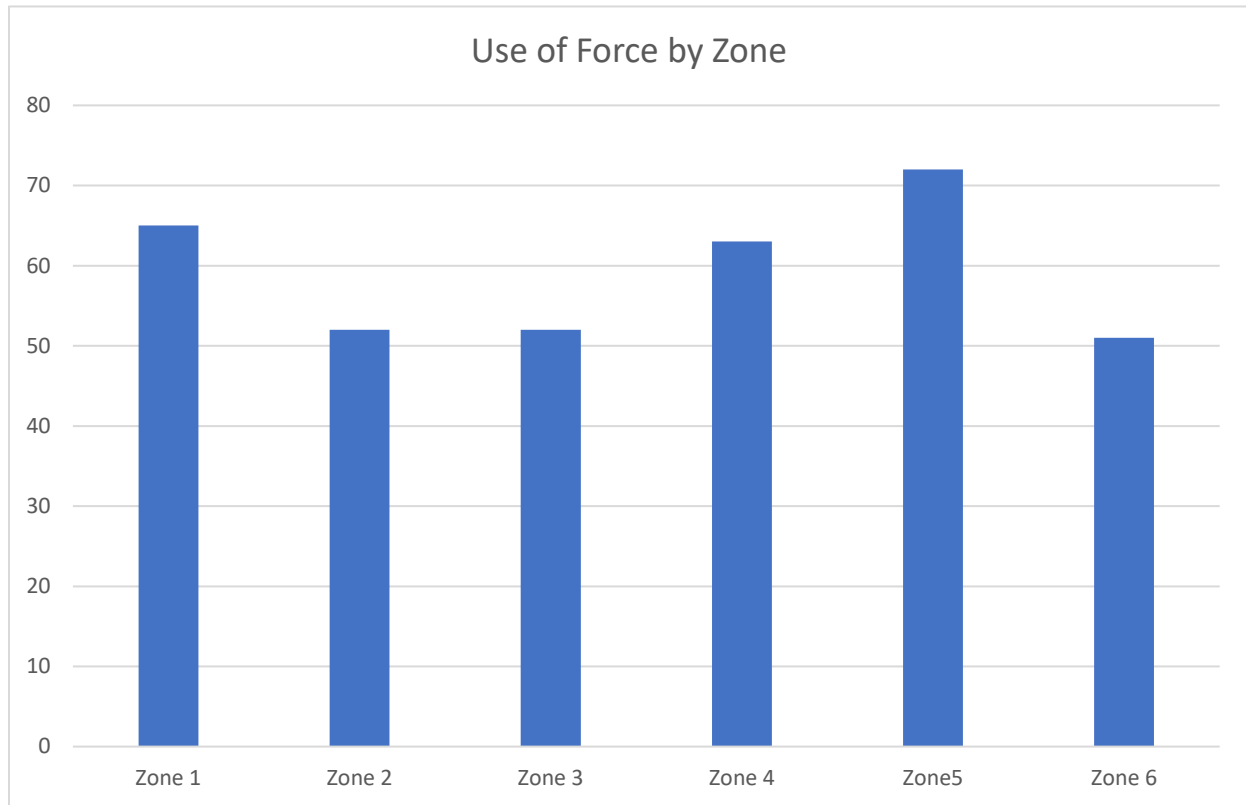
Use of Force by Division

Division	Total
CID	75
CSD	138
FOD	358
SSD	5
SSP	1



Use of Force by Zone

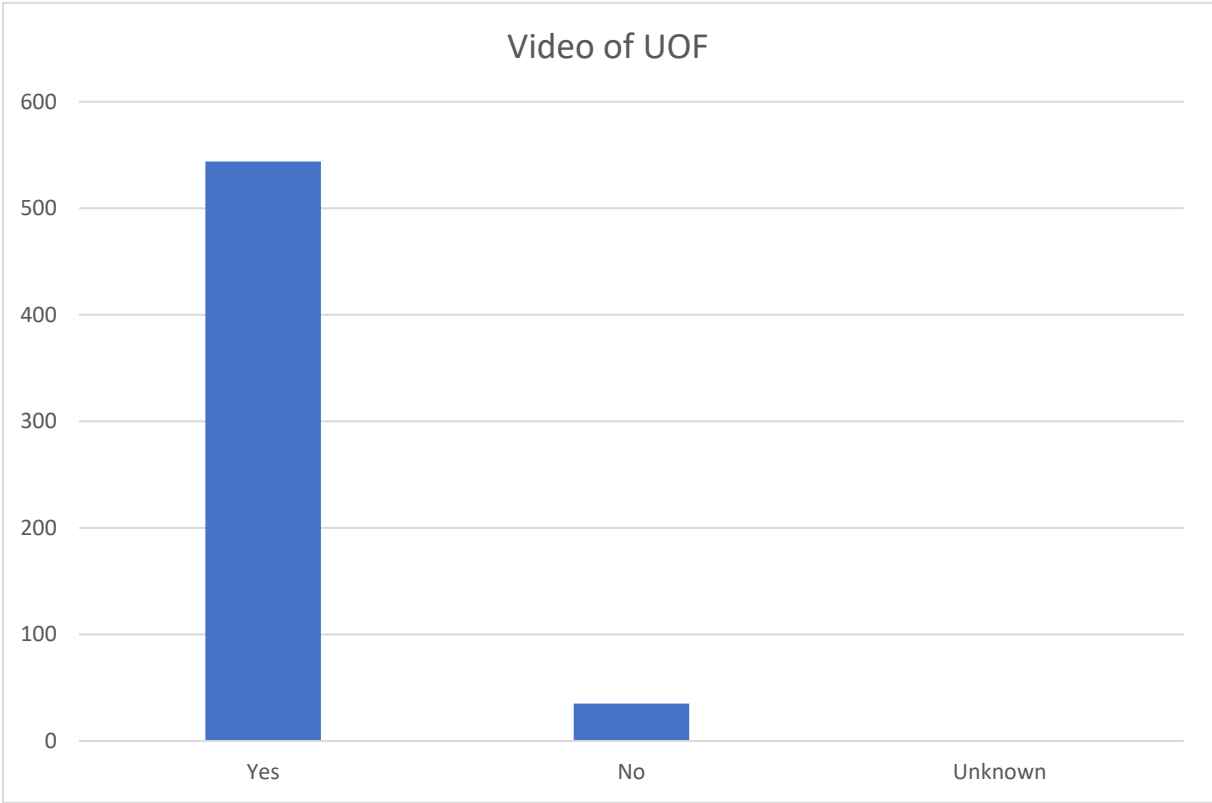
Zones	Total
Zone 1	65
Zone 2	52
Zone 3	52
Zone 4	63
Zone 5	72
Zone 6	51



Zone 5 led the department in Use of Force Reports (72), followed by Zone 1 (65) and then Zone 4 (63).

Video of Use of Force

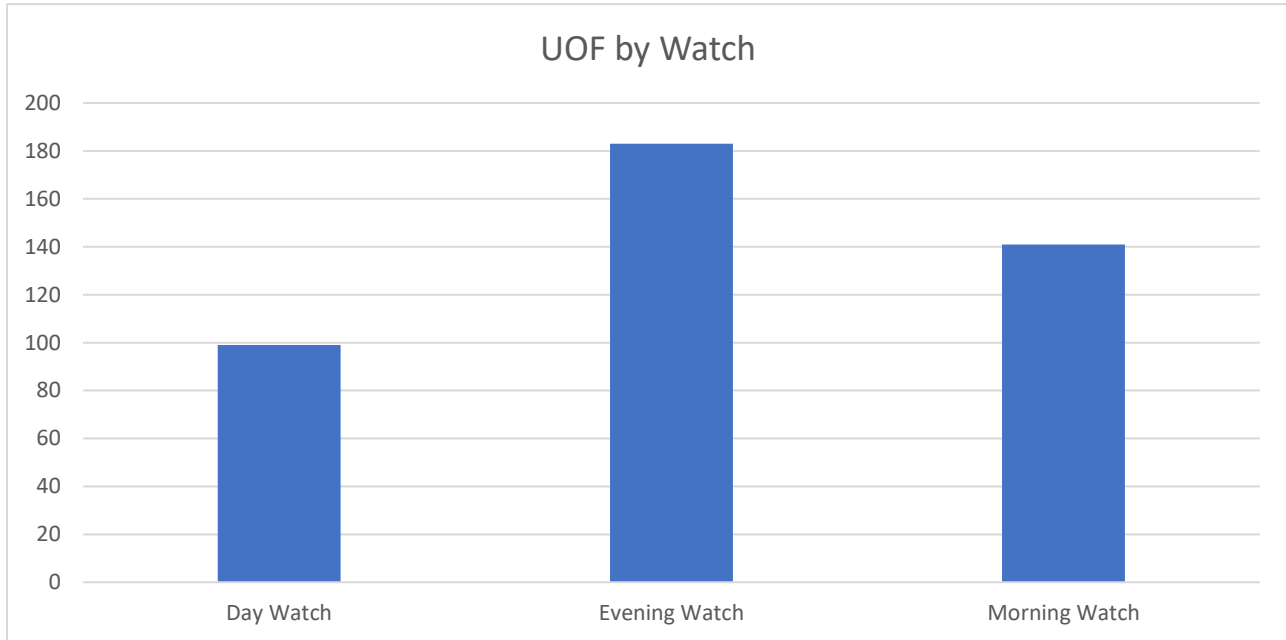
UOF Video	Total
Yes	545
No	35
Unknown	0



Body worn cameras were issued to all personnel of the Atlanta Police Department that are required to wear the device. The Body Worn Camera has assisted officers in the documenting of encounters with the public and has been a vital tool in resolving disputes and allegations of misconduct. 93.9 % of all Use of Force reports indicate that the incident was recorded. 6.1% of the forms indicated that no Body Worn Camera was on the person or on at the time of the incident.

Time of Day / Watch of UOF

Day Watch	Evening Watch	Morning Watch
99	183	141



Recommendations on UOF (2023)

These recommendations are in-line with the 6 Pillars of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. After reviewing the Use of Force Reports for the 2023 calendar year, the Training Academy recommendations for the Department regarding force usage involving the citizens of the City of Atlanta are:

- Continuing with the current training protocol regarding less lethal force weapons (e.g., Taser, O.C., ASP Baton, Verbal De-escalation, and Compromised Handcuffing); Basic Mandate and during In-Service.
- EMT – B training classes for Officers in the field to address injuries to citizen’s and officers in a rapid manner.

- POST Mandated De-Escalating training (2-hour block, conducted via in-person classroom instruction and a one-hour block of Duty to Intercede training).
- Conducting Reality-Based Training scenarios in both In-service and Basic Mandate Classes; RBT will focus on group dynamics, Taser-Teams, and Duty to Intercede.
- Conducting Fair/Impartial Policing Training (4 Hour Block) Specialized Training.

Conduct three (3) classes for 2022 training calendar for APD Officers.

Training recommendations for officers are:

- ***Specialized In-service***, this training is designed to focus on the individual in the current rank, i.e., Lt., Sgt., Investigator, and Officers. This training has been implemented into 2023 In-service and Basic Mandate for recruits.
- ***ICAT, CIT, and Duty to Intercede***, this training provides officers with the knowledge and skills to resolve conflicts verbally and highlights the importance of careful assessment and situational awareness. This training has been implemented into 2023 In-service and Basic Mandate for recruits.
- **Team Dynamic Reality Based Training**, this training provides officers with the knowledge and skills to resolve disputes and neutralize threats using a team concept. Officers enhance their communicative skills while reinforcing teamwork through task-oriented instruction. This training has been implemented into 2023 In-service and Basic Mandate for recruits.