



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE
CRAIG N. MEIDL



Spokane Police Department
2022 Annual Comprehensive Analysis of Reviewable
Use of Force Incidents



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	Page 3
2022 Use of Force – At a Glance	Page 5
Introduction	Page 6
Use of Force Data, January 1-December 31, 2022	Page 9
Environmental Characteristics	Page 16
Subject Characteristics	Page 18
Officer Characteristics	Page 30
Outcomes of the Investigation and Review of Use of Force	Page 30
Training Issues	Page 31
Conclusion	Page 31
Appendix A: Non-Deadly Use of Force Investigation Flow Sheet	Page 33
Appendix B: Police Districts	Page 34
Appendix C: Arrests by Sex and Race	Page 35



Executive Summary

The Spokane Police Department (SPD) is committed to protecting people, their property, and their rights. The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. Officers are involved on a daily basis in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use objectively reasonable force in carrying out their duties. The Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting officers with the authority to use objectively reasonable force and to protect themselves and the public requires monitoring, evaluation, and a careful balancing of all interests.

The primary purpose of the Comprehensive Analysis of Reviewable Use of Force Incidents is to provide the Spokane Police Department information about officers' use of force and trends associated with use of force. The analysis provides information on many factors involving the subjects and involved officers, as well as environmental details. The document also describes the training issues identified during the incident review. SPD's Training Unit and the Training Plan Committee use the information in the report to assist in their development of training curriculum.

The report also serves to inform the community about use of force. The analysis and prior year analysis reports, along with narratives about each use of force incident, are available on SPD's website at the following link:

<https://my.spokanecity.org/police/accountability/use-of-force/>

Trends Identified in the Annual Comprehensive Analysis

The ratio of use of force incidents compared to citizen contacts is very low (0.07%). In 2022, SPD officers were involved in 99,751 incidents. This number includes calls for service and officer-initiated incidents. SPD officers used non-deadly force in 81 incidents in 2022.

Use of force incidents were low across racial demographics – less than 2% of arrests involved force.

Comparing the City of Spokane Police Department arrest demographics with the use of force demographics shows that officers used force on less than 2% of subjects arrested. To keep data presentation consistent with prior years, arrestees were not separated by sex for each racial group. See Appendices C on Arrests by Race.

- American Indian/Native Alaskan Force Rate: 1.9%
- Asian Force Rate: 0%
- Black/African American Force Rate: 1.4%
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Force Rate: 0%
- Unknown Race Force Rate: 0%
- White Force Rate: 1.3%

Total Individuals Arrested: 6273



Officer actions during use of force incidents followed SPD policy and state law 88% of the time. In 5% of the cases, the force was out of compliance with policy. In 7% of the cases, the force was in compliance with policy but there were other policy violations.

During the review, the chain of command examines the entire incident and all officer actions. 71 of the 81 incidents (88%) were found to be in compliance with policy. No Excessive Force allegations were Sustained. Four of the 81 (5%) use of force incidents were found to be in violation of policy – two TASER™ deployments and two applications of pointing a firearm. Six incidents of the 81 (7%) were associated with secondary policy violations. In three incidents, the chain of command determined that a TASER™ deployment was reasonable, but there was a policy violation of an accidental TASER™ discharge occurring during the incident. No Excessive Force allegations were Sustained.

The Chain of Command review identified several training issues while reviewing non-deadly force incidents, recommending individual training in areas such as officer safety, victim safety, report writing, criminal procedures, professional language, and giving a command to warn other officers before a TASER™ deployment. In each case where reviewers identified issues, they arranged for training. Several incidents were debriefed as a team or shift at roll call, and several were debriefed during Supervisor Training.



2022 Use of Force – At a Glance

- **2022 Annual Total of Non-deadly UOF:** 81 use of force incidents.
- **2022 Annual Total of Deadly UOF:** Five deadly use of force incidents.
- **UOF Frequency per Incidents:** The ratio of use of force incidents compared to citizen contacts is very low. In 2022, SPD officers were involved in 99,751 incidents. This number includes calls for service and officer-initiated incidents. SPD officers used non-deadly force in 81 incidents in 2022.
- **Origin:** Incidents most often develop from a call for service (911 call).
- **Call type:** Most commonly a Domestic Violence (DV) call.
- **Reason for Force:** Most commonly, involved person was resisting arrest.
- **Type of Force used:** Most frequently, a TASER™ device deployment.
- **Environment:** Most often occurring in the Downtown police district.
- **Day and Time:** Most often occurring on Mondays, in the afternoon and evening.
- **Intoxication:** Drugs and/or alcohol played a part in 51% of incidents.
- **Mental Status:** Subjects were documented as appearing to be mentally unstable in 30 of the 81 use of force incidents in 2022.
- **Incident Outcome:** Most often a felony arrest of the involved subject.
- **Subject Demographics:** Most often a White male, average age of 36.
- **Force Rate:** The force rate was low across racial demographics; officers used force on less than 2% of subjects arrested.
- **Officer Demographics:** Most often a White male officer, average age of 40 years old, with 11 years of experience with SPD.
- **Investigation Outcome:** Officer actions during use of force incidents followed SPD policy and state law 88% of the time. In 5% of the cases, the force was out of compliance with policy. In 7% of the cases, the force was in compliance with policy but there were other policy violations.
- **Secondary Review:** Each UOF incident receives a secondary review by the Use of Force Review Board (UOFRB).
- **Training Issues:** Issues addressed on the individual level and department-wide level included officer safety, report writing, criminal procedures, professional language, and giving a command to warn other officers before a TASER™ deployment. Due to several issues with TASER™ deployments, the UOFRB recommended more hands-on TASER™ training during the annual TASER™ re-certification training.



Introduction

Total Use of Force Incidents

This report analyzes non-deadly applications of force (e.g., TASER™ device deployment, K9 application). There were 81 reviewable non-deadly use of force incidents in 2022. There were five duplicate incident numbers where a K9 tracking number was assigned in addition to the original tracking number. Those duplicates have been removed from the total so that each incident is only counted once. Five deadly force incidents occurred in 2022; those incidents are not part of this analysis.

Reviewable Use of Force with Chain of Command Review

Reviewable uses of force involve an officer's deployment of control tactics and/or control devices for which officers have successfully completed department-required training. When a person allows himself/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed, or restrained, it is not considered a reviewable use of force; it is considered compliance. Less intrusive control tactics are not normally deemed a "Reviewable Use of Force." For example, when an officer uses his body weight to control a suspect while handcuffing the person in the prone position, that situation would not require a use of force investigation. However, if an injury occurred that is not consistent with an applied control technique or tactic, or if the subject complains of injury, a use of force investigation occurs. Most reviewable use of force incidents occur when an officer uses a physical tactic or device, such as a TASER™ device. The intentional pointing of a firearm at a subject is a reviewable use of force incident, although it does not involve the application of physical force.

Reviewable Non-Deadly Use of Force Applications

- Any application causing a visible injury (with the exception of minor marks on the wrist consistent with being handcuffed or minor marks as a result of prone handcuffing)
- The subject claims an injury resulted from a use of force, even if no injury is visible (with the exception of minor marks on the wrist consistent with being handcuffed and/or minor marks or abrasions to portions of the body consistent with prone handcuffing)
- All applications of a Conducted Energy Weapon (e.g., TASER™)
- Intentional pointing of a firearm - where the officer is intentionally "pointed in" (muzzle is covering the subject) with their firearm, with the intent to use the firearm in defense of themselves or another
- Any deployment of chemical agents OC or CS by means of spray or by means of physically or mechanically delivered techniques where a person is exposed to the substance
- Any application of an impact weapon whether personal, issued or improvised to a subject, including Level 2 strikes (e.g., baton strikes, knee strikes)
- Any K9 deployment where a reviewable contact has occurred
- When an individual alleges any of the above has occurred



Use of Force Policy Update

Spokane Police Department updated the existing Use of Force policy and added a De-Escalation Policy in October 2019. Legislative changes in 2021 resulted in several changes to multiple policies. SPD updated the policies in July 2021 and provided training to the department. In 2022, SPD continued to update the Use of Force policy to be consistent with state law. Each year, officers receive training on the Use of Force policy.

Equipment Update

In 2021, Washington State allotted funds for new less-lethal pepper ball weapons to provide a less lethal option that can quickly incapacitate suspects from a distance. SPD acquired sufficient pepper ball systems to equip all of patrol with this less-lethal platform. These systems are crucial to fill a gap in response to violent encounters. Officers were certified in pepper ball use during Fall 2021 and Fall 2022 In-Service training.

SPD removed 40 mm and beanbag shotguns from patrol cars in July 2021, due to House Bill 1054. Those less-lethal weapons were restored in March 2022 with the passing of legislation that allowed their use.

Investigation and Administrative Review of Use of Force

When a use of force incident occurs, the involved officer's supervisor utilizes Blue Team software to generate the use of force report. Blue Team reports contain the administrative review and supplemental documents such as police reports, radio transmissions, and investigative summary narratives. The chain of command (Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain) reviews the Blue Team report before sending to a Major for the final determination. This review process guarantees multiple levels of review and ensures that the application of force is in compliance with policy and law and meets department expectations. See "Non-Deadly Use of Force Investigation" flow chart at the end of the report for more information.

This review process measures the objective reasonableness of each application of force considering the following:

- The threat factors pertaining to victims, public, officers and the involved subject
- The subject's resistance level/ability and attempts to flee officer control efforts
- The severity of the crime or community care-taking elements of the incident

The review also takes into consideration the involved officers' level of training and experience and the fact that officers are often forced to make split-second decisions during situations that are often tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving. After the final determination, the use of force report is then distributed to the involved officer(s)' chain of command, and executive-level leadership (Major, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Assistant Chief, and Chief).

The Use of Force Review Board (UOFRB) conducts a secondary review of all non-deadly use of force incidents. The UOFRB meets monthly to debrief use of force incidents with the intent to evaluate training, equipment needs, and policy/standard operating procedure (SOPs) in place or practiced department wide. The UOFRB debrief includes discussion of the following:



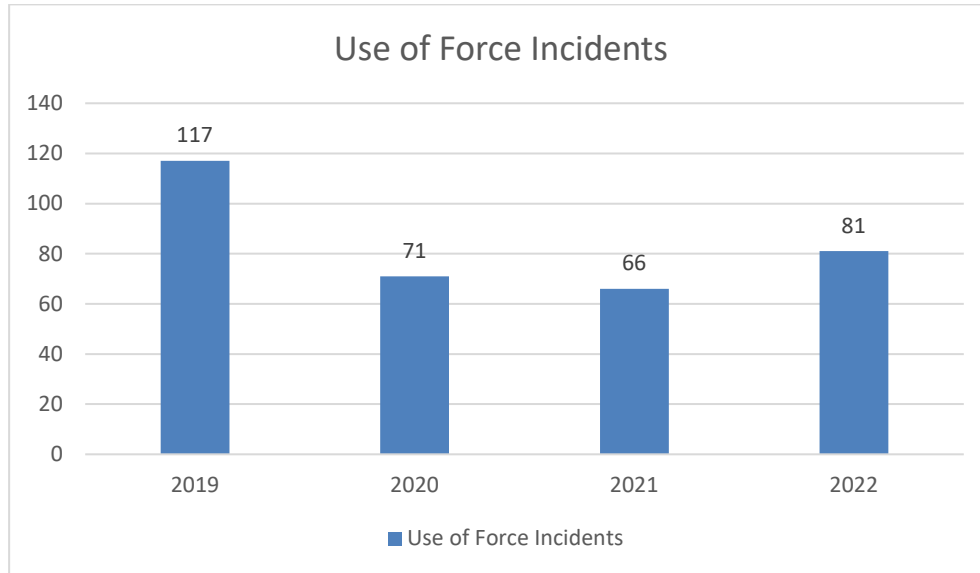
- Tactical Plan (approach, cover, concealment, containment, verbal commands, etc.)
- Training
- Warning of impending force application
- Demeanor
- Report writing (completeness, etc.)
- Proper Tool/Equipment Selection, if applicable
- Policy/Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
- Post-care/First Aid
- Peer Assistance Team care, if appropriate

The UOFRB only reviews incidents that have received a final determination, and the UOFRB does not recommend discipline or conduct investigations in unresolved use of force incidents. UOFRB members include SPD's Training Director, Assistant Training Director, Range master/Firearms Instructor, Internal Affairs Lieutenant, Defensive Tactics Instructors (subject matter experts), Program Professional, and the Police Ombudsman/Assistant Ombudsman.



Total Reviewable Use of Force Incidents

Figure 1



Use of force numbers are often compared against the total number of police-citizen contacts. It is difficult to provide a definitive number of police-citizen contacts, as there are many informal contacts and non-enforcement contacts with citizens (e.g., partnerships, meetings, business contacts, and outreach). Examining total calls for service numbers can be helpful, as these numbers provide context to the large quantity of interactions between SPD and the community that occur every year. While we know most incidents involve multiple parties, and contacts per incident, the number of incidents provides the absolute minimum number of community contacts.

In 2022, SPD officers were involved in 99,751 incidents. This number includes calls for service and officer-initiated incidents. SPD officers used non-deadly force in 81 incidents in 2022. The ratio of use of force incidents compared to citizen contacts is very low. In 2021, SPD officers were involved in 94,377 incidents. SPD officers used non-deadly force in 66 incidents in 2021. SPD officers used non-deadly force in 71 incidents in 2020 and 117 incidents in 2019. See Figure 1.

When comparing 2021 and 2022, the total number of use of force incidents increased 19% in 2022. An increase was expected with the 2022 changes in legislation that clarified the circumstances when officers were authorized to use force.

In 2021, legislation made significant impacts to SPD’s use of force policy. There were several new limits on use of force:



- Officers have a duty to exhaust available and appropriate de-escalation tactics prior to using force, and officers are required to leave the area if there is no threat of imminent harm or crime has been committed (House Bill 1310).
- There was also a new probable cause requirement: Officers may only use force if probable cause exists to make an arrest, or to protect the officer or another from bodily harm (House Bill 1310). Officers cannot use force for mental health detentions, or for Terry stops, where there is reasonable suspicion. They must have authority to arrest the person prior to using force, or to protect themselves or another.
- Legislation also resulted in bans on tactics: The Lateral Neck Restraint was prohibited, and officers were no longer able to use less-lethal weapon platforms 40 mm foam rounds and beanbag rounds because the launching systems were .50 caliber and were prohibited (House Bill 1054).

In 2022, the laws were modified to allow officers to use less-lethal equipment such as the 40 mm foam rounds and beanbag rounds.

Changes to the laws also clarified the circumstances when officers were authorized to use force. In accordance with state law, SPD's 2022 Use of Force Policy authorizes an officer to use physical force against a person to the extent necessary to:

- Protect against a criminal offense when there is probable cause that the person has committed, is committing, or is about to commit the offense;
- Effect an arrest;
- Prevent an escape as defined under chapter 9A.76 RCW;
- Prevent a person from fleeing or stop a person who is actively fleeing a lawful temporary investigative detention, provided that the person has been given notice that he or she is being detained and is not free to leave;
- Take a person into custody when authorized or directed by statute;
- Protect against an imminent threat of bodily injury to the peace officer, another person, or the person against whom force is being used.
- Take a person into custody, transport a person for evaluation or treatment, or provide other assistance under chapter 10.77, 71.05, or 71.34 RCW;
- Take a minor into protective custody when authorized or directed by statute;
- Execute or enforce a court order authorizing or directing a peace officer to take a person into custody;
- Execute a search warrant;
- Execute or enforce an oral directive issued by a judicial officer in the courtroom or a written order where the court expressly authorizes a peace officer to use physical force to execute or enforce the directive or order.

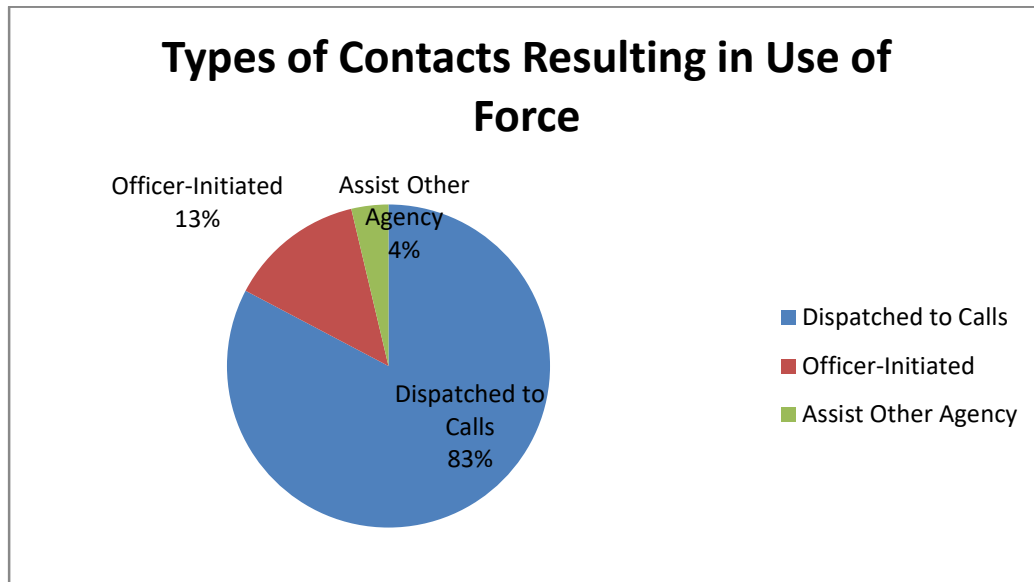
The policy also states that officers have the authority to use physical force to ensure health and safety.

- Officers may provide assistance to Fire and Emergency Medical Technicians. Officers have the authority to perform lifesaving measures or to perform community caretaking functions to ensure health and safety, including but not limited to, rendering medical assistance, performing welfare checks, or assisting other first responders and medical professionals.
- Officers have the authority to respond to requests for assistance or service from first responders, medical professionals, behavioral health professionals, social service providers, designated crisis responders, shelter or housing providers, or any member of the public.



Calls for Service versus Officer-Initiated Contacts

Figure 2



Use of force incidents continue to stem most often from officers responding to a call for service, rather than court-ordered contacts, officer-initiated contacts, or contacts from assisting another agency. 2022 data showed that 67 (82%) of the 81 use of force incidents resulted from officers being dispatched to 911 or Crime Check calls. In 11 (14%) of incidents, officers initiated the contact, often apprehending suspects with warrants. Three incidents (4%) originated from involved officers assisting other agencies, Okanogan County Sheriff's Office and Spokane County Sheriff's Office. This trend has continued over the past five years and confirms the majority of uses of force are associated with calls for service requests. See Figure 2.

Type of Call

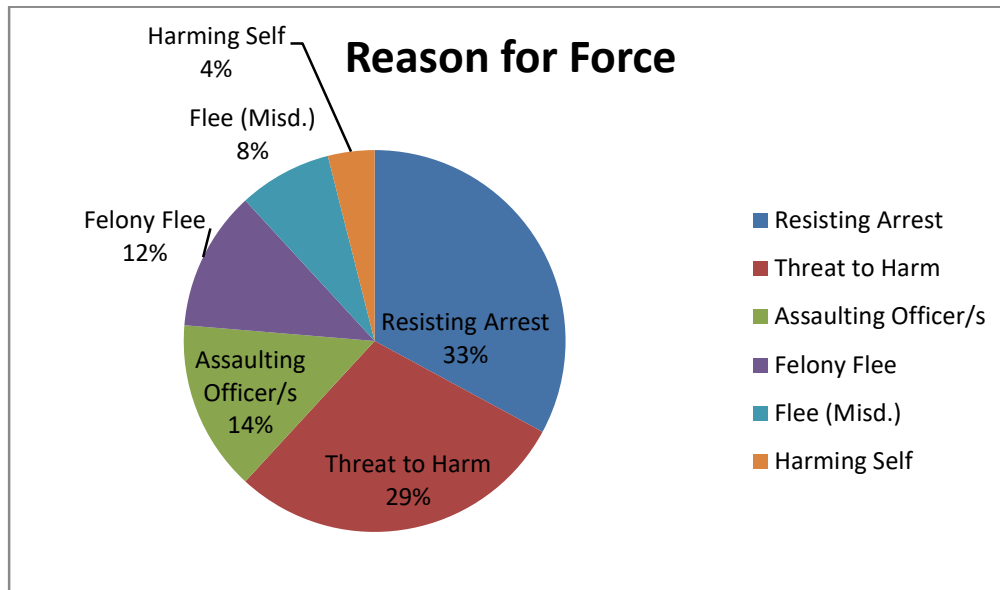
Domestic Violence-related calls were the most common type of call resulting in a reviewable use of force. DV-related calls (including a wide variety of classifications from DV protection order violations to DV Assault) made up 17 (21%) of incidents. The other common types were Burglary (10) and Assault (5).

Due to the prevalence of domestic violence in Spokane, and the dangers associated with responding to these types of calls, SPD trains officers using Reality Based Training (RBT) scenarios that involve responding to DV calls. RBT sessions provide officers opportunities to apply de-escalation, crisis intervention, use of force, and patrol procedures training in the context of a domestic violence call.

Other incidents involving use of force included call classifications such as Person with a Weapon, Arson, Residential Burglary, Assist Other Agency, Fight, Shooting, Check Welfare, Hit and Run, Traffic Stop, Suspicious Vehicle, etc.

Reason for Force

Figure 3



Spokane Police officers are required to document the circumstances of use of force incidents and articulate the reason that they used force. The most common reason was Resisting Arrest, followed by Threat to Harm Others. See Figure 3.

Resistance Threshold Guidelines

During the process of choice and application of reasonably applied force, officers are trained to identify, interpret, predict and evaluate resistance from a subject(s). Resistance thresholds will assist as a guide in force decision-making. However, resistance thresholds alone will not determine the reasonableness of applied force whether excessive or insufficient.

Level of Resistance

Objectively Reasonable Officer Response

Compliant:

- Presence
- Verbal Commands/Draw and Direct
- Compliant Handcuffing
- Cursory Search for Weapons
- Reasonably Objective Exceptional Techniques

Passive:

- Escort Compliance Techniques (Joint Locks)
- Neuromuscular Control
- Passive Resistant Handcuffing
- Reasonably Objective Exceptional Techniques



Active: Active Resistant Handcuffing
Takedown Techniques
Roll Over Technique
Reasonably Objective Exceptional Techniques

Assaultive: Impact Techniques
OC / CS spray
TASER™
Reasonably Objective Exceptional Techniques

Life Threatening: Firearms
Weapon Retention Techniques
Reasonably Objective Exceptional Techniques

Level of Resistance Definitions:

- Compliant: Cooperative response to lawful commands.
- Passive: Noncompliance to lawful authority without physical resistance or mechanical enhancement.
- Active: Use of physical effort or mechanical resistance in achieving and/or maintaining noncompliance.
- Assaultive: Noncompliance perceived as, or resulting in, an actual assault on an individual or officer. The scope and severity of the attack would support the reasonable assumption that the actions would not result in death or serious bodily harm.
- Life Threatening: Noncompliance perceived as, or resulting in, an actual assault on an individual or officer. The scope and severity of the attack would support the reasonable assumption that the actions would result in death or serious bodily harm.

Tactical Interaction Commitment

Interaction with citizens is a primary function for the officers of the Spokane Police Department. The Spokane Police Department expects that every officer demonstrate the five interaction tactics on which they are trained. The first tactic will be maintained regardless of the situation. The next four will be implemented when safety of the officer, subject, citizens and property allow.

- Treat all people with dignity and respect.
- When practical, ask people instead of order.
- When practical, explain why we are asking.
- When practical, give them options that will allow them to save face yet achieve the desired goal.
- When practical, give the subject at least one additional chance to comply.



Tips for Safety

The ACLU Washington published a wallet card entitled “Know Your Rights When Stopped by the Police.” The card includes the following Tips for Safety:

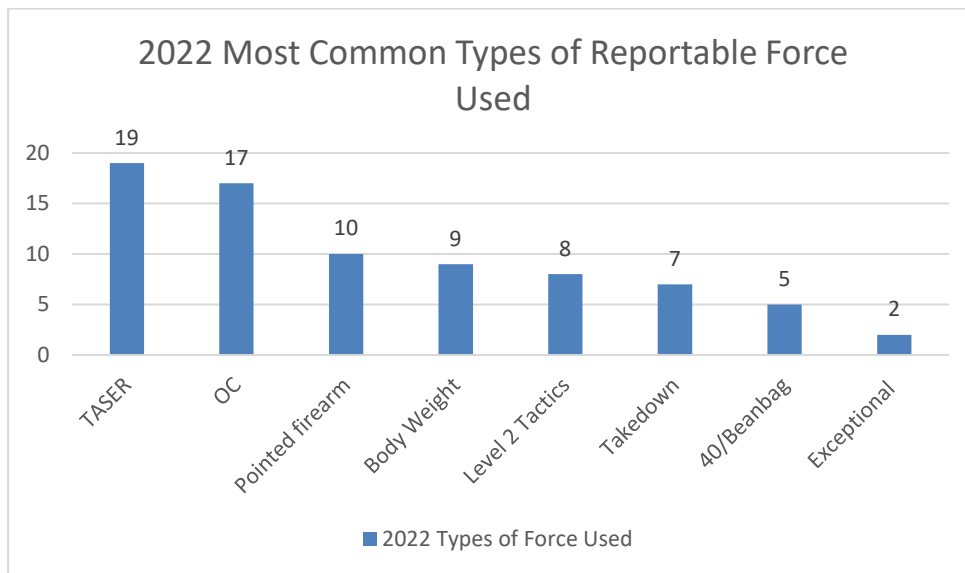
- Stay calm and stay put. Don’t run or suddenly move.
- Keep your hands where the officer can see them and free of any objects if possible.
- Never touch any police officer.
- Follow instructions. You can always make a complaint later if you feel your rights were violated.



Law Enforcement and ACLU Washington agree on the need to educate people on these safety tips. SPD instructors convey these safety tips to the public at community presentations and classes at the Citizens Academy. The wallet card is available at this link: <https://www.aclu-wa.org/docs/what-do-if-you-are-stopped-police-0>.

Type of Force

Figure 4



Applications of Reviewable Force in 2022 (see Figure 4)

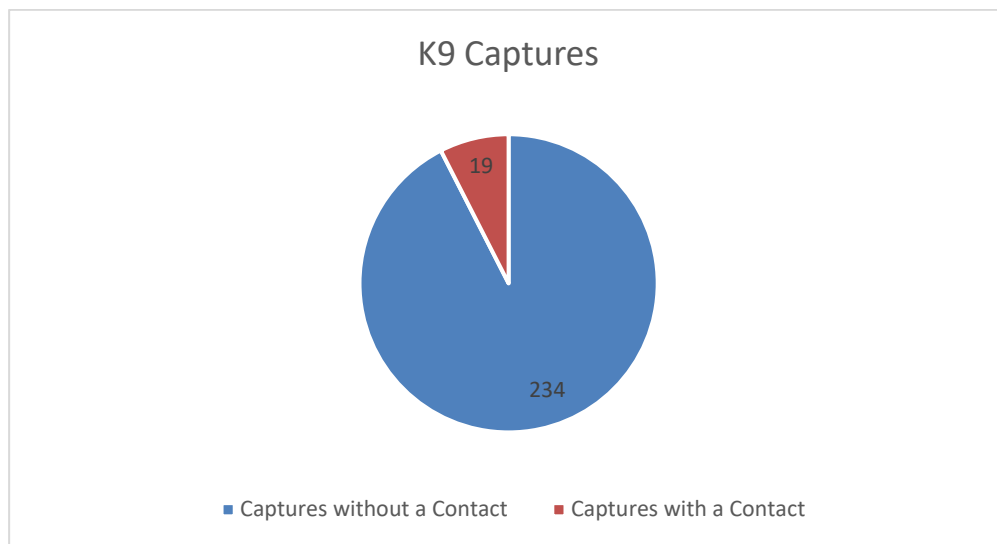
- Officers deployed a TASER™ device in 19 incidents.
- Officers deployed OC/CS spray, commonly known as pepper spray, in various forms, in 17 incidents.
- The intentional pointing of a firearm application was utilized in 10 incidents.
- In 9 incidents, body weight/manual force and/or handcuffing techniques causing minor injury was reported as the sole type of force used.

- Officers used Level II tactics (stop kicks, open palm strike) in 8 incidents. Four of the incidents involved closed fist strikes to the face. Two involved knee strikes to other areas. One involved an open palm strike to the face and one involved hammer strikes to the face.
- Takedown techniques causing injury were used as a reviewable use of force in seven incidents.
- A special impact weapon (40 mm/beanbag shotgun) was deployed in five incidents.
- In two incidents, the officer used an Exceptional Technique. In one case, the officer pushed the person from behind and the subject fell to her face, causing injury. In the other case, the officer put his knee on the subject’s head. Both instances were determined to be within policy.
- No batons were used.

Note: Many of the incidents involved multiple officers and more than one type of force. For example, while taking a subject into custody, one officer might use a Takedown Technique while another officer uses a TASER™ device.

K9 Applications

Figure 5



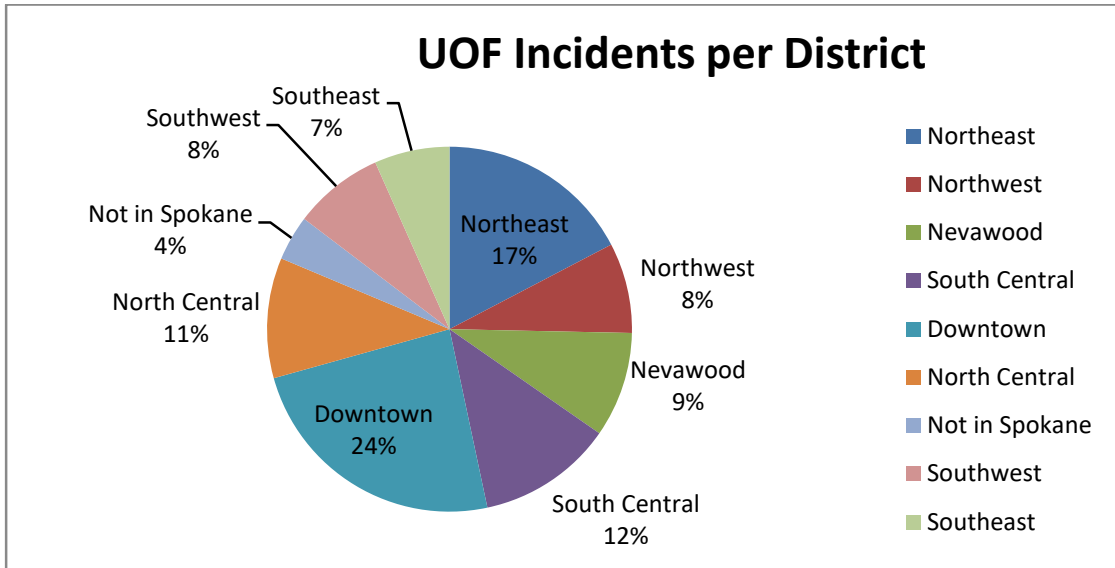
Use of force incidents involving K9 contacts totaled 19 for the year 2022.

The K9 Unit had 856 Patrol deployments in 2022, locating 235 people. To be clear, the instances of the K9s locating people are the “captures” from which the bite ratio is calculated. The K9 Unit does not just count the arrests. In order to be classified as a capture, the dog has to be a factor in the finding or apprehension of the individual — whether the apprehension results in an arrest or not. Of the 253 people located, the K9 Unit had 19 K9 contacts. The unit “bite ratio” for 2022 was 8%. Industry best practices suggest that the contact to apprehension ratio should be below 30%, based on *Kerr v City of West Palm Beach*.

Environmental Characteristics

Police District (Neighborhood)

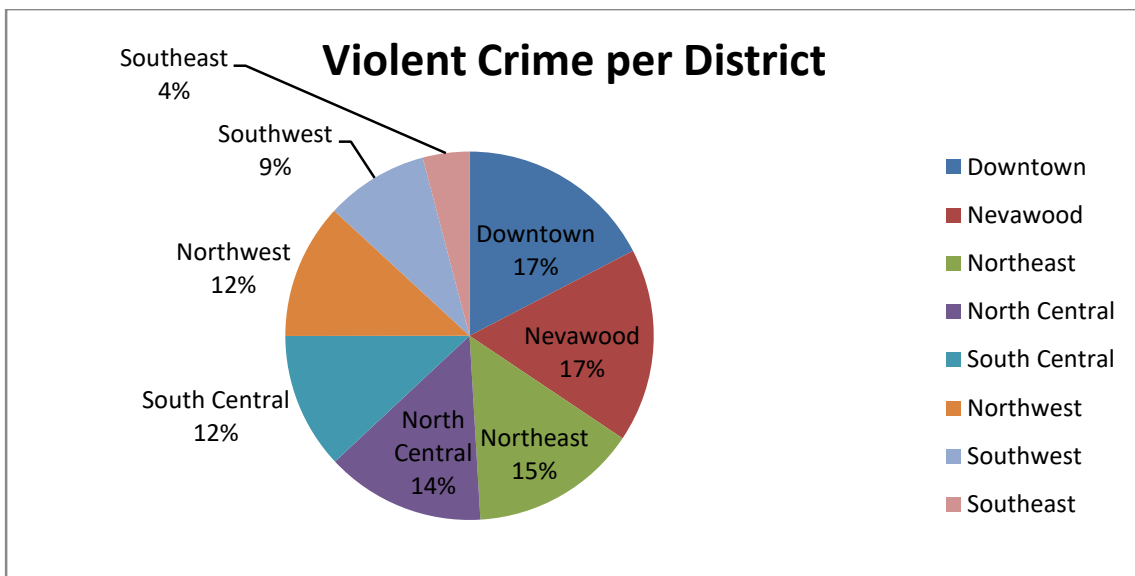
Figure 6



Use of force incidents took place most often in the Downtown police district in 2022, followed by the Northeast district. See Figure 6

Violent Crime per District (Neighborhood)

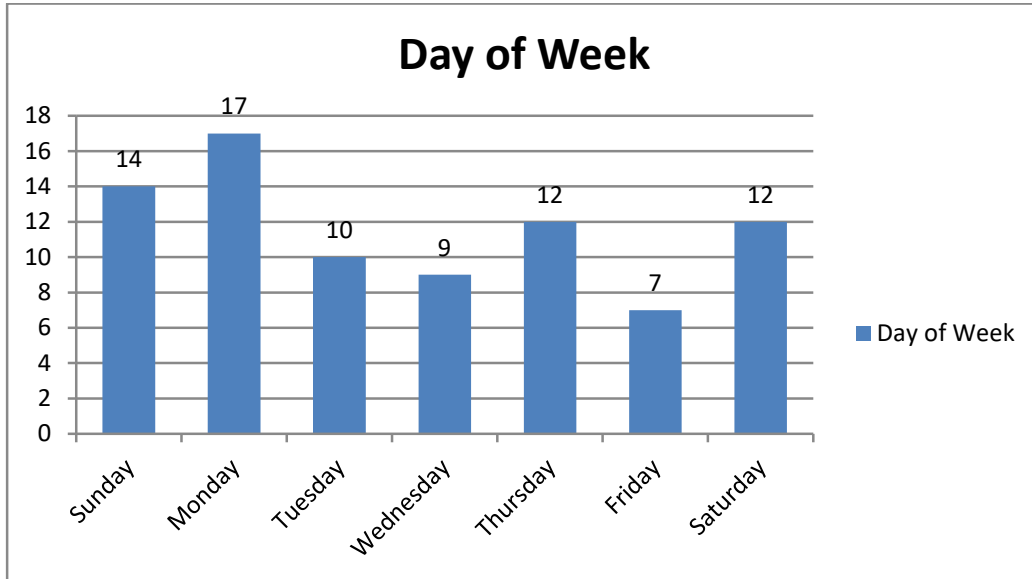
Figure 7



2022 Violent crime statistics were the highest in Nevawood, Downtown, Northeast, and North Central police districts. Refer to Figures 6 and 7, and to the attached map of the districts.

Day of the Week

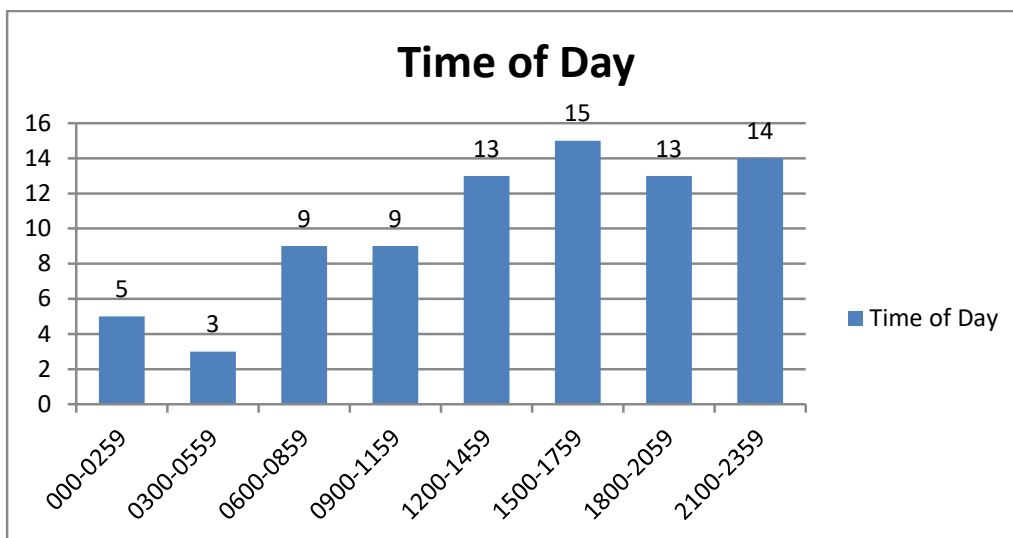
Figure 8



2022 data indicated that use of force incidents occurred most frequently on Mondays and Sundays. See Figure 8.

Time of Day

Figure 9

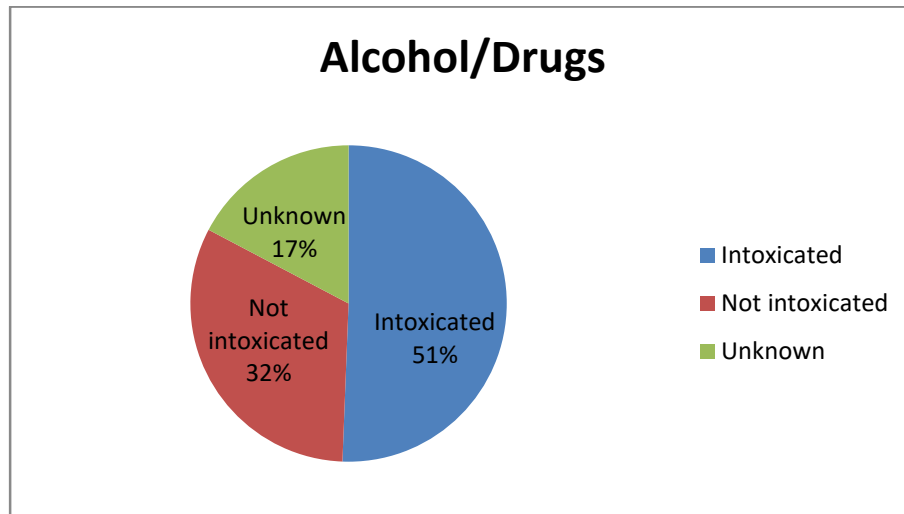


2022 use of force incidents occurred most often in the afternoon/early evening between 1500-1759 (3:00 pm-5:59 pm). They also happened frequently between 1200-1459 (noon-2:59 pm) and between 1800-2059 (6:00 pm-8:59 pm). Day Shift Patrol hours are from 0600-1640. Swing shift hours are from 1000-2040. Mid Shift hours from 1200-2240. Power Shift hours are from 1600-0240. Grave Shift hours are from 2000-0640. See Figure 9.

Subject Characteristics

Subject under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs

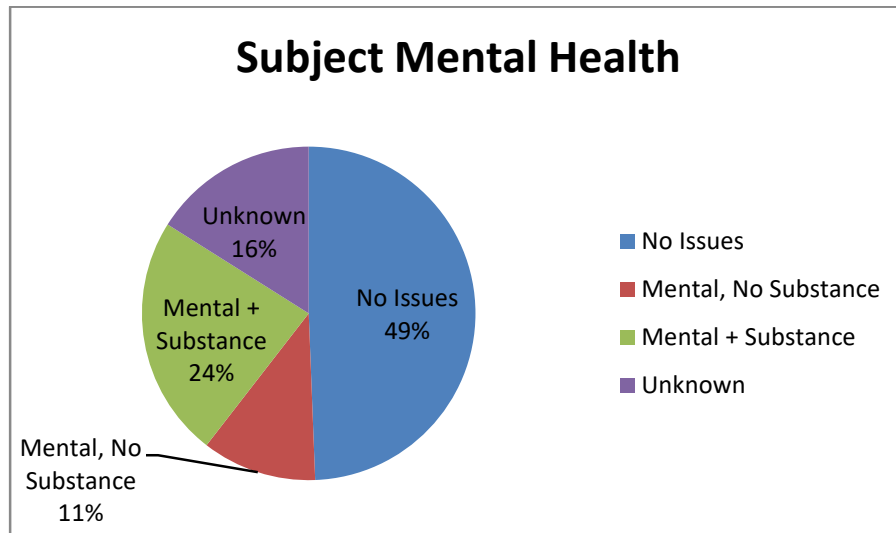
Figure 10



41 of the 81 (51%) involved subjects were documented to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. It is difficult to determine the extent of drug and alcohol use in the incidents, as sometimes subjects are in possession of drugs but claim not to be under the influence at the time of the incident. It is also difficult to discern which drug/s or which combination of drugs that subjects are using. In 14 (17%) incidents, the supervisor reported that the subject's behavior was unusual due to unknown reasons (alcohol, drugs, mental health issues, or a combination of those factors). See Figure 10.

Mental Health Status

Figure 11



In 40 (49%) incidents, officers were not aware of any mental health issues. Subjects were documented as appearing to be mentally unstable in 30 (37%) of the 81 use of force incidents in 2022. 19 (23%) of incidents involved drugs and/or alcohol as well as mental instability. Specifically, individuals were identified as mentally unstable without drug and alcohol intoxication in nine (11%) cases. Some of these incidents involved people who were actively harming themselves. In these situations, force is used in a community caretaking function, with the need to take the person to the hospital rather than arrest the person.

In 13 (16%) incidents, the supervisor reported that the subject's behavior was unusual due to unknown reasons (alcohol, drugs, mental health issues, or combination of those factors). It is difficult to know if a person exhibiting signs of intoxication and speaking incoherently has underlying mental health issues, or if the behavior is solely due to the intoxicating substance. See Figure 11.

Warrant Status

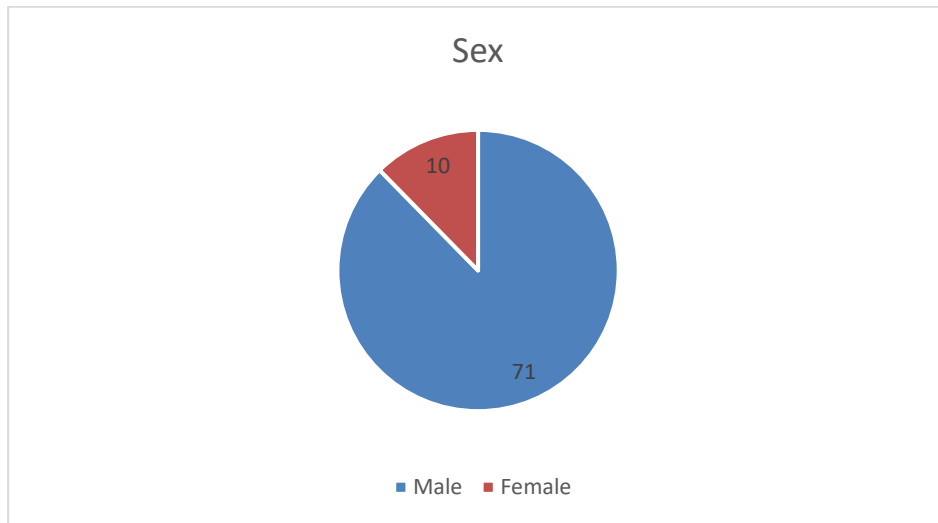
In 32 (40%) of the incidents, subjects had outstanding warrants.

Subject Age

The average age of the subjects was 36 years old. There were two juvenile subjects, both 17 years old. One was apprehended for 1st Degree Robbery charges with a Takedown Technique. The other juvenile was apprehended for 1st Degree Robbery with a K9 contact. The oldest suspect was 69 years old. He was apprehended for 1st Degree Murder charges; the force used was officers pointing their firearms at him during the apprehension.

Subject Sex

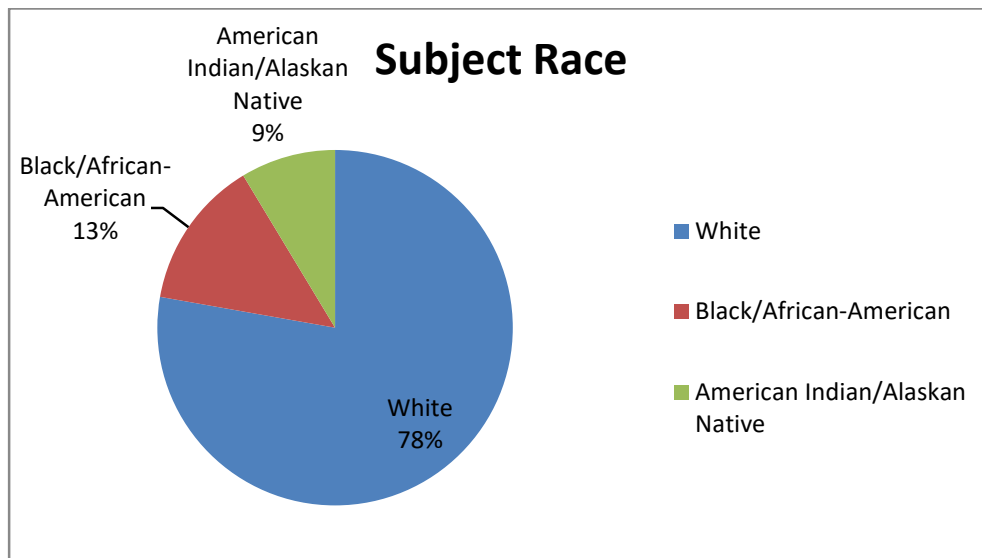
Figure 12



Most of the involved subjects in the 2022 use of force incidents were male (88%). 10 subjects (12%) were female. In 2022, Spokane Police officers arrested 4662 males and 1587 females and 23 people of unknown sex. See Appendix C for arrest demographics. See Figure 12.

Subject Racial Demographics

Figure 13



63 of the 81 (78%) of individuals involved in use of force incidents were White, 11 (14%) were Black/African American, seven (9%) were American Indian/Alaskan Native. No individuals were listed as Asian, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or Unknown race. Ethnicity: Three of the individuals were listed as White with Hispanic ethnicity. See Figure 13.

Arrest Demographics Compared to Use of Force Demographics

Comparing the City of Spokane Police Department arrest demographics with the use of force demographics shows that officers used force on 0-1.9% of subjects arrested. To keep data presentation consistent with prior years, arrestees were not separated by sex for each racial group. See Appendices C on Arrests by Race.

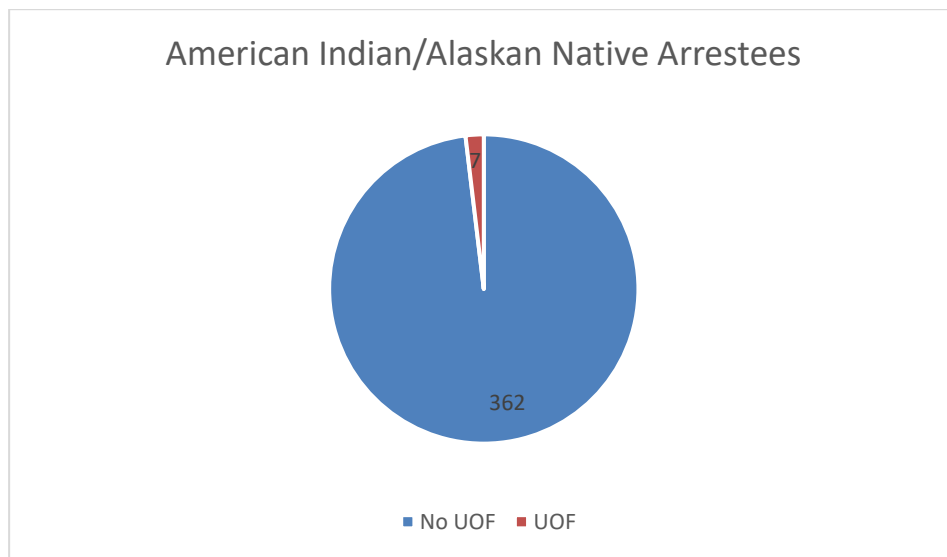
- American Indian/Native Alaskan Force Rate: 1.9%
- Asian Force Rate: 0%
- Black/African American Force Rate: 1.4%
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Force Rate: 0%
- Unknown Race Force Rate: 0%
- White Force Rate: 1.3%

Total Individuals Arrested: 6273

Race	Arrests in 2022
White	4780
Black/African American	774
American Indian/Alaskan Native	362
Unknown	187
Asian	100
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	69

Force Rate for American Indian/Alaskan Native Arrestees

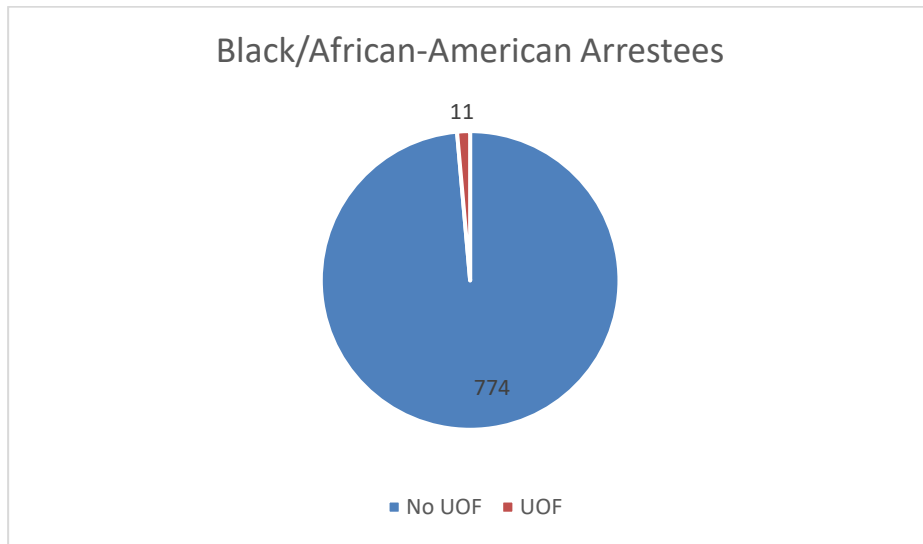
Figure 14



362 American Indian-Alaskan Native individuals were arrested. Seven American Indian-Alaskan Native individuals were involved in use of force incidents. The force to arrest ratio is 1.9%. See Figure 14.

Force Rate for Black/African American Arrestees

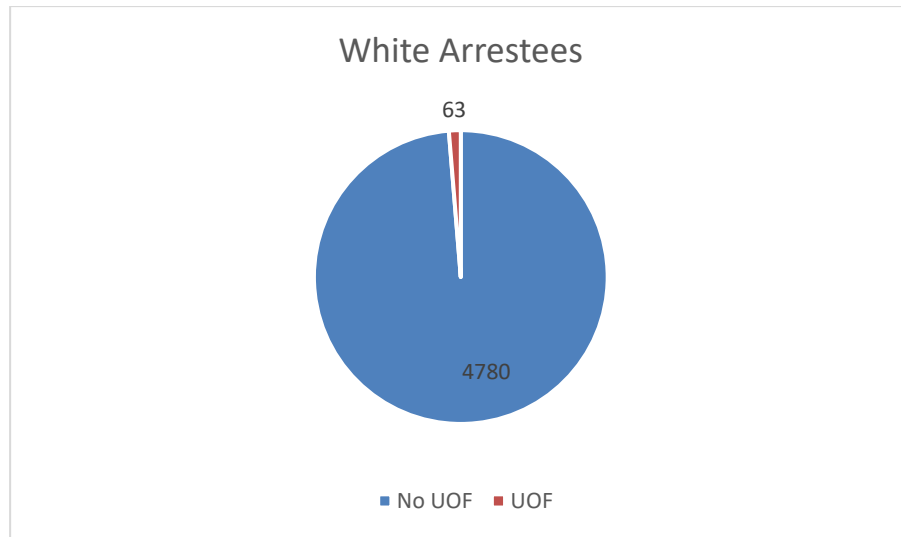
Figure 15



774 Black/African-American individuals were arrested. 11 Black/African-American individuals were involved in use of force incidents. The force to arrest ratio is 1.4%. See Figure 15.

Force Rate for White Arrestees

Figure 16



4780 White individuals were arrested. 63 White individuals were involved in use of force incidents. The force to arrest ratio is 1.3%. See Figure 16.

Summaries each use of force incident are available on SPD’s website at the following link:
<https://my.spokanecity.org/police/accountability/use-of-force/>

2022 Racial/Ethnic Breakdown of Use of Force

Incidents Involving American Indian/Alaskan Native Individuals

One incident involving American Indian/Alaskan Native Individuals was officer-initiated, a traffic stop where the suspect had a felony warrant and fled. The other incidents stemmed from calls for service: Fire, Shooting, Person with a Weapon, Arson, Trouble Unknown, and Accident Hit and Run.

Incident	Type of Call	Force Used	Reason	Outcome
F22-005	Fire Call for Service (CFS)	TASER™	Assaulting Officer	Jail. 2 nd Degree Reckless Burning, felony warrant.
F22-035	Shooting CFS	Pointed firearm	Assaulting Officer	Jail. 1 st Degree Attempted Murder.
F22-038	Person with a Weapon CFS	Pointed firearm	Threat to Harm Others	Jail. Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, Brandishing a Weapon
F22-040	Arson CFS	Body Weight/Arrest Tactics	Felony Flee	Jail. 3 rd Degree Assault, 1 st Degree Reckless Burning
F22-055	Trouble Unknown CFS	Pointed firearm	Threat to harm others	Detained - multi-agency investigation
F22-062	Accident Hit and Run CFS	TASER™	Threat to harm others	Jail. False Statements, Felony warrant
F22-065	Traffic Stop	Takedown Technique, Level 2 Strikes	Felony Flee	Jail. Attempt to Elude, Felony warrant

Incidents Involving Asian Individuals

No Asian individuals were involved in use of force incidents.

Incidents Involving Black/African American Individuals

In most use of force incidents involving Black/African American individuals, the incident started with a call for service. The incidents concluded with felony charges, except one instance where there were misdemeanor Domestic Violence charges that mandated an arrest.



Incident	Type of Call	Force Used	Reason	Outcome
F22-001	Malicious Mischief Call for Service (CFS)	Pointed firearm	Threat to Harm Others	Jail. 1 st Degree Criminal Trespass, 2 nd Degree Felony Malicious Mischief.
F22-004	Traffic Stop	OC	Resisting Arrest – barricaded in vehicle	Jail. Felony warrant. False statements, fail to cooperate, driving without a license, trip permit violation.
F22-019	Traffic Stop	Pointed firearm, TASER™	Assaulting Officer	Jail. Vehicular Assault, DUI Drugs.
F22-025	Burglary CFS	OC	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Residential Burglary
F22-033	Person with a Weapon CFS	Less-lethal beanbag shotgun	Threat to harm others	Jail. Felony warrant, Brandishing a Weapon.
F22-036	Burglary CFS	OC	Resisting Arrest – barricaded in house. Used Behavioral Health, Hostage, Drone, SWAT.	Jail. Residential Burglary, 3 rd Degree Malicious Mischief.
F22-042	Officer-Initiated – apprehending suspect with a warrant	Takedown Technique	Assaulting Officer	Jail. Felony warrant, 3 rd Degree Assault.
F22-044	Disorderly CFS	OC	Felony Flee. Barricaded in house. Negotiators and SWAT called out.	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault, Felony Harassment- Threat to Kill, Felony warrant
F22-048	Officer-Initiated – apprehending suspect with a warrant	TASER™	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Mandatory DV arrest. Warrants for 1 st Degree Robbery, 2 nd Degree Assault, and Felony DV Protection Order Violation.
K22-015	Domestic Violence CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault Strangulation, 4 th Degree Assault-DV, Felony Harassment, and Interfering with Reporting of a DV
K22-019	Domestic Violence CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. Mandatory DV arrest. 4 th Degree Assault-DV.



Incidents Involving Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Individuals

No Hawaiian/Pacific Islander individuals were involved in use of force incidents.

Incidents Involving White Individuals

Most incidents were call for service. Most incidents involved felony charges.

Incident	Type of Call	Force Used	Reason	Outcome
F22-002	Domestic Violence Call for Service (CFS)	TASER™	Threat to Harm others	Jail. Mandatory arrest. 1 st Degree Burglary, 1 st Degree Attempted Arson, 2 nd Degree Assault, 2 nd Degree Malicious Mischief, DUI.
F22-003	Assault CFS	OC	Assaulting Citizen	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault
F22-006	Disorderly CFS	TASER™	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Disorderly conduct, Resisting arrest.
F22-007	Officer-Initiated – stolen vehicle recovery	Takedown Technique, Body Weight	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Possession of Stolen Vehicle, 3 rd Degree Possession of Stolen Property, Felony warrant.
F22-008	Assault CFS	OC	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault
F22-009/K22-001	Domestic Violence CFS	OC, K9	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Mandatory arrest. Residential Burglary-DV
F22-010	Burglary CFS	Level 2 Strikes	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 2 nd Degree Burglary.
F22-011	Assist other Agency, SCSO, in apprehending Murder suspect	OC	Felony Flee – SWAT callout	Jail. 1 st Degree Murder
F22-012	Theft CFS	Handcuffing, Body Weight	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 3 rd Degree Theft
F22-014	Trespassing CFS	Handcuffing, Body Weight	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 1 st Degree Criminal Trespassing.
F22-016/K22-006	Welfare Check CFS	Less-lethal 40mm rounds, OC, and K9	Harming self	Hospital for Involuntary Treatment Act



F22-017	Disorderly CFS	Handcuffing, Body Weight	Misdemeanor flee	Hospital for Involuntary Treatment Act
F22-018	Burglary CFS	Level 2 Tactic	Assaulting Officer	Jail. 3 rd Degree Assault.
F22-020	Domestic Violence CFS	Takedown Technique	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Mandatory arrest. 4 th Degree Assault, 3 rd Degree Malicious Mischief
F22-021	Pedestrian Interference CFS	Handcuffing, Body Weight, Arrest Tactics	Felony Flee	Jail. 1 st Degree Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, 3 rd Degree Assault, False statements
F22-022/K22-007	Warrant CFS	Less-lethal 40mm rounds, OC, and K9	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 2 Felony Assault-DV warrants
F22-023	Domestic Violence CFS	TASER™, Level 2 Strike	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault- DV, 3 rd Degree Assault, 3 rd Degree Malicious Mischief-DV
F22-024	Stolen Vehicle Recovery CFS	Level 2 Strikes	Assaulting Officer	Jail. Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle, 3 rd Degree Assault, 2 nd Degree Possession of Stolen Property
F22-026	Domestic Violence CFS	TASER™	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Felony Domestic Violence Order Violation.
F22-027	Robbery CFS	TASER™	Assaulting Citizen	Jail. 1 st Degree Robbery-Carjacking 1 st Degree Commercial Robbery
F22-028	Assist other agency (Okanogan County Sheriff's Office) on apprehending suspect	OC	Threat to Harm Others (SWAT callout)	Jail. 1 st Degree Assault, Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, Felony Harassment- Threats to Kill
F22-029/K22-014	Burglary CFS	TASER™, Less-lethal 40mm rounds, K9	Harming Self (also Threat to Harm Others)	Hospital for Involuntary Treatment Act. Charges filed for Residential Burglary, 1 st Degree Malicious Mischief, 3 rd Degree Malicious Mischief



F22-030	Assault CFS	Takedown Technique	Felony Flee	Jail. 1 st Degree Robbery
F22-031	Unlawful Camping CFS	Takedown Technique, Body Weight	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Felony warrants, Resisting Arrest.
F22-032	Person with a Weapon	Handcuffing	Misdemeanor Flee	Jail. Felony warrant Weapon Brandishing
F22-034	Theft CFS	Exceptional Technique – pushed suspect from behind, suspect fell to face	Felony Flee	Jail. 2 nd Degree Burglary, 2 nd Degree Theft
F22-037	Burglary CFS	OC, Body Weight	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Residential Burglary, 3 rd Degree Felony Malicious Mischief
F22-039	Suicide CFS	OC, Less-lethal 40mm rounds	Harming Self	Hospital for Involuntary Treatment Act
F22-041	Fight CFS	TASER™	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 1 st Degree Assault, 4 th Degree Assault-DV
F22-045	Argument CFS	TASER™	Assaulting Officer	Jail 2 nd Degree Assault
F22-049	Assault CFS	OC	Assaulting Officer	Jail. 3 rd Degree Assault, felony warrant
F22-050	Stolen Vehicle Recovery CFS	Level 2 Tactic	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Felony warrant.
F22-051	Domestic Violence Order Violation CFS	Body Weight	Misdemeanor Flee	Jail. Mandatory arrest. DV Order Violation.
F22-052	Crisis CFS	TASER™	Threat to harm others	Hospital for Involuntary Treatment Act
F22-053	Welfare check CFS	TASER™	Assaulting Officer	Jail. 3 rd Degree Assault, Taking a Motor Vehicle without Permission
F22-054	Assault CFS	TASER™	Assaulting Citizen	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault
F22-056	DV with a Weapon CFS	Pointed Firearm	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault, Felony harassment – threats to kill
F22-057	Trouble Unknown CFS	TASER™, Body Weight, Exceptional Technique	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault, 1 st Degree Criminal Trespass
F22-058	Stolen Vehicle Recovery CFS	OC	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Theft of Motor Vehicle



F22-059	Suspicious Person CFS	Body Weight	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Making False Statements, Resisting Arrest
F22- 060/K22- 017	Domestic Violence CF	Arrest Tactics, K9	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 3 rd Degree Assault.
F22-061	Traffic Stop	Level 2 Tactic	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Felony warrant. Possession of another's Identification, Resisting Arrest
F22-063	Stolen Vehicle Recovery CFS	Pointed firearm	Threat to harm others	Jail. Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle
F22-064	Accident with Injury CFS	TASER™	Assaulting Officer	Jail. 3 rd Degree Assault, Violation of Protection Order, 3 rd Degree Escape
K22-002	Burglary CFS	K9	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Residential Burglary.
K22-004	Burglary CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Burglary
K22-005	Burglary CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. Felony warrant, Violation of DV Protection Order
K22-008	Domestic Violence CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. Mandatory DV arrest. 4 th Degree Assault-DV.
K22-009	Arson Domestic Violence CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. 1 st Degree Arson, Reckless Endangerment
K22-010	Robbery CFS	K9	Resisting Arrest	Jail. 1 st Degree Robbery
K22-011	Domestic Violence CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. Felony DV Protection Order Violation, Residential Burglary-DV.
K22-012	Domestic Violence CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, 4 th Degree Assault-DV.
K22-013	Domestic Violence CFS	K9	Resisting Arrest	Jail. Mandatory DV arrest. 4 th Degree Assault-DV (felony due to prior convictions)
K22-016	Assist other Agency – SCSO	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Commercial Robbery

K22-018	Burglary CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. Mandatory DV arrest. 4th Degree Assault-DV.
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Incidents Involving Individuals of White/Hispanic Ethnicity

Three White individuals of Hispanic ethnicity were involved in a use of force incident.

Incident	Type of Call	Force Used	Reason	Outcome
F22-013/K22-003	Domestic Violence CFS	OC, K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. 2 nd Degree Assault, Unlawful Imprisonment, Malicious Mischief
F22-043	Shooting CFS	Pointed firearm	Threat to harm others	Jail. 1 st Degree Murder
K22-005	Burglary CFS	K9	Threat to harm others	Jail. Mandatory DV arrest. DV warrant and DV Protection Order Violation

Officer Characteristics

87 different officers were involved in the 81 use of force incidents in 2022. This includes supervisors who did not use physical force but ordered another employee to use force. Except for one detective, involved officers were working in a patrol function at the time of the incident. A patrol assignment may include the role of Neighborhood Resource Officer, or a Detective serving on the SWAT team when SWAT assists patrol with a situation such as an armed barricaded suspect.

Most involved officers held the rank of officer. One officer held the rank of detective, eight officers held the rank of corporal, and four officers held the rank of sergeant when they used force. Several supervisors were listed as involved because they ordered a use of force, including three captains, four lieutenants, and two sergeants.

Involved officers averaged 11 years of service with the Spokane Police Department. Officers' previous law enforcement experience at other agencies was not factored in (only their time with SPD). The average age of officers involved in use of force incidents was 40 years old. Three of the involved officers were female; the rest were male. SPD officer demographics are 10% female and 90% male.

Of the 87 officers involved in use of force incidents in 2022, 72 of the involved officers identified their race/ethnicity as White, seven as Hispanic, four as Black/African American, one as Native American, and one as Other/Not Indicated. Of officers employed in 2022, the majority have identified as White. 18 officers identified as Hispanic; six as Black/African American; six as Native American; six as Other/Not Indicated; four as Multi-Racial; two as Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and one as Asian. Some officers did not provide race/ethnicity information. Note: It is



important to note that these numbers do not reflect current staffing numbers. The numbers above included officers employed by SPD in 2022 regardless of hire, retirement, or separation date.

Outcomes of the Investigation and Review of Use of Force

During the review, the chain of command examines the entire incident and all officer actions. Officer actions during use of force incidents were in compliance with SPD policy and state law 88% of the time. In 5% of the cases, the force was out of compliance with policy. In 7% of the cases, the force was in compliance with policy but there were other policy violations.

Four of the 81 use of force incidents were found to be in violation of policy. Two out-of-policy incidents involved TASER deployments. In the first incident, the chain of command determined that the fleeing suspect was not exhibiting assaultive behavior at the time leading up to the TASER application. The review noted that there were several factors related to the suspect's erratic behavior and violent history that were concerning, and it was understandable that the officer wanted to take the suspect into custody. The officer received training. In the second incident, the involved employee deployed his TASER on a suspect who was actively resisting arrest but was not assaultive. Since this was the second time the employee deployed his TASER this way, he was sanctioned with a Letter of Reprimand and remedial training.

In the other two out-of-policy incidents, the use of force was pointing a firearm directly at the suspect for more than a momentary period of time. The direct pointing of a firearm at a suspect under these circumstances is not consistent with department training – the firearm should have been lowered sooner. Both officers received training on the department's firearms training philosophy.

Six incidents of the 81 were associated with secondary policy violations. In three incidents, the chain of command determined that a TASER deployment was reasonable, but there was a policy violation of an accidental TASER™ discharge occurring during the incident. The Training Unit is providing a TASER certification in the fall of 2023, with more hands-on TASER training (including practice with cartridges).

In two incidents, the use of force was within policy, but there was a secondary policy shortfall of demeanor by one of the officers on the scene. The officers both received a documentation of counseling as a sanction. The sixth incident involved the officer not reporting the force used; the sanction was a DOC.

The other 71 incidents (88%) were found to be in compliance with policy. No Excessive Force allegations were Sustained.

Training Issues Identified During the Review Process

SPD's extensive reviews of incidents often identify opportunities for training, both on an individual basis and for the entire department. The Chain of Command review identified several training issues while reviewing non-deadly force incidents, recommending individual training in areas such as officer safety, report writing, criminal procedures, professional language, and giving a command to warn other officers before a TASER™ deployment. In each case where



reviewers identified issues, they arranged for training. Several incidents were debriefed as a team or shift at roll call, and several were debriefed during Supervisor Training. The secondary review by the Use of Force Review Board (UOFRB) also generated suggestions for future training, such as incorporating more hands-on TASER™ training in the TASER™ re-certification.

Conclusion

Thorough review of use of force incidents is critical to the Spokane Police Department. These reviews provide a comprehensive analysis of all incidents that have been individually reviewed and reveals trends that inform future training decisions. A proper review also helps improve the police department's legitimacy and relationship with the community. Police departments derive their authority from legal and constitutional principles designed to uphold the safety and dignity of the public, and unreasonable use of force undermines the community's trust. Therefore, thorough evaluation is required when vesting officers with the authority to use objectively reasonable force. The Spokane Police Department is committed to providing a comprehensive annual review of incidents and making that review available to the public.

Main Findings of 2022

The ratio of use of force incidents compared to citizen contacts is very low. In 2022, SPD officers were involved in 99,751 incidents. SPD officers used non-deadly force in 81 incidents in 2022.

Use of force incidents were low across racial demographics – less than 2% of arrests.

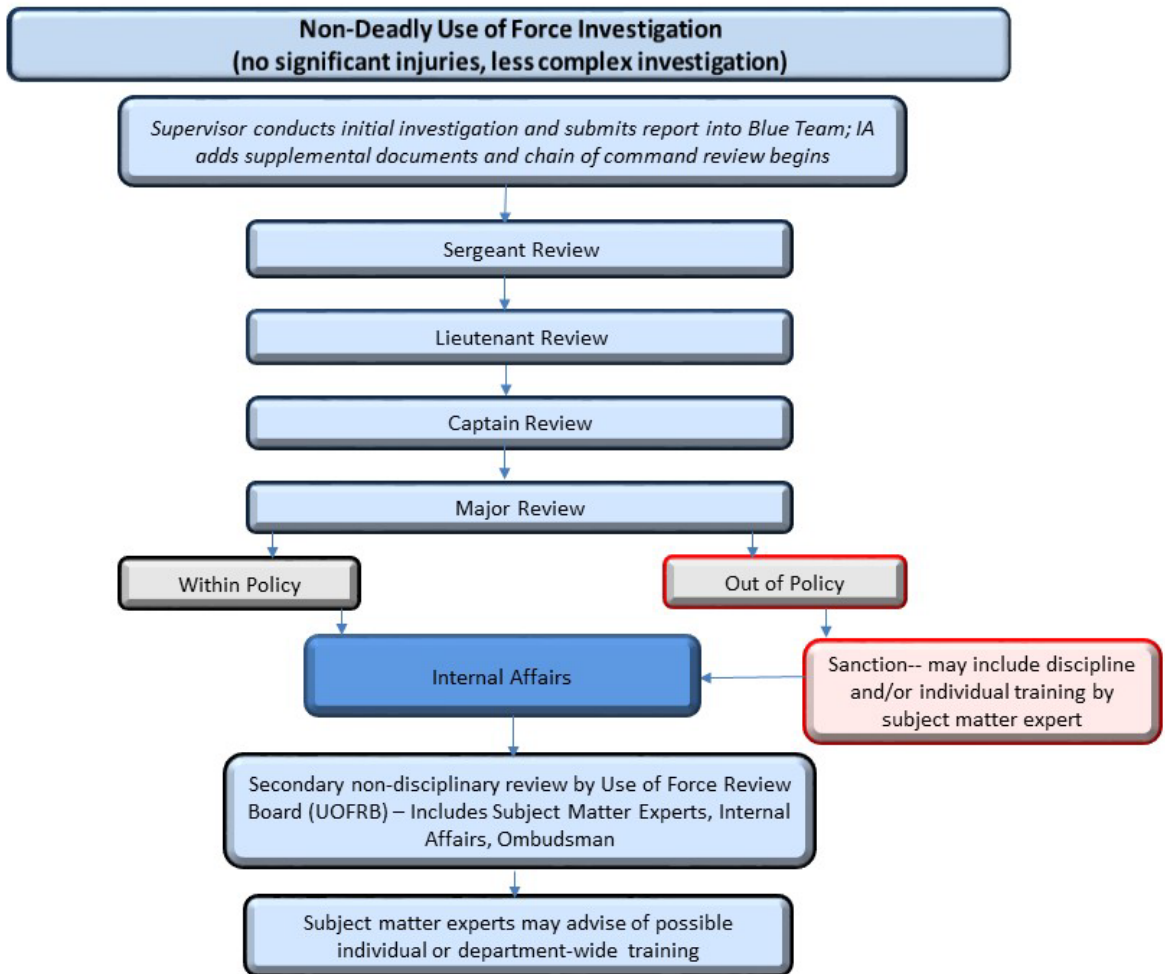
Comparing the City of Spokane Police Department arrest demographics with the use of force demographics shows that officers used force on 0-1.9% of subjects arrested. To keep data presentation consistent with prior years, arrestees were not separated by sex for each racial group. See Appendices C on Arrests by Race.

- American Indian/Native Alaskan Force Rate: 1.9%
- Asian Force Rate: 0%
- Black/African American Force Rate: 1.4%
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Force Rate: 0%
- Unknown Race Force Rate: 0%
- White Force Rate: 1.3%

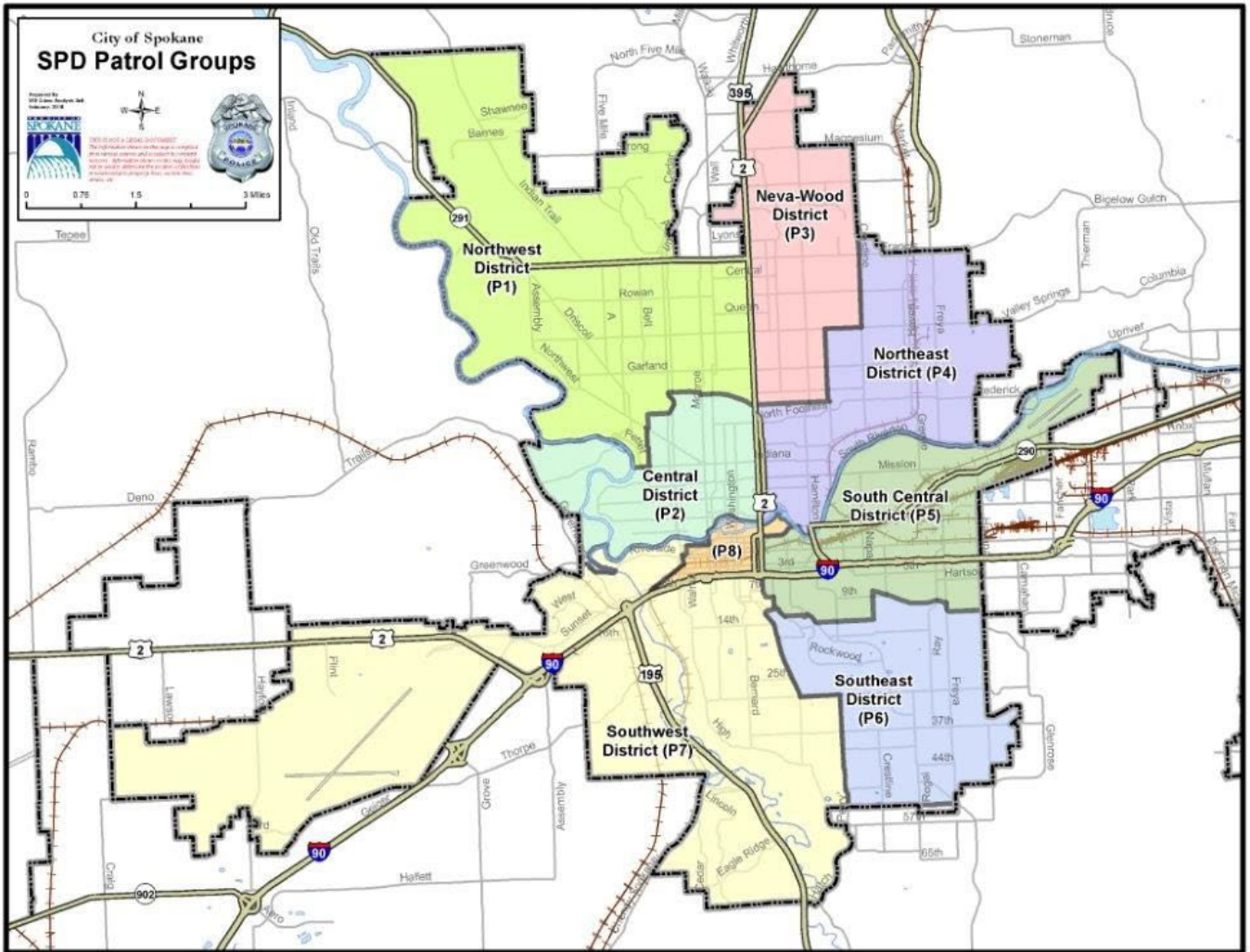
Officer actions during use of force incidents followed SPD policy and state law 88% of the time. In 5% of the cases, the force was out of compliance with policy. In 7% of the cases, the force was in compliance with policy but there were other policy violations.

The Chain of Command review identified several training issues while reviewing non-deadly force incidents, recommending individual training. In each case where reviewers identified issues, they arranged for training. Several incidents were debriefed as a team or shift at roll call, and several were debriefed during Supervisor Training.

Appendix A: Non-Deadly Use of Force Investigation Flow Chart



Appendix B: Police Districts



Appendix C: Arrests by Sex and Race

**Arrests by Sex, Ethnicity, and Race
(where an arrest report was written or a citation was issued)**

Row Labels	Count of Arrest Total
Female	1587
American Indian-Alaskan Native	153
Asian	29
Black	140
Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	9
Unknown	57
White	1199
Male	4662
American Indian-Alaskan Native	208
Asian	71
Black	631
Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	60
Unknown	128
White	3564
Unknown	23
American Indian-Alaskan Native	1
Black	3
Unknown	2
White	17
X non-Binary	1
Grand Total	6273

