

Springfield Police Department  
230 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Springfield, OR 97477

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# 2021 ANNUAL USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS

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Andrew Shearer  
CHIEF OF POLICE

Created by the Office of Professional Standards

## Purpose

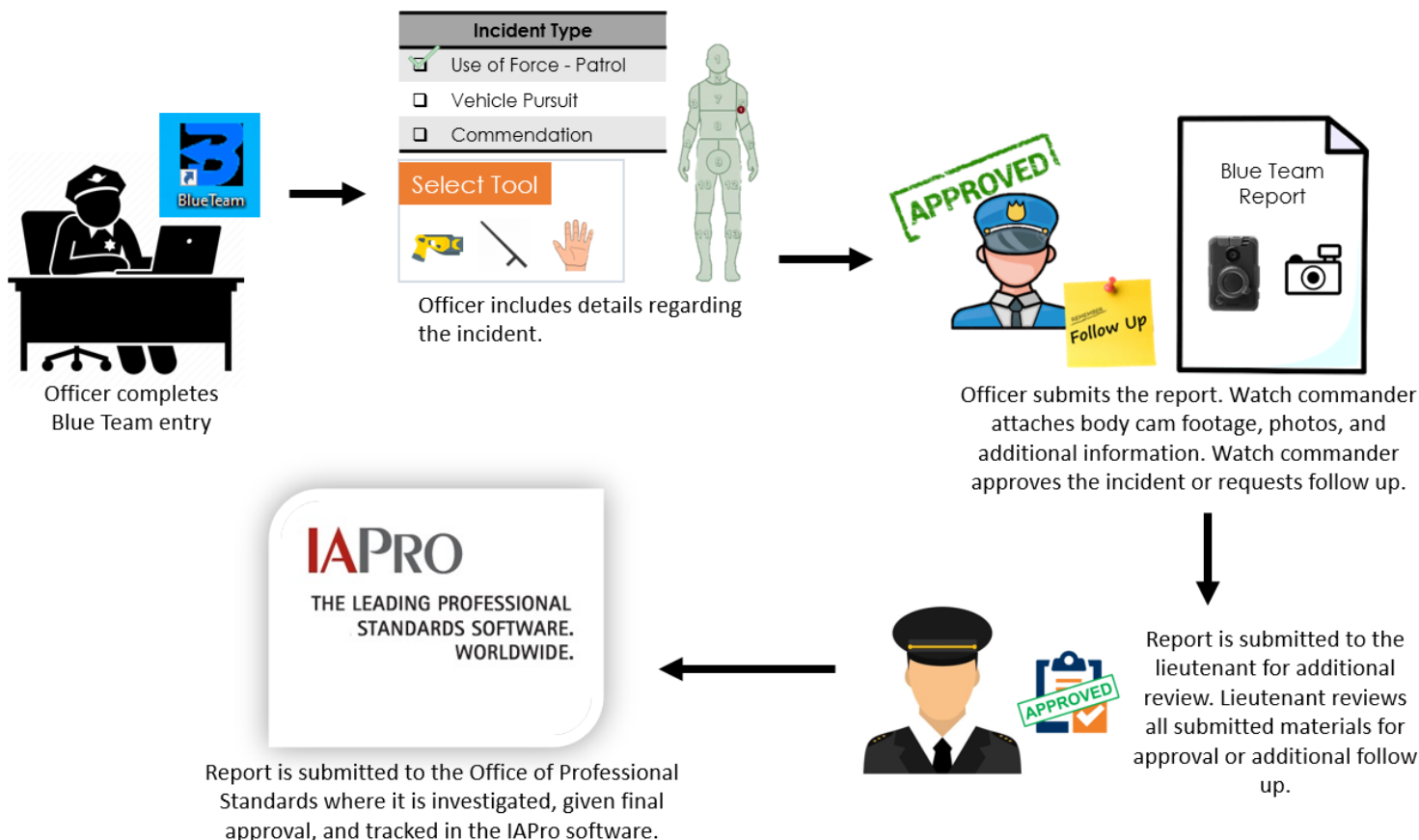
An in-depth analysis of uses of force is intended to identify patterns or trends that could indicate needs or modifications to existing training, equipment, and/or policy that will result in safer interactions between community members and officers. The process of collecting and reviewing use of force reports is also critical to this analysis.

## Introduction

In November 2021, the Springfield Police Department began implementation of an improved data collection process for capturing information related to officer uses of force and officer displays of force. The information is collected in a software platform called “Blue Team” which is stored and managed by the Office of Professional Standards using the paired software, “IAPro”.

The department has also improved the process for reviewing use of force reports going forward. Now, the involved officer(s) inputs the data into Blue Team and the on-duty Watch Commander (Sergeant) collects the reports, body/ICV footage, photos, and any related information for that incident. The Watch Commander then reviews all the material to ensure completeness and identify any deficiencies requiring correction. Once the Watch Commander has approved the report, it is then forwarded to the Division Commander (Lieutenant) for further review. Once the Division Commander has approved the report, it is then forwarded to the Office of Professional Standards where the data is retained in the IAPro software for tracking and future reporting.

### *Blue Team and IAPro data entry process*



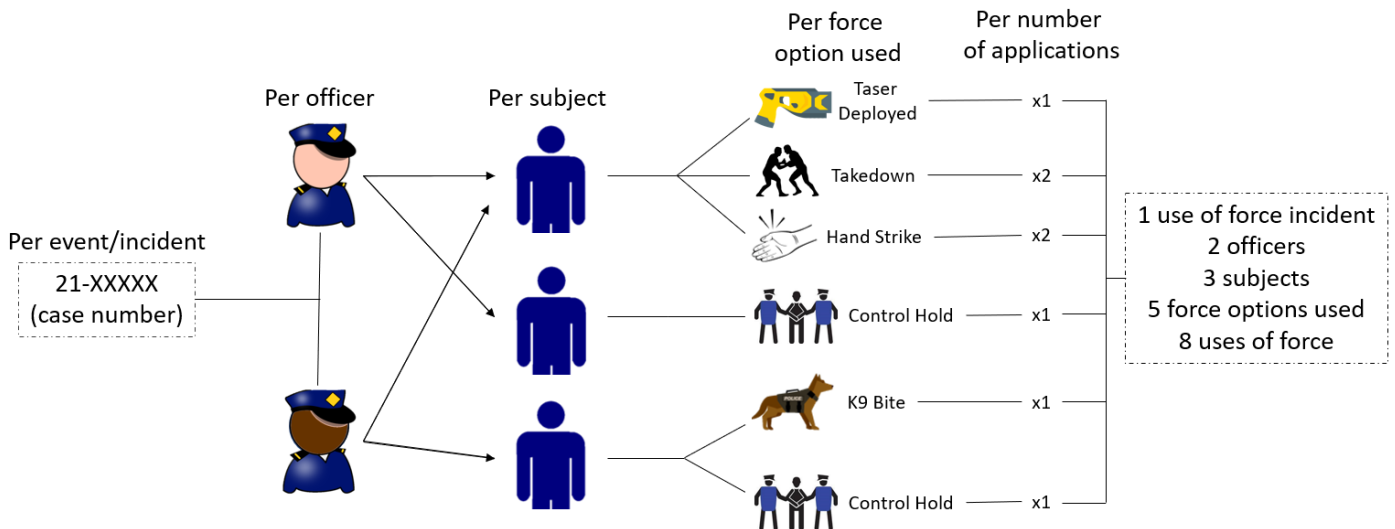
The department implemented Blue Team/IAPro in November 2021. All the information collected for the 2021 year-end report included incidents that occurred prior to November 2021. That information was inputted by hand-entering the data from police reports into Blue Team/IAPro. This additional step was accomplished by officers and support staff in the latter part of 2021 and 2022. While this was a significant amount of additional work by all involved, it allows the data collected in 2021 to be used as a baseline to measure against in years ahead.

The use of force events analyzed are officer uses of force that require a police report and a supervisor’s review per the department’s Use of Force General Order, 1.5.1., section VII.

The Springfield Police Department used force\* in 190 events during 2021. Data was broken down in the following categories:

- Comparison by gender, race, and age
- Types of force used
- Number of persons armed with a weapon, and type of weapon
- Injuries to any person (including officers) which required medical treatment.

### Force Counting Method



**\*Note:**

The use of force can generally be defined as: the means of compelling compliance or overcoming resistance to an officer's command(s) in order to protect life or property or to take a person into custody.

State statute ORS 161.235, Except as provided in [ORS 161.239 \(Use of deadly physical force in making an arrest or in preventing an escape\)](#), a peace officer is justified in using physical force upon another person only when and to the extent that the peace officer reasonably believes it necessary:

(1)

To make an arrest or to prevent the escape from custody of an arrested person unless the peace officer knows that the arrest is unlawful; or

(2)

For self-defense or to defend a third person from what the peace officer reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of physical force while making or attempting to make an arrest or while preventing or attempting to prevent an escape. [1971 c.743 §27]

## **Office of Professional Standards**

The Springfield Police Department Office of Professionals Standards reports directly to the Chief of Police and currently has one Sergeant assigned to the office. The office is responsible for management of IAPro and the collection of use of force data, Internal Affairs, department trainings and record keeping, risk management, litigation liaison to the City Attorney's Office, and the department's recruitment/hiring efforts. SPD is currently working with Human Resources to hire an analyst to be assigned to Professional Standards in 2022. The primary duties will be to manage the daily collection of force data and entry into Blue Team and IAPro software with the goal being to regularly produce analysis to identify areas of improvement, training needs and/or policy and procedure modifications.

## **Synopsis**

The 2021 Use of Force Report was completed using the Springfield Police Department's use of force data retrieved from the IAPro database. The Springfield Police Department received 50,157 calls for service in 2021. Sworn officers responded to 28,779 calls. Those sworn responses resulted in 3,483 persons arrested, with 190 force events that involved 174 individuals.

The average number of uses of force per officer, per year, was six. The median number of uses of force per officer, per year, was four. It is important to note that the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) and many agencies across the country do not capture "handgun displayed" as a recognized use of force for reporting purposes; however, SPD does capture and include that as part of our use of force tracking. In 2021, the Springfield Police Department had 70 occasions when a handgun was displayed and was reported.

When comparing the number of calls for service and arrests made by the Springfield Police Department to the number of use of force events, it was determined that force was used during 5.46% of arrests and during 0.66% of total calls for service. There were no fatalities during the 2021 calendar year and one officer involved shooting.

## **Policy Review and Revisions**

General Order 1.5.1 (Use of Force) is reviewed regularly to ensure department policy aligns with current best practice and legislative updates. The policy was most recently revised in November 2021 with updated language clarifying the restrictions on the use of choke holds/head/neck and back restraints, clarification on supervisor responsibilities following a deadly force incident, and addition of a Force Review Board finding report to an involved employee(s).

In order to ensure familiarity with changes to the policy, all officers were mandated to review the entire policy and acknowledge they had done so. Watch Commanders utilize briefing/roll calls to discuss the changes and answer questions. Use of Force instructors incorporate changes in upcoming department trainings.

The department's use of force policy can be viewed online at: <https://springfield-or.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/1-5-1.pdf>

## Comparison by Gender, Race and Age

There were 190 total use of force events; 69.5% of use of force events involved male subjects compared to 30.5% female subjects.

***Use of force events and gender of subject***

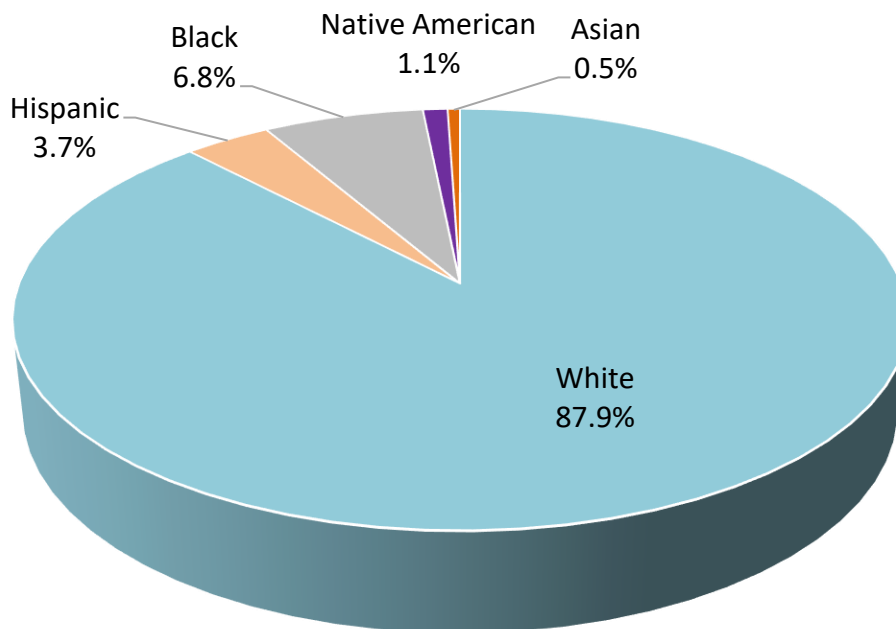
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Events</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<i>Male</i>	132	69.5%
<i>Female</i>	58	30.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>100%</b>

During 2021, 87.9% of use of force events involved White subjects, 3.7% involved Hispanic subjects, 6.8% involving Black subjects, and 1.1% involved Native American subjects. Most subjects involved in a use of force incident were between the ages of 31 and 40 years old.\*\*

***Use of force events and race of subject***

<b>Race</b>	<b>Events</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<i>White</i>	167	87.9%
<i>Hispanic</i>	7	3.7%
<i>Black</i>	13	6.8%
<i>Native American</i>	2	1.1%
<i>Asian</i>	1	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>100%</b>

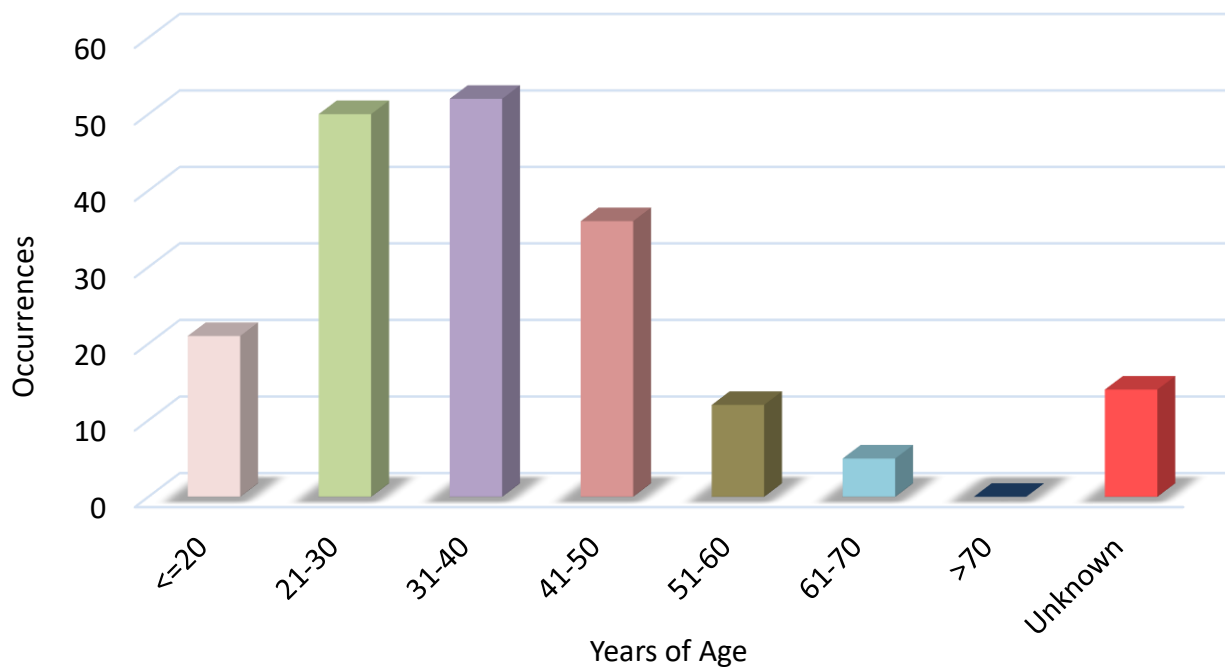
***Use of force events and race of subject***



**Uses of force events and age of subject**

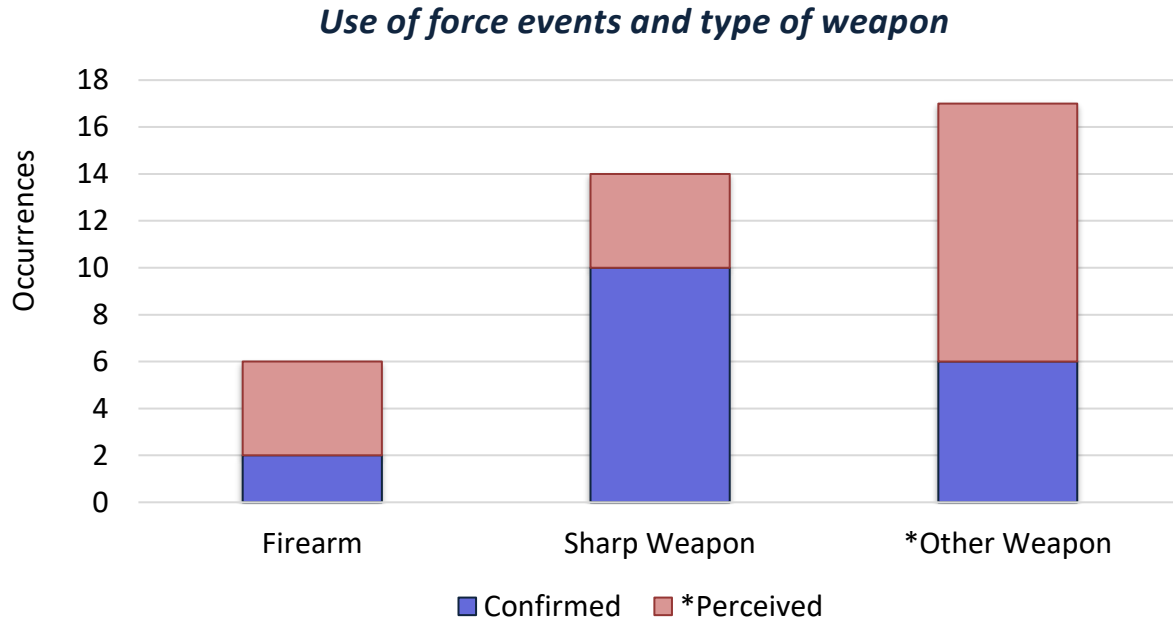
<b>Age Range (years)</b>	<b>Events</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<=20	21	11.1%
21-30	50	26.3%
31-40	52	27.4%
41-50	36	18.9%
51-60	12	6.3%
61-70	5	2.6%
>70	0	0%
Unknown	14	7.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Uses of force events and age of subject**



## Persons Armed During Force Events

Of the 190 events involving a use of force, 14 events involved people who were confirmed to be armed with a deadly or dangerous weapon during their encounter with officers. Three of these events involved subjects who were confirmed to be armed with more than one deadly or dangerous weapon. There were 19 events involving subjects who were perceived to be armed with a deadly or dangerous weapon.



**\*Note:**

- Deadly weapon: means any instrument, article or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious physical injury.
- Dangerous weapon: means any weapon, device, instrument, material or substance which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury.
- Other Weapons include items such as baseball bats, rocks, crowbars, etc.
- Perceived Weapons might not be visible by the officer. The officer believes there may be a weapon based on the subject's behavior, the totality of the circumstances including any information officers may have had before the event (reaching in a bag, grabbing something underneath clothing, information reported by witness, etc.)

## Use of Force Training

Ongoing use of force training for Springfield Police sworn personnel takes place throughout the year. DPSST requirements include eight hours of firearms/use of force training each year.

Due to COVID19, DPSST authorized an extension period to delay required training. SPD elected to not request an extension in order to continue providing training to its members. Ongoing training continued during the pandemic partially due to digital and online training options. We were able to provide the following use of force related training in 2021:

4 hours	Apprehension of Non-Compliant Person(s) During Vehicle Stops. (Focused on de-escalation and less lethal tool deployment)
7 hours	Firearms (quarterly qualification)
2 hours	De-Escalation and Reasonable Use of Force
1 hours	Persons in Medical Distress
4 hours	Crowd Management (Legal and Tactics)
1 hours	Use of Force policy update review
4 hours	Cell Extraction and De-Escalation Training (Jail staff only)

The Department continually focuses on objectively reasonable use of force standard in training to include de-escalation techniques and less lethal force options. Officers received situational scenario training during in-service training in 2021. Tactical considerations discussed included formulation of plans, evaluation of risk, and using distance, time, communication, approach, additional resources (i.e., CAHOOTS, CNT, CIT, mental health workers, SWAT) and reasonable uses of force. These trainings provide officers tools to deal with rapidly evolving and uncertain situations in a manner designed to minimize the amount and type of use of force when feasible to reduce injury to all people involved in the events. Use of force training will continue to emphasize de-escalation techniques, control holds, and proper use of control devices.

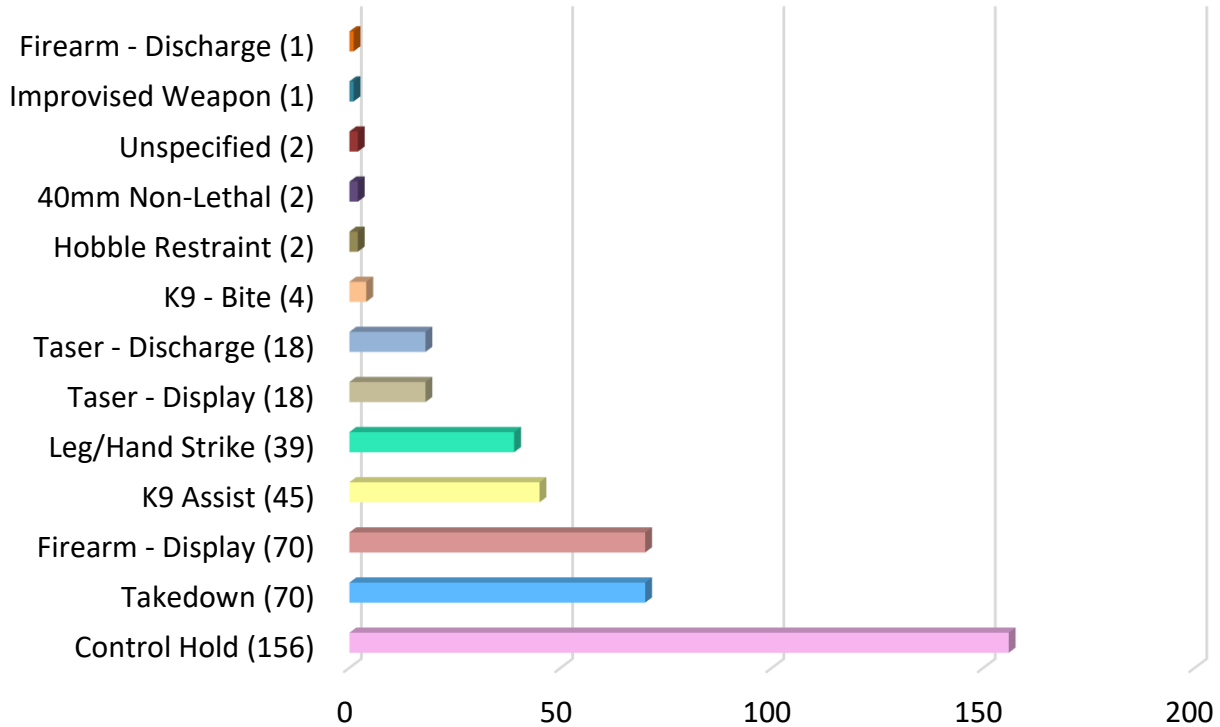
The department purchased pepper ball and 40mm less-lethal projectile systems for use when feasible to reduce injury and more serious uses of force. Instructors received specialized training on these systems to deliver training to all sworn members during 2022. Some officers are currently trained and able to deploy them, but during 2022, the goal is to increase the number of officers certified. These systems were acquired to add another less-lethal tool option and a further de-escalation option.



## Types of Force Used by Police

The types of force used by officers were separated into 13 different categories. Display of a weapon is defined as the pointing or otherwise plain-view display of an officer’s firearm or less lethal weapon at a person to gain compliance or in reasonable anticipation of use of force.

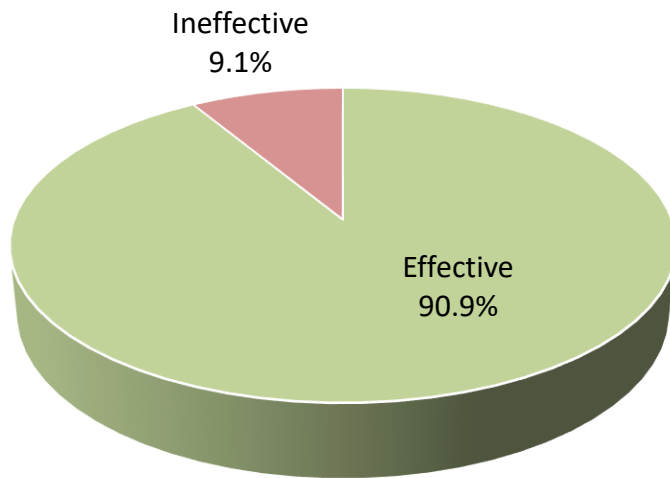
**Force methods and tools**



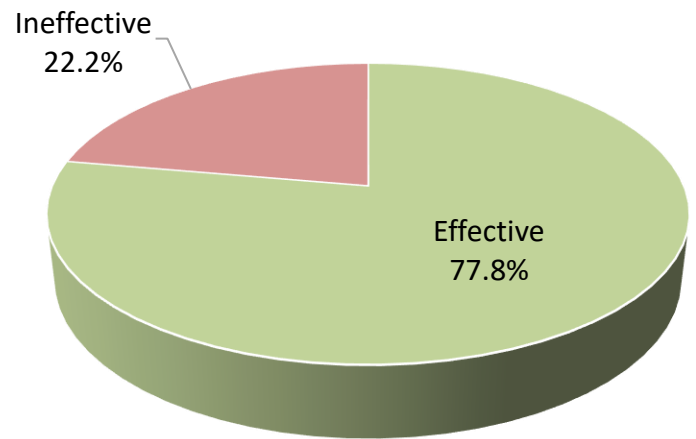
**Effectiveness for methods and tools of force**

Type of Force	Number of times effective	Number of times ineffective	Total number of times used	Percentage of effectiveness
Firearm – Display	68	2	70	97.1%
Firearm – Discharge	1	0	1	100%
Control Hold	146	10	156	93.6%
K9 Assist	45	0	45	100%
K9 Bite	4	0	4	100%
Leg/Hand Strike	31	8	39	79.5%
Takedown	60	10	70	85.7%
Taser – Display	15	3	18	83.3%
Taser – Discharge	14	4	18	77.8%
Hobble Restraint	2	0	2	100%
Impact Weapon	1	0	1	100%
40mm Non-Lethal	2	0	2	100%
Unspecified	Unknown	Unknown	2	Unknown
<b>Total</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>90.9%</b>

### Overall force effectiveness



### Taser effectiveness



### Taser Discharges that were Ineffective

<i>Incident</i>	<i>Heavy Clothing</i>	<i>Darts Penetrated Skin</i>	<i>Follow-up Drive Stun Attempted</i>	<i>Reason for Ineffectiveness</i>	<i>Step(s) Taken</i>
<i>Limited Effectiveness</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Heavy clothing and poor dart spread	Hand strikes and control holds
<i>Not Effective</i>	Yes	No	No	Person was fleeing – probes did not make contact	Foot pursuit and takedown
<i>Not Effective</i>	Yes	No	No	Heavy clothing, darts only contacted skin, person intentionally snapped Taser wires	Hand strikes, takedown, and control holds
<i>Not Effective</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Poor dart spread, possible Police Officer/physical condition of person (intoxicants)	Foot pursuit, takedown, hand strikes, and control holds.

## Total Calls for Service Versus Total Use of Force Events

During 2021, officers responded to 28,779 calls for service wherein 190 events resulted in a use of force. That represents less than one percent of person contacts by officers. 174 individuals were subjected to a use of force during their encounters with officers, and 44 of the individuals were injured as a result of use of force.

### *Calls for service and use of force during 2021*

<i>*Total Calls for Service</i>	50,157
<i>*Dispatched calls for service</i>	28,779
<i>Calls for service that resulted in use of force.</i>	190
<i>*Calls for service that resulted in show of force.</i>	93
<i>Percentage of dispatched calls for service that resulted in a use of force.</i>	0.66%
<i>Percentage of dispatched calls for service that resulted in a show of force.</i>	0.32%
<i>Arrests</i>	3,483
<i>Percentage of arrests that resulted in a show of force.</i>	2.67%
<i>Percentage of arrests that resulted in a use of force.</i>	5.46%
<i>Police Officer Holds by Police Officers</i>	141
<i>Police Officer holds involving show of force only</i>	3
<i>Police Officers holds involving use of force only</i>	18
<i>Police Officer Holds involving both show of force and use of force</i>	1
<i>Percentage of Police Officer holds that resulted in a use of force.</i>	13.48%

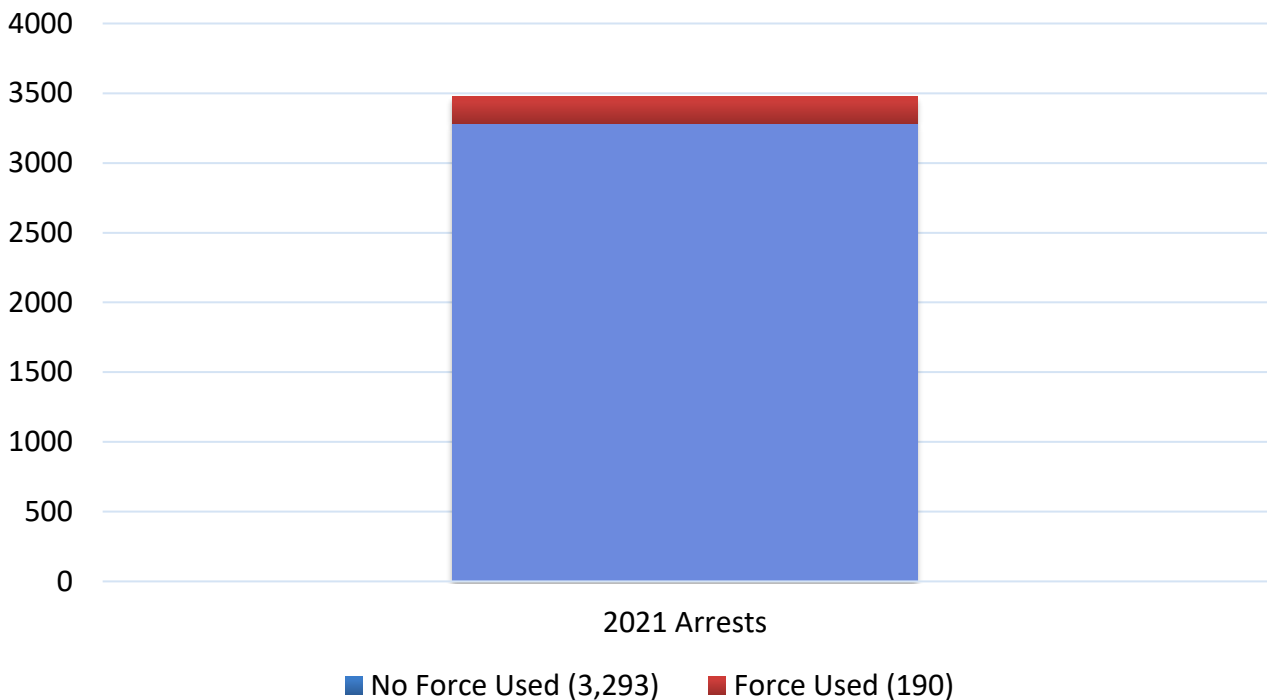
### *2021 Use of Force Summary*

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Use of Force Events</i>	<i>People Who Had Force Used on Them</i>	<i>Percentage of Events that Resulted in Use of Force</i>	<i>Percentage of Subjects Who Had Force Used on Them</i>
<i>Dispatched Calls for Service</i>	28,779	190	174	0.66%	0.60%
<i>Arrests</i>	3,483	190	174	5.46%	5.00%

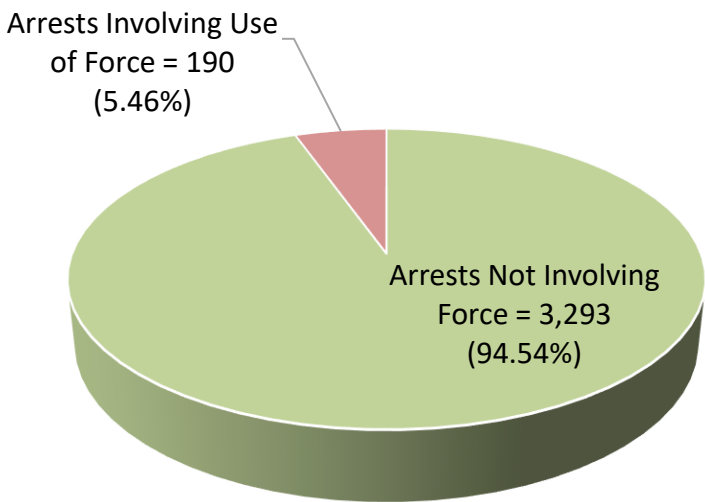
\*Note:

- Total calls for service include events handled by the police department (phone report, CAHOOTS, parking complaints, front counter inquires etc.).
- Dispatched calls for service include the events that involved police officer response.
- Shows of force are directed at a specific person to gain compliance.

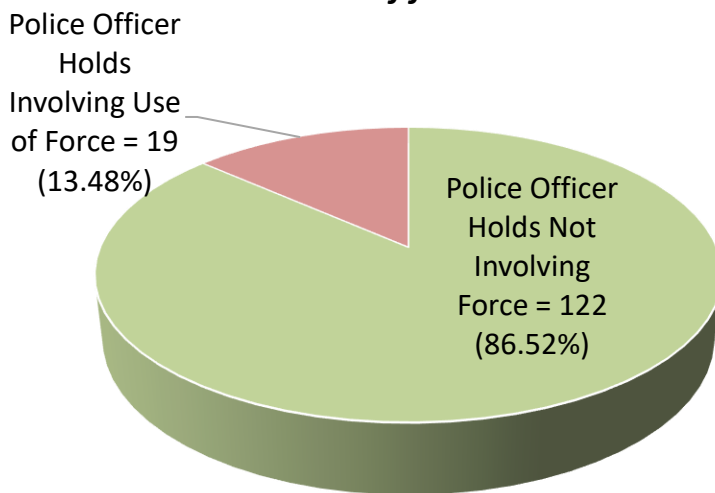
**Arrests involving use of force for 2021**



**Arrests involving use of force**



**Police officer holds involving use of force**



## Injuries

### Police Officer Injuries

<i>Police Officer Injury</i>	<i>Occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total injuries</i>
<i>Minor Injury</i>	7	43.8%
<i>Complaint of Pain</i>	6	37.5%
<i>Abrasian/Laceration</i>	2	12.5%
<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>	1	6.2%
<i>Fatality</i>	0	0%
<b>Total Documented Injuries</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Number of Police Officers Injured</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### Police Officer Injuries and Type of Force Used

<i>Employee Injury</i>	<i>Number of Injuries</i>	<i>Type of Force Used to Cause Injury</i>
<i>Minor Injury</i>	2	Leg/Hand Strike
<i>Minor Injury</i>	3	Takedown
<i>Minor Injury</i>	1	Control Hold
<i>Minor Injury</i>	1	K9 - Bite
<i>Complaint of Pain</i>	3	Taser – Discharge
<i>Complaint of Pain</i>	2	Leg/Hand Strike
<i>Complaint of Pain</i>	1	Control Hold
<i>Abrasion/Laceration</i>	1	Leg/Hand Strike
<i>Abrasion/Laceration</i>	1	Takedown
<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>	1	Leg/Hand Strike
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>N/A</b>

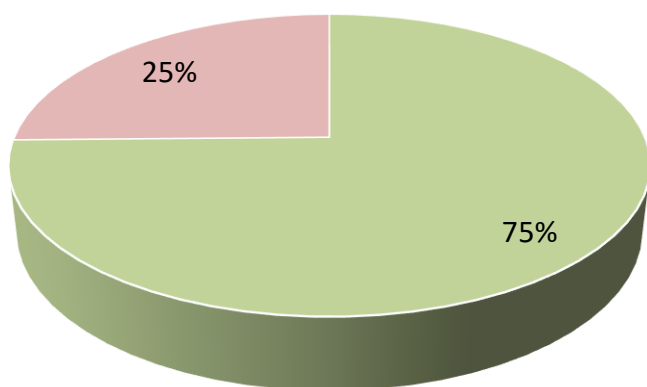
### Subject Injuries

<i>Subject Injury</i>	<i>Occurrences</i>	<i>Percentage of total reportings</i>
<i>Minor Injury</i>	18	28.6%
<i>Complaint of Pain</i>	18	28.6%
<i>Bone Fracture</i>	1	1.6%
<i>Abrasion/Laceration</i>	25	39.6%
<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>	1	1.6%
<i>Fatality</i>	0	0%
<b>Total Number of Documented Subject Injuries</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100%</b>
<i>Refused Medical Aid</i>	14	35.0%
<i>ER Cleared for Jail</i>	8	20.0%
<i>Treated/Released at Scene</i>	18	45.0%
<b>Total Number of Incidents that Resulted in Injury</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>25.8%</b>
<b>Total Number of Subjects Injured</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### **Subject Injuries and Type of Force Used**

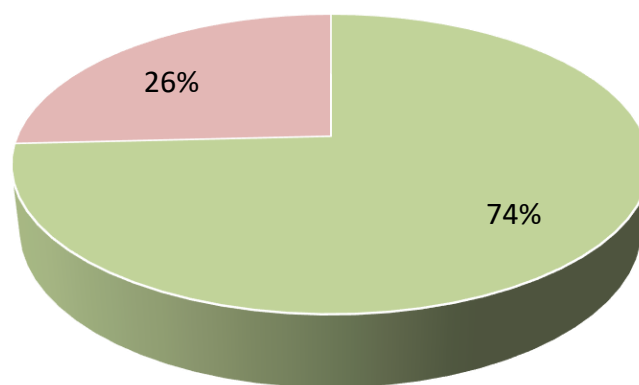
<b>Injury</b>	<b>Number of Injuries</b>	<b>Type of Force Used to Cause Injury</b>
Minor Injury	2	Takedown
Minor Injury	7	Control Hold
Minor Injury	4	Taser Discharge
Minor Injury	5	Leg/Hand Strike
Complaint of Pain	5	Take Down
Complaint of Pain	4	Control Hold
Complaint of Pain	2	Taser – Discharge
Complaint of Pain	6	Leg/Hand Strike
Bone Fracture	1	Leg/Hand Strike
Abrasion/Laceration	3	Takedown
Abrasion/Laceration	10	Control Hold
Abrasion/Laceration	4	Taser Discharge
Abrasion/Laceration	7	Leg/Hand Strike
Abrasion/Laceration	2	K9 - Bite
Admitted to Hospital	1	Firearm - Discharge
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**Percentage of Individuals injured as a result of use of force**



- Individuals who had force used on them but were uninjured = 130
- Individuals who had force used on them and were injured = 44

**Percentage of Use of force incidents that resulted in injury to subject**

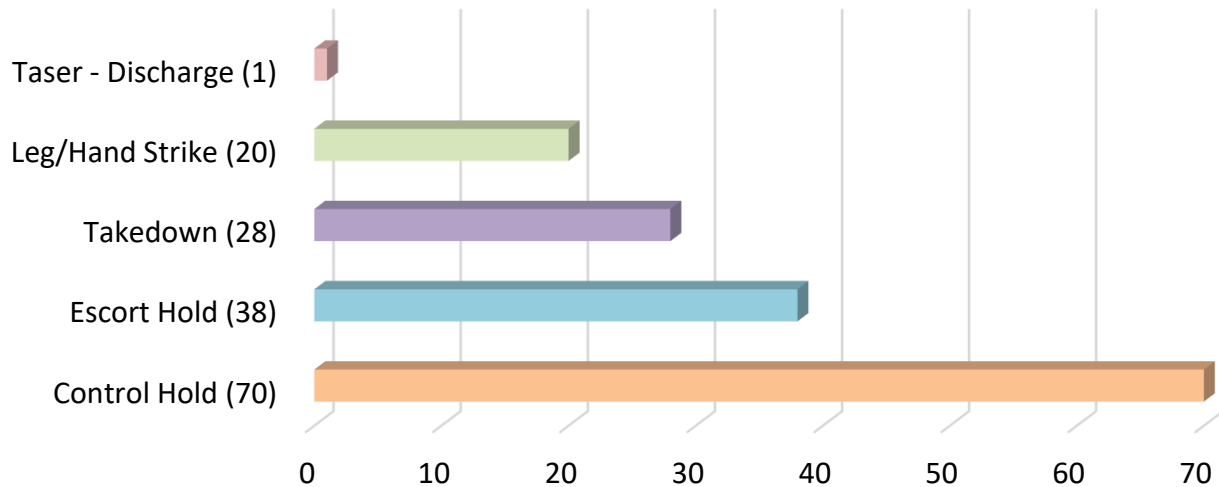


- Use of force incidents that did not result in subject injury = 141
- Use of force incidents that resulted in subject injury = 49

## Force Used by Jail Detention Officers

During the 2021 calendar year, the Springfield Municipal Jail booked in 1,380 inmates from the following agencies: Springfield PD, U.S. Marshalls, Eugene PD, Coburg PD, and Junction City PD. We are prohibited by law from accepting persons from ICE or any agency that is related to an immigration issue or from participating in any immigration enforcement. 50 of these inmate bookings (4% of the total number of bookings) resulted in a use of force, and 157 applications of force were used.

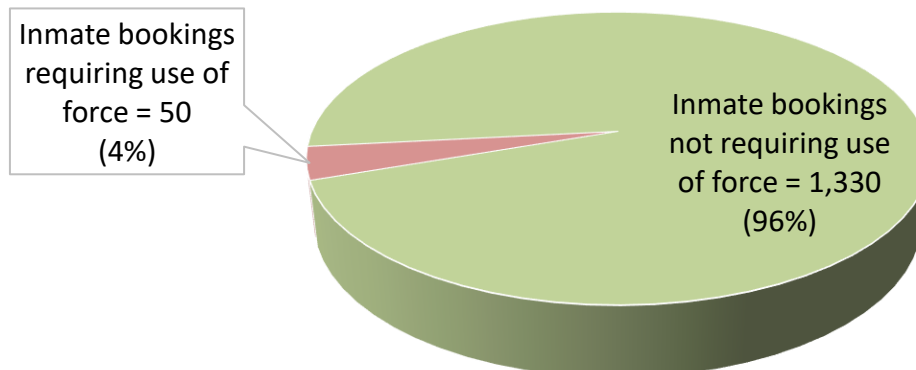
### Methods and tools utilized for each use of force



### Effectiveness for methods and uses of force

Type of Force	Number of times effective	Number of times ineffective	Total number of times used	Percentage of effectiveness
Control Hold	62	8	70	88.6%
Leg/Hand Strike	14	6	20	70.0%
Takedown	26	2	28	92.3%
Taser – Discharge	0	1	1	0%
Escort Hold	36	2	38	94.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>87.9%</b>

### Inmate Bookings at Springfield Municipal Jail



## **Reporting**

In accordance with SPD Policy, any use of force by a member of the department shall be documented promptly, completely, and accurately in an appropriate report. The involved officer should articulate the factors perceived and why he/she believed the use of force was objectively reasonable under the totality of the circumstances. SPD collects data for purposes of improving training, determining resource allocation, and analysis to help guide organizational improvements.

## **Recommendations**

### ***Recommendation 1***

The police department has not provided a major crisis intervention training (CIT) for several years and the 2021 data shows a higher use/show of force when officers are conducting a police officer hold on a person. The department will add CIT to the early 2022 training calendar.

### ***Recommendation 2***

The department's use of force policy (1.5.1) should add language specifically requiring Blue Team entries to be made by officers using force, instead of simply stating "the officer shall report". It should also more specifically direct the review/approval process for use of force reports within the chain of command, outlining the steps required for reporting of potential policy violations to the Office of Professional Standards.

### ***Recommendation 3***

Data reflects 38% of all officer injuries were a result from leg/hand strikes and that action was effective 79.5% of the time, the second least effective option. This same force option contributed to 30% of the subjects injured. The data will be further analyzed and discussed by the Control Tactics Team, training staff, and command staff to find possible alternatives to reduce injuries and increase effective arrests.

### ***Recommendation 4***

No officers deployed pepper spray during 2021. While it can be effective in some situations, one risk of using it is that it can affect other people and officers who are in close proximity when deployed. The department tested a gel version recently that also included an after-care product intended to reduce the recovery time. This product reduces the amount of unintended overspray in order to reduce the collateral effect on others. SPD should continue to pursue evaluation and possible implementation as a force option with the goal being to reduce subject and officer injuries.

### ***Recommendation 5***

The work of sworn police officers is demanding both physically and mentally, and those factors can impact decisions in critical incidents. A department and community that supports the safety, health, and wellness of every officer assists in building resilience and injury prevention. Programs such as peer support, physical fitness, proper nutrition, tools to deal with stress, and mindfulness should be expanded upon to ensure healthy and balanced members.



**Recommendation 6 (Force review board)**

During May of 2021, a use of force incident occurred that triggered the Springfield Police Department’s Use of Force Review board to convene per policy 1.5.1 (Use of Force). The event involved an officer’s use of deadly force, and the Lane County District Attorney’s Office determined that the officer’s use of force, given the totality of the circumstance, was justified. The Force Review Board identified the following as areas of emphasis for future training or policy considerations:

- Reinforce the use of additional options (such as the use of trained negotiators) when an incident becomes protracted.
- Additional training regarding consideration of the level of offense as a factor in the decision making to take someone into custody.
- Continued emphasis on de-escalation training, updated CIT refreshers, Police Officer/Dispatcher mental health first aid, and continued dispatcher refresher training.
- A recommendation that Dispatchers be included in department de-escalation, control tactics, and use of force training.
- A policy recommendation to remove the involved supervisor from participating in the force review of major use of force incidents. A supervisor’s actions may be reviewed as part of the overall incident response and being a member of the committee could create a conflict.

**Conclusion**

This is the first year SPD used an improved data collection technology as part of its use of force analysis. This report and the included use of force data will serve as a baseline for comparisons in the years ahead. However, we believe that transparency regarding organizational challenges and improvements is a key component of building trust and legitimacy with our community. Below is the comparison between 2020 and 2021.

**2021 Use of Force Summary**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Use of Force Events</b>	<b>People Who Had Force Used on Them</b>	<b>Percentage of Events that Resulted in Use of Force</b>	<b>Percentage of Subjects Who Had Force Used on Them</b>
<b>Dispatched Calls for Service</b>	28,779	190	174	0.66%	0.60%
<b>Arrests</b>	3,483	190	174	5.46%	5.00%

**2020 Use of Force Summary**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Use of Force Events</b>	<b>People Who Had Force Used on Them</b>	<b>Percentage of Events that Resulted in Use of Force</b>	<b>Percentage of Subjects Who Had Force Used on Them</b>
<b>Dispatched Calls for Service</b>	32,301	229	204	0.71%	0.63%
<b>Arrests</b>	3,894	229	204	5.88%	5.24%

Iapro is a robust and complex tool that requires ongoing training for officers, supervisors, and the Office of Professional Standards. The new system can be expanded as we identify new or different reporting needs. As familiarity with it improves, we can expand its capabilities and that will reflect in even more detailed reporting. With continued training and familiarity with the system, along with the addition of an analyst to provide expertise in trend analysis, the community and the PD will benefit. The Springfield Police Department looks forward to using this technology to conduct yearly in-depth analysis and review of force used during the years ahead. Doing so will continue organizational improvement and community trust-building through enhanced transparency, improved training and peer review, accountability, with the goal being to reduce the amount and seriousness of the types of force required during our duties, protecting the people of Springfield.

#### **Footnotes**

\*\*This report does not reflect the data collected from the census which uses residential population in the jurisdiction, it is an inaccurate representation of the number of persons who visit, work, or commute through Springfield, Oregon.

Census underrepresents vulnerable populations such as houseless/transient and unsheltered individuals.

Utilizing census data as a population benchmark also fails to account for all the different risks of arrest, involvement in criminal activity, criminal convictions, and crime victimization experienced by the person in the custody jurisdiction. In contrast, custody data includes solely persons who engage in criminal behavior or who are taken into custody for non-criminal reasons.