



## National Use-of-Force Reporting Fact Sheet

The FBI created its National Use-of-Force Data Collection to allow practitioners to analyze information related to use-of-force incidents, to be more transparent about these incidents and to inform the national conversation about law enforcement use-of-force. Data in this collection does not include the names of persons involved in use-of-force incidents. Minnesota began collecting data for the collection on a voluntary basis in July 2018 and the Minnesota Legislature in Minn. Stat. 626.5534 made reporting mandatory starting in August 2020.

### What data is collected?

Information related to three types of use-of-force events are collected.

- **Incidents involving a fatality** to a person resulting from a use-of-force by a law enforcement officer.
- **Incidents when a person incurs serious bodily injury** as a result of a use-of-force by a law enforcement officer.
- In the absence of death or serious bodily injury, when a firearm is discharged by a law enforcement officer at or in the direction of a person.

### Definitions

**Serious bodily injury** for use-of-force reporting is bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, unconsciousness, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty. Serious bodily injury would include all gunshot wounds (regardless of whether they are penetrating or grazing), apparent broken bones, possible internal injury, severe laceration, stitches, sutures, chipped teeth, loss of teeth, canine bites requiring medical attention, unconsciousness due to an applied carotid artery hold, and injuries severe enough to require medical intervention and/or hospitalization. The term "medical intervention" does not include routine evaluation of the subject to determine fitness for arrest or detention by an emergency medical technician or medical staff at a medical facility.

**Qualifying use-of-force types** (used against the subject):

- Baton
- Explosive device
- Blunt instrument / flashlight
- Firearm
- Canine
- Hands / fists or feet
- Chemical agent / pepper or OC (oleoresin capsicum) spray
- Electronic control weapon (Taser)
- Impact projectile
- Other

### How to Report

Information about use-of-force incidents must be submitted through the Supplemental Reporting System (SRS) using the combined Firearms Discharge and/or National Use of Force Report.

### What if the investigation is still in process?

Most data collected is already known to the public (information about subject, officers, location, cause of death, general details of incident) and has likely been published in a news release. Data that has not been released can be listed in the Firearms Discharge and/or Use of Force Report as unknown or pending.

# Is a report required even if there have been no incidents?

Agencies with no use-of-force incidents to report during a particular month must check the “no incidents to report” box in the Supplemental Reporting System.

## Use of Force Data Elements

### Incident information:

- Date and time of incident.
- Total number of officers who applied actual force during the incident.
- Number of officers from the reporting agency who applied actual force during the incident.
- Location of the incident (address or latitude/longitude).
- Location type of the incident (street, business, residence, restaurant, school, etc.).
- Did the officer approach the subject(s)?
- Was it an ambush incident?
- Was a supervisor or a senior officer acting in a supervisory capacity present or consulted at any point during the incident?
- What was the reason for initial contact between the subject and the officer (response to unlawful or suspicious activity, routine patrol, traffic stop, etc.)?
  - If due to “unlawful or criminal activity,” what were the most serious reported offenses allegedly committed by the subject prior to or at the time of the incident?
  - If applicable, the reporting agency will enter the National Incident-Based Reporting System (or local) incident number of the report detailing criminal incident information on subject and/or assault or homicide of law enforcement officer.
- If the incident involved multiple law enforcement agencies, case numbers for the local use of force incident reports at the other agencies.

### Subject information:

- Age, sex, race, ethnicity, height, and weight.
- Injury/death of subject(s) (gunshot wound, apparent broken bones, unconsciousness, etc.).
- Type(s) of force used connected to serious bodily injury or death (firearm, electronic control weapon, blunt instrument, etc.).
- Did the subject(s) resist?
- Was the perceived threat by the subject(s) directed to the officer or to another party?
- Type(s) of subject resistance/weapon involved (threatened officers, others, self; active aggression; firearm; attempt to flee, etc.).
- Was there an apparent or known impairment in the physical condition of subject (if yes, indicate: mental health/alcohol/drugs/unknown)?
- At any time during the incident, was the subject(s) armed or believed to be armed with a weapon?

### Officer information:

- Age, sex, race, ethnicity, height, and weight of the officer(s).
- Officer’s years of service as a law enforcement officer (total tenure).
- At the time of the incident, was the officer a full-time employee?
- Was the officer on duty at the time of the incident?
- Did the officer discharge a firearm?
- Was the officer injured?
- What was the officer’s injury type (gunshot wound, apparent broken bones, severe laceration, unconsciousness, etc.)?

## Resources

### Minnesota UCR Program Office

Kris Rush  
651-793-2613

### NIBRS/UCR Training

Tim Hein  
651-793-2621

[bca.crimestats@state.mn.us](mailto:bca.crimestats@state.mn.us)