

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

# REPORT ON POLICE USE OF FORCE

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# Executive Summary

Mandated by Connecticut General Statute 7-282e, this report examines police use-of-force incidents reported between July 1, 2022, and December 31, 2023. The Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (IMRP) at the University of Connecticut analyzed 1,516 incidents reported by 82 municipal police departments and the Connecticut State Police covering the 2022 and 2023 calendar years.

This report provides a brief overview of the constitutional, statutory, and POSTC (Police Officer Standards and Training Council) policies that define the legal framework for police use of force in Connecticut, which requires that force be “reasonably necessary” and used only as a last resort. The analysis that follows is primarily descriptive, offering statistical insights into patterns and correlations observed in the data. However, due to limitations in the available data—particularly the absence of detailed information on individual arrests and incidents—the report cannot establish causation or fully assess the presence or drivers of racial disparities and other disproportionalities. As such, it does not evaluate the justification of any specific use-of-force incident or attribute responsibility for disproportionate outcomes to any law enforcement agency.

During this reporting period, a new standardized data collection tool and reporting manual were implemented to improve consistency, accuracy, and compliance statewide. These enhancements reflect recent legislative reforms aimed at increasing transparency and refining reporting practices.

Through data analysis, this report highlights key trends in force application, subject demographic information, and patterns of officer and subject behavior. It also calls for expanded research into how subject behavior influences officer decision-making in real time.

Ultimately, this report supports Connecticut’s broader commitment to transparency, accountability, and public trust in law enforcement by using rigorous data to inform policy and practice.

## Key Data Findings

We evaluated 1,199 use-of-force incidents involving 1,321 subjects and 1,128 officers reported by 82 municipal police departments<sup>1</sup> between July 1, 2022, and December 31, 2023. Six agencies reported no qualifying incidents during this period. Additionally, data from 12 agencies were excluded from the analysis due to data extraction issues. Most of the reported incidents were concentrated among a small number of departments—ten agencies accounted for over half (54%) of all reported incidents. In terms of proportionality, use-of-force incidents represented approximately 1.6% of the 96,483 arrests made statewide during the study period, although this rate varied significantly by department.

Demographic analysis revealed disproportionate uses of force across race and gender. Black individuals accounted for 41.4% of subjects involved in use-of-force incidents, despite comprising only 34.3% of total arrestees. In contrast, White individuals were underrepresented, comprising 56.0% of force subjects compared to 62.8% of arrestees. Hispanic individuals, on the other hand, were proportionally represented at both the arrest and use-of-force levels statewide; however, disproportionalities were observed within certain departments. Males were disproportionately subjected to force, comprising 85.7% of those

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<sup>1</sup> 317 incidents submitted by the Connecticut State Police were analyzed in a separate section due to differences in the reporting mechanisms and are not included in this count.

involved in incidents, despite making up only 71.2% of all arrestees. Use-of-force incidents were most prevalent among individuals aged 31 to 40, followed by those aged 18 to 30.

The most common types of force reported included verbal commands<sup>2</sup> (used in 78.4% of incidents), physical control tactics like takedowns and holds (46.6%), and firearm-point only situations where the weapon was drawn but not discharged (40.3%). Tasers were deployed in approximately 29.3% of incidents. More severe tactics, such as chemical agents, K-9 deployment, and firearm discharges, were rare (6% of all incidents). Many incidents involved multiple officers using different types of force on the same individual, underscoring the complexity of these encounters.

Officer perception played a central role in decision-making. In nearly 34.3% of incidents, subjects were perceived as actively aggressive, while 31.9% were considered possible threats. Mental health concerns were also common, with 25.3% of subjects perceived as emotionally disturbed. Resistance by subjects varied widely, with fleeing (44.3%), verbal or hostile behavior (34.7%), and combative stance (32.5%) among the most frequently reported behaviors. Notably, more severe resistance, such as threatening use of weapons, was reported in 13% of cases.

The analysis of escalation showed that officers typically began with lower-level tactics—most commonly verbal commands—and escalated only as necessary. While verbal commands were often the first tactic employed, unsurprisingly, they also required the highest average number of steps (2.56) before compliance was achieved. In contrast, less frequently used methods such as pepper spray or less-lethal projectiles led to faster resolution, often within a single step. Departments with a higher average number of force escalation steps tended to report more officer and subject injuries, highlighting the physical risks involved in these encounters.

Although racial differences were present in some departments, the report's analysis of force escalation relative to resistance severity found no statistically significant difference in the number of force escalation steps based solely on subject race. However, we recommend further research, as findings in high-severity situations showed slightly higher escalation for Black subjects, a result approaching statistical significance.

In terms of injuries, 373 officer injuries and 1,082 subject injuries were documented, with both types of injuries positively correlated (approximately Pearson's  $r = 0.50$ ) with the number of force escalation steps. This underscores the importance of de-escalation tactics and informed policy interventions aimed at reducing physical harm for all parties involved.

## **Recommendations and Future Research**

To strengthen the effectiveness, accountability, and transparency of police use-of-force reporting in Connecticut, this report offers several key recommendations. First, the report highlights the need for expanded data collection that includes detailed information on non-use-of-force arrests, enabling more robust comparisons and deeper analysis of each incident. Such data would also support the development of more rigorous, causal research frameworks capable of establishing counterfactuals and better clarifying racial and other disproportionalities. At present, the analysis remains largely descriptive, offering basic

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<sup>2</sup> Only use of force incidents that involved at least one physical or non-verbal force action were included in the analysis. While all force actions—such as verbal commands—were documented, it is expected that verbal commands appear frequently, as they are typically the first step taken by officers in a use-of-force encounter. However, incidents that involved *only* verbal commands, with no subsequent force actions, were excluded from this dataset.

statistical inferences about observed patterns and correlations. Second, simplifying and digitizing the use-of-force reporting process, particularly by incorporating conditional logic and user-friendly interfaces, would improve accuracy, reduce officer burden, and enhance data reliability. Technological integration with case management systems and mobile data terminals would further streamline data entry and increase compliance. Future research will need to examine the relationship between subject behavior, officer decision-making, and escalation patterns, with special attention to mental health and crisis response. By investing in ongoing analysis and improved data infrastructure, Connecticut can continue to lead in promoting fair, effective, and accountable policing practices.

# Introduction

The primary duty of the police is to serve the community while upholding the constitutional rights of all individuals. To fulfill this responsibility, officers maintain public order and safety, protect people and property, enforce laws, and investigate criminal activity. Additionally, they address various social issues, including substance abuse, homelessness, and mental health crises, while resolving personal disputes and quality-of-life concerns.

Police officers are authorized to use force in the course of their duties, though there is no universally agreed-upon definition of this authority. The International Association of Chiefs of Police define use of force as “the amount of effort required by police to compel compliance by an unwilling subject.”<sup>3</sup> Force may be classified as either lethal, resulting in serious injury or death, or less-lethal, which is not likely to cause such harm.

The use of force is generally permitted under specific circumstances, such as self-defense or the protection of others. The guiding principle is that officers should use only the amount of force necessary to de-escalate a situation, make an arrest, or prevent harm. In a potentially life-threatening situation, an officer will quickly tailor a response and apply force if necessary.<sup>4</sup> Because no two incidents—or officers—are the same, responses vary based on situational factors, training, and experience. However, force that could cause injury or death should always be a last resort.

Research and public policy emphasize that the appropriate level of force is that which is “reasonably necessary” to gain compliance. Yet determining what is reasonable in any given situation is complex, requiring an assessment of the circumstances and the officer's decision-making process.<sup>5</sup> Studies have examined various aspects of police force, including types used, officer perceptions, excessive force incidents, and the number of officers and citizens involved. However, a National Institute of Justice report highlights that research does not fully address the dynamic nature of police encounters, questioning whether suspect resistance leads to police force or vice versa.<sup>6</sup>

The use of force may be justified even in nonviolent or low-level offenses if a suspect uses or imminently threatens physical force while an officer is attempting to resolve an incident, make an arrest, or prevent

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<sup>3</sup> International Association of Chiefs of Police, *Police Use of Force in American, 2011*, Alexandria, VA 2011

<sup>4</sup> National Institute of Justice, *Overview of Police Use of Force*, March 5, 2020

<sup>5</sup> William Terrill, *Police Use of Force: A Transactional Approach*, Justice Quarterly, March 2005

<sup>6</sup> National Institute of Justice, *Use of Force by Police: Overview of National and Local Data*, United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, NCJ 176330, 199

escape.<sup>7</sup> Moreover, an officer's perception of an imminent threat does not always require an overt act of aggression by the suspect.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> In 2010, for example, the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit held that it was objectively reasonable for police officers to "tase" two nonviolent protesters who were "not threatening the safety of the any person with their behavior" and were suspected only of the "relatively minor crimes of trespass and resisting arrest." The protesters had chained themselves to a "several hundred-pound barrel drum" and police had "attempted to use other means to effect the arrest, none of which proved feasible, and used the taser only as a last resort, after warning plaintiffs and giving them a last opportunity to unchain themselves." *Crowell v. Kirkpatrick*, 400 Fed. Appx. 592 (2d Cir. 2010.)

<sup>8</sup> For example, the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit recently found that the use of force was "reasonable" when an officer "tased" a man who stood up after he had been told to kneel. The man was suspected of criminal activity and had just led police on a car chase. *MacLeod v Town of Brattleboro*, 548 Fed.App. 6 (2d Cir. 2013.)



## Background

This is the second report on use-of-force incidents submitted by state and municipal police departments in accordance with Public Act 19-90. The data analyzed in this report covers an eighteen-month period, July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. Prepared for the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) by the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (IMRP) at the University of Connecticut (UConn), this report aims to enhance transparency and accountability in policing.

In 2019, the Connecticut General Assembly passed, and Governor Lamont signed, Public Act 19-90, *An Act Concerning the Use of Force and Pursuits by Police and Increasing Police Accountability and Transparency*. Section 1 of the act mandates OPM's Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division (CJPPD) to collect and report data on police use-of-force incidents. Since February 2020, all state and municipal police departments have been required to submit this data annually to OPM's CJPPD.

The IMRP collects and processes these reports on behalf of OPM's CJPPD. Initially, most submissions were received as paper forms, requiring manual data entry into an electronic database. In 2020, legislative changes refined the criteria for reporting use-of-force incidents and established a clearer reporting process. In collaboration with the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC), the IMRP developed a new reporting tool implemented on July 1, 2022. Appendix A includes the updated use-of-force incident reporting form required since July 2022. Additionally, the IMRP published a reporting manual, and POSTC issued General Notices 21-05, 22-01, and 22-04 to clarify data collection procedures.

The implementation of the new reporting form has enhanced the consistency of data collection, providing greater insight into when and why police use force. These improvements support efforts to refine public policy, enhance officer training, and ensure clearer guidance for law enforcement. Pursuant to Public Act 20-1, all police departments are required to report a record of any use of force incident that meets the following criteria:

1. When a police officer witnesses another police officer use what the witnessing officer objectively knows to be unreasonable, excessive, or illegal use of force or is otherwise aware of such force by another police officer.
2. When a police officer uses physical force that is likely to cause serious physical injury, as defined in Connecticut General Statutes §53a-3<sup>9</sup>, to another person or the death of another person, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Striking another person with an open or closed hand, elbow, knee, club, or baton
  - b. Kicking another person
  - c. Using capsaicin oleoresin (commonly referred to as pepper spray,) or an electronic defense weapon, as defined in Connecticut General Statutes §53a-3<sup>10</sup>, or less lethal projectile on another person
  - d. Using a chokehold or other method of restraint applied to the neck area or that otherwise impedes the ability to breathe or restricts blood circulation to the brain of another person

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<sup>9</sup> "Serious physical injury" means physical injury which creates a substantial risk of death, or which causes serious disfigurement, serious impairment of health or serious loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ.

<sup>10</sup> "Electronic defense weapon" means a weapon by which electronic impulse or current is capable of immobilizing a person temporarily, but is not capable of inflicting death or serious physical injury, including a stun gun or other conductive energy devices (commonly referred to as "Taser".)

- e. Discharges a firearm, except during a training exercise or in the course of dispatching an animal.

This report analyzed use-of-force data submitted between July 1, 2022 and December 31, 2023. Future reports will be based on calendar year reporting.

# I. Police Authority to Use Force

The authority for police officers to use force against citizens is established in the United States Constitution, state law, and federal and state case law. Departmental policies and training requirements for police officers establish the guidelines for using force and specific weapons or tactics.

## Constitutional Authority

The Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution Bill of Rights sets the standard that all government actions be reasonable and non-arbitrary. The Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments protect against government infringements of personal liberty, including the infliction of physical injury. Constitutionally, reasonableness has substantive and procedural components. Two United States Supreme Court cases are especially relevant to the police use of force: *Tennessee v Garner* (471 U.S. 1, 1985) and *Graham v Connor* (490 U.S. 386, 1989.)

In 1985, the court ruled that the police shooting at an unarmed and otherwise dangerous fleeing suspect as a method of stopping them from escaping was unconstitutional and therefore prohibited. The court emphatically found that the use of deadly force to prevent the escape of all felony suspects who do not pose immediate threats to the officer or others, whatever the circumstances, was unreasonable. While the court later recognized that a suspect fleeing in a speeding car might pose an immediate threat and danger to others (*Scott v Harris*, 550 U.S. 372, 2007,) it did not expand that to include an unarmed individual fleeing on foot.

In 1989, the United States Supreme Court established a broader standard of “objectively reasonable” for determining the legality of any use of force by a police officer, not just those cases specifically involving lethal force against a fleeing felony suspect. This assessment must be made from the perspective of a “reasonable” police officer on the scene, including what facts the officer knew at the time. The *Graham* decision did not overrule or limit the *Garner* prohibition, but the court set an “objective reasonableness” standard for evaluating excessive force allegations against police officers. Many states and agencies go beyond the minimum standard established in *Graham v Connor*.

## Connecticut State Law

Connecticut law (Connecticut General Statutes §53a-22(c)) authorizes police officers to use deadly physical force only when they reasonably believe it is necessary to:

- Defend themselves or protect another person from the use of imminent deadly physical force by a third person
- Arrest a person they reasonably believe has committed or attempted to commit a crime that involved the infliction of serious physical injury or
- To prevent the escape from custody of a person they reasonably believe has committed a felony that involved death or the infliction of serious physical injury.

Police officers are required to provide a warning, when feasible, of their intent to use deadly physical force.

Pursuant to Public Acts 20-1 and 21-4, police officers are no longer authorized to use deadly physical force against another person for **threatened** infliction of serious physical injury against the officer or another

person. Police officers who engage in a motor vehicle pursuit are also prohibited from discharging a firearm into or at a fleeing vehicle unless the officer has a reasonable belief that there is an imminent threat of death to the officer or another person posed by the fleeing vehicle or an occupant in the vehicle. Police officers may not intentionally position themselves in front of a fleeing vehicle unless such action is a tactic approved by the employing police department.

## Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council Policy

POSTC use of force policy states, “a peaceful resolution is the best, most desired outcome in all situations” between the police and the public, and “police officers must use only the minimum level of force necessary to achieve a lawful purpose.” Any use of force by a police officer must be reasonable, proportionate to the threat, and employed in a manner consistent with POSTC policy. (Refer to Appendix B for a copy of POST General Notice 21-5, Use of Force Policy.)

POSTC provides guidance and training on the use of lethal and less-lethal force based on the United States Supreme Court and Connecticut Supreme Court case law and Connecticut state law. Police officers receive pre-and in-service training on the conditions, criteria, and decision-making in which the use of force may be allowed. Officers are trained in the use of strategies and techniques to reduce the intensity of or stabilize a conflict of potentially volatile situation (de-escalation techniques) and the use of tactics and weapons including:

- verbal commands,
- physical control tactics such as pressure point, control hold, leg sweeps, kicks, and takedown,
- chemical munitions,
- oleoresin capsicum spray (“pepper spray”),
- electronic defense weapon (“Taser”),
- canine,
- impact weapon and baton,
- less lethal projectile (e.g., rubber, sandbag, or foam rounds, tear gas, flash-bang devices, etc.,) and
- firearms.

POSTC policy requires the use of force by a police officer must be “necessary, reasonable, and proportionate to the threat encountered” and only be used to achieve a lawful purpose. An officer should consider the following when deciding to use force:

- immediacy of the threat,
- nature and severity of the crime or circumstances,
- nature and duration of actions taken by the person,
- whether the person is actively resisting being taken into custody,
- whether the subject is attempting to evade arrest and escape,
- number of persons involved in comparison to the number of officers on the scene,
- physical condition of the person in comparison to the officer,
- person’s history of violence, if known,
- presence of a hostile crowd or agitators, and/or

- whether the person is under the influence of drugs or alcohol to the extent it would affect their tolerance toward pain.

POSTC policy allows that police officers may use proportionate physical force when necessary and reasonable to:

- gain control of a person who poses an imminent risk to the officer, themselves, or a third person,
- effect an arrest of a person whom the officer reasonably believes to have committed an offense or pursuant to a warrant,
- prevent the escape from custody of a person, or
- gain compliance with a lawful order.

Police officers are prohibited from using force against (1) a person whose health, age, physical condition, or circumstances make it likely that serious physical injury will result or (2) any handcuffed or restrained person except to counter active resistance, prevent escape, prevent the person from sustaining injury, or prevent the person from injuring another. They may not use physical force in retaliation.

Police officers are generally prohibited from employing the following tactics unless the circumstances are such the deadly force may be deemed reasonable and necessary: (1) intentional use of a chokehold, neck restraint, or standing on a person's neck; (2) intentional strikes to the head, neck, spine, or sternum with an impact weapon, improvised impact weapon, knee kick, or hard object, or striking the head against a hard surface; and (3) intentional discharge of a less-lethal launcher projectile at close range to the head, neck, or chest.

Pursuant to POSTC policy, police officers should employ de-escalation techniques to resolve an intensifying incident and use force as a last resort but should not delay taking protective actions that are immediately necessary or to place themselves or others at imminent risk of harm. De-escalation techniques include but are not limited to using a non-threatening, non-confrontational tone of voice, listening carefully and expressing empathy, slowing down the pace of an incident, waiting to take action until the threat subsides, placing additional space or barriers between the officer and a person, permitting a person to safely move about, permitting a person to ask questions or engage in conversation, tactical repositioning or seeking cover, and requesting additional resources.

Police officers have a duty to intervene and attempt to stop any other officer, regardless of rank or department, using force that is excessive, unreasonable, or illegal. Officers are required to report all incidents of excessive, unreasonable, or illegal force. This does not apply to officers acting in an undercover capacity if intervening will significantly compromise their safety or the safety of another. Any officer who witnessed and failed to intervene in an incident involving excessive, unreasonable, or illegal use of force may be subject to disciplinary action and criminal prosecution for the actions taken by the offending officer.

A police officer may use less lethal force when reasonable and necessary to overcome the use or imminent use of force against an officer or another person. The level of less-lethal force used must be proportionate to the perceived or existing threat. Less lethal force may not be used against any person engaged in passive resistance.

## II. Data Collection and Cleaning Process

Connecticut is among the few states that have established a standardized database to track police use-of-force incidents. This database captures detailed, incident-level data, allowing for the analysis of factors related to the involved officers, subjects, and environmental conditions. The ultimate goal is to develop a sophisticated and reliable system for identifying trends, predictors, and the sequence of events leading to the use of force, addressing the who, what, where, when, how, and potentially why of such incidents.

The IMRP, in collaboration with the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC), developed this data collection system and database. Over time, the system has been enhanced and refined through a structured three-phase improvement plan to ensure more accurate and comprehensive reporting.

### II.A: Data Collection Phases

#### ***Phase 1: Initial Implementation***

In 2019, police departments began reporting use-of-force incidents using internally developed forms, with most agencies adopting a model form provided by the POSTC. However, as previously discussed, the initial reporting and data collection process proved inadequate. Key issues included the POSTC form's failure to capture sufficient data for a comprehensive analysis of police use of force, noncompliance among police departments, and concerns about the validity of reported data. Despite these challenges, the available data were summarized and published in a report in August 2022. This report summarizes data collected between 2019 and 2020.

#### ***Phase 2: System Redesign and Training***

To address the limitations of Phase 1, IMRP and POSTC partnered with the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) to redesign the data collection process. A more robust and detailed reporting form was developed and distributed to state and municipal police departments, available both online (as a fillable PDF) and in paper format. CJIS also established a dedicated database for storing the submitted forms and implemented measures to detect and correct data entry errors.

To support the transition and ensure accuracy and compliance, POSTC and IMRP provided training to all police departments on the revised reporting requirements and procedures.

#### ***Phase 3: Technological Integration***

Phase 3, launched in September 2024, introduced key improvements to the police use-of-force data collection process. The IMRP made minor modifications to the reporting form and collaborated with records management system vendors to facilitate electronic data collection. These upgrades aim to improve data reliability, reduce human error (e.g., through drop-down menus and mandatory fields), and increase compliance with reporting requirements by minimizing the number of departments failing to submit reports.

A significant advancement in Phase 3 will be the integration of the electronic reporting form into case management systems and mobile data terminals (MDTs) in police vehicles. This allows officers to complete reports directly in the field, streamlining data entry and ensuring timely submission.

The technological upgrades will also link the automated use-of-force reporting form with other case management records using unique identifiers, such as case numbers, officer names, or suspect names. This integration enhances data accessibility and consistency across law enforcement databases.

Finally, all collected use-of-force data will be uploaded to CJIS, a centralized database designed to merge and track data from various criminal justice agencies. IMRP plans to leverage CJIS for research purposes, enabling the tracking of policing trends, including use-of-force incidents, and developing interactive dashboards to assist law enforcement and criminal justice administrators in data-driven decision-making.

## II.B: Data Cleaning and Preprocessing

The preparation of the dataset involved thorough data cleaning and preprocessing steps essential to ensure the accuracy and reliability of analyses presented in this report. Key processes included identifying and correcting inconsistencies or missing values, standardizing categorical responses, and verifying the accuracy of date and demographic information. A significant portion of this effort also involved geocoding incident addresses to precise latitude and longitude coordinates to enable detailed spatial analyses. Additional measures, such as the use of a large language model, were used to classify clerical errors in data collection or ambiguous responses in the “Other” categories<sup>11</sup>.

## II.C: Improving Data Collection

Feedback from police departments suggests that some aspects of the current use-of-force reporting form are complex and challenging, particularly in accurately capturing escalation of force through the call-and-response reporting method. Simplifying this process could significantly improve reporting accuracy and ease. One potential solution is transitioning to a streamlined digital interface with conditional logic, guiding officers step-by-step through reporting each force action and corresponding subject response clearly and sequentially. Such a system could automatically prompt relevant questions based on previous answers, reducing confusion around multi-step incidents and ensuring accurate chronological reporting. Simplifying response options, clarifying definitions with pop-up explanations, and allowing for easy narrative inputs within each reporting stage would further improve accuracy and reduce officer burden, ultimately enhancing the reliability of collected data.

## II.D: Data Needs and Future Analysis

A significant limitation of current analyses is the lack of robust data necessary to establish clear counterfactual scenarios, particularly concerning racial disparities in police use-of-force incidents. Currently, the analysis presented is largely descriptive and provides basic statistical inference about patterns and correlations in the data. However, to rigorously establish causation and understand racial disparities or other disproportionalities, future efforts should prioritize obtaining detailed individual arrest

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<sup>11</sup> Specifically, in the data, there are 34 instances where no “Activity that led to incident” was checked, and the reporting officer used the “Other” text field to specify the incident. API access to OpenAI’s large language model, GPT 4o, was used to check if the written text matched any of the six available categories or if it was truly “Other”. Of these 34 instances, half were classified as “possible crime in progress”, with the most common crime reported in the text field being “subject had a gun.” Since the other half of the instances were other, this can largely be attributed to a clerical error upon entry (officer did not check the “possible crime in progress” box or did not see that subject having a gun was one possible crime option available). The content derived from the large language model was reviewed by the research team and verified to be accurate.

data from police departments. This data should include demographics, arrest charges, officer details, and incident circumstances for both use-of-force and non-use-of-force arrests. Such information would enable more precise comparisons and allow for the development of more sophisticated analytical frameworks capable of capturing directional relationships and establishing a deeper understanding of the determinants of police use of force.

Additionally, future analyses could substantially benefit from the geographical data already embedded within reported incidents. The dataset includes incident addresses geocoded to latitude and longitude, offering opportunities for sophisticated spatial analyses. For example, location-based clustering methods could identify specific areas or neighborhoods experiencing disproportionately high use-of-force incidents, controlling for local crime rates and socioeconomic factors. Spatial regression analyses could help understand whether geographic context influences the likelihood of escalation, injury outcomes, or racial disparities. Ultimately, leveraging location-based data could facilitate targeted, data-driven interventions and support more nuanced public policy discussions around policing practices and community engagement.

Beyond the immediate scope of this report, a comprehensive data pipeline was established to facilitate ongoing and future work. This pipeline systematically integrates raw data, applies cleaning and preprocessing protocols, and stores refined datasets ready for various analytical approaches. By streamlining data handling, this pipeline allows for flexible and robust future investigations into police use-of-force incidents, escalation patterns, and related spatial or temporal dynamics not fully explored here.



### III. Summary of Data Findings

The IMRP analyzed use-of-force reports submitted to the state between July 1, 2022, and December 31, 2023. However, this data does not capture the full scope of force incidents that may have occurred in Connecticut during that period<sup>12</sup>. For instance, only 24 reports were received from the Bridgeport Police Department, a figure likely not reflective of the actual number of reportable use-of-force incidents.<sup>13</sup> Additionally, due to data extraction issues, reports from 13 departments could not be fully analyzed.<sup>14</sup> This review is based on data submitted by 82 police departments, which reported a total of 1,199 use-of-force incidents involving 1,321 individuals and 1,128 officers. While the dataset may be incomplete, it still provides valuable insight into use-of-force practices across the state.

To provide context, Connecticut has approximately 8,915 certified police officers serving in municipal, state, special, and tribal departments.<sup>15</sup> This includes officers of all ranks, though the majority are assigned to patrol, investigations, and supervisory roles that require regular public interaction. With a state population of over 3.5 million residents (according to the 2020 Census), these figures help frame the scope and frequency of reported use-of-force incidents.

This section of the report does not include an evaluation of incidents reported by the Connecticut State Police (CSP). During the evaluation period, CSP used its own use-of-force data collection and investigation process rather than the POSTC reporting tool. That data was separately provided to IMRP for analysis and is evaluated in Chapter IV of this report.

Among the 82 reporting police departments, the average number of use-of-force reports submitted was 14.3, while the median was six reports per department. Among these departments:

- 6 reported zero qualifying incidents.<sup>16</sup>
- 31 reported between one and four incidents.
- 20 reported between five and 10 incidents.
- 29 reported between 11 and 100 incidents.
- Two departments reported more than 100 incidents.

Departments that submitted more than 10 reports accounted for 83% of all reported incidents. Additionally, the 10 departments with the highest number of reports contributed to 54% of all reported incidents statewide.

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<sup>12</sup> There is currently no independent mechanism to verify whether a police department has submitted all required use-of-force incident reports. Additionally, not all use-of-force incidents are mandated for submission to the state. Each police department independently determines whether an incident meets the criteria for state reporting. This analysis reflects only the data that was submitted in a timely manner.

<sup>13</sup> In 2019, Bridgeport reported 280 qualifying incidents, and in 2020, they reported 174 qualifying incidents.

<sup>14</sup> Clinton, Easton, Guilford, Meriden, Milford, New Haven, Orange, Waterford, Wethersfield, Willimantic, Windsor Locks, Winsted, and Wolcott all reported use-of-force incidents for the study period. We were unable to extract some or all data from these incidents in a timely manner, and they were excluded from this analysis.

<sup>15</sup> Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training reported 8,915 certified police officers as of July 30, 2024: 7,279 municipal police officers, 976 state police, 592 special police (e.g., universities, state agencies, railroad, and public utilities), and 68 tribal police.

<sup>16</sup> Canton, Groton Long Point, Madison, New Canaan, Portland, Redding, and Woodbridge reported that they had no qualifying incidents during the study period.

### III.A: Force Frequency

This section presents the total number of use-of-force incidents reported by all departments, excluding the Connecticut State Police, including those whose data could not be analyzed in detail in subsequent sections. Due to the reporting inconsistencies discussed throughout this report, caution should be exercised when making direct comparisons between departments based solely on the number of reported incidents.

A key distinction in analyzing these events is the difference between an *interaction* and an *incident*:

- **Interaction:** A single use-of-force action by one officer on one subject. Multiple interactions may occur within the same incident if more than one officer uses force on the same individual.
- **Incident:** The overall use of force on a single subject, regardless of how many officers were involved.

During the study period, a total of 2,204 interactions were reported. On average, departments reported 22 interactions each, while the median was nine interactions per department. The distribution was as follows:

- 41 departments reported fewer than six interactions
- 15 reported between 6 and 10
- 28 reported between 11 and 30
- 12 reported between 30 and 100
- 5 reported more than 100

(See Appendix C.1 for department-level interaction counts.)

There were 1,400 unique incidents reported during the study period, averaging 14 incidents per department, while the median was six incidents per department. This indicates that approximately one-third of all incidents involved multiple officers.

The incident distribution was:

- 48 departments reported fewer than six incidents
- 19 reported between 6 and 10
- 23 reported between 11 and 30
- 7 reported between 30 and 100
- 4 departments reported more than 100 incidents

The four departments with more than 100 reported incidents accounted for 31% of all reported incidents. (See Appendix C.2 for detailed incident counts.)

The FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) collects detailed data from local, county, and state police departments. NIBRS provides broader insight into arrest patterns, including timing, location,

and characteristics of incidents, victims, and offenders. Unlike the Summary Reporting System (SRS), it records all offenses within a single incident—not just the most serious one.

Between July 2022 and December 2023, there were 96,483 recorded arrests in Connecticut. While it is unclear whether each use-of-force incident resulted in an arrest, summons, or medical treatment, even under the assumption that every use-of-force event led to an arrest, such events would still account for only 1.6% of all arrests statewide.

The average rate of use-of-force incidents was 19 per 1,000 arrests. However, this rate varied significantly across departments:

- 65 departments reported rates below the state average
- 28 departments reported rates between 20 and 50 per 1,000 arrests
- 8 departments had rates above 50 per 1,000 arrests

It's important to note that these differences likely reflect variations in reporting practices and levels of diligence rather than differences in policing activity. (See Appendix C.3 for use-of-force rates per 1,000 arrests by department.)

### III.B: Force Demographics

This section of the report, and all subsequent sections, includes only data submitted from the 82 departments that could be fully analyzed. Again, due to the reporting inconsistencies outlined throughout the report, we caution against drawing comparisons between departments based solely on the number of reported incidents. A review of reported use-of-force incidents in Connecticut reveals that when compared to the statewide population demographics, Black and Hispanic individuals are disproportionately represented. Among the 1,321 individuals subjected to force in our sample, 56% were identified as White, 41% as Black, 1.6% as Other, 0.9% as Asian Pacific Islander, and 0.15% as American Indian. While these figures appear disproportionate when compared to residential demographic data, comparisons to arrest data offer a more appropriate—though still imperfect—context for understanding the application of force. White individuals accounted for 62.8% of all arrests but made up only 56.5% of those subjected to force, while Black individuals represented 34.3% of arrests and accounted for 41.1% of use-of-force incidents. Hispanic individuals were involved in 28.1% of use-of-force incidents, closely aligning with their representation in arrest data at 28.8%. These findings indicate that while White individuals experienced force at a lower rate relative to their share of arrests, Black individuals faced a disproportionately higher rate of use-of-force incidents. Table 3.1 provides a detailed comparison of use-of-force incidents by race and ethnicity in relation to arrest rates.

**Table 3. 1: Use of Force by Race and Ethnicity Compared to Arrestee Race and Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Total Subjects	Total Arrestees	UoF Percentage	Arrest Percentage
White	752	60,588	56.0	62.8
Black	556	33,057	41.4	34.3
Other	21	1,769	1.6	1.8
Asian	12	655	0.9	0.7
American Indian	2	414	0.1	0.4

Race/Ethnicity	Total Subjects	Total Arrestees	UoF Percentage	Arrest Percentage
Not Hispanic	963	65,261	71.8	71.2
Hispanic	379	26,363	28.2	28.8

The relationship between use-of-force incidents and arrest rates varies across different police departments. For example, in East Hartford, Black individuals accounted for 11.7% of use-of-force incidents despite representing 2.9% of total arrests ( $p < 0.001$ ). Similar statistically significant disparities were found in Norwalk, where the figures were 5.7% and 2.7%, respectively ( $p < 0.001$ ). However, not all departments exhibited such discrepancies. In Waterbury, the proportion of Black individuals subjected to force (9.68%) was more closely aligned with their arrest rate (8.39%), showing no statistically significant difference ( $p = 0.319$ ). These variations indicate that while some departments demonstrate statistically significant racial differences in use-of-force incidents, others have more proportional rates. Appendix C.4 shows the rates relative to arrest rates for Black subjects for all reporting departments.

Although Hispanic individuals were involved in 28.1% of use-of-force incidents, closely aligning with their representation in arrest data at 28.8%, this overall balance conceals variations across different police departments. In East Hartford, Hispanic individuals accounted for 13% of use-of-force incidents, despite representing only 2.4% of arrests, a statistically significant disparity ( $p < 0.001$ ). Southington displayed a similar pattern, with Hispanic subjects making up 4.4% of use-of-force cases while comprising 0.6% of arrests ( $p < 0.001$ ). Hartford also demonstrated a significant difference, where 11.6% of use-of-force incidents involved Hispanic individuals, compared to their 7.1% share of arrests ( $p = 0.002$ ). These disparities indicate that while the statewide data may appear balanced, certain departments exhibit inconsistencies. Appendix C.5 shows the rates relative to arrests for Hispanic subjects for all reporting departments.

The vast majority of individuals involved in reported use-of-force incidents were male, accounting for 85.7% of cases, while females comprised only 14.3% of subjects. Males represented 71.2% of all arrests during this period, meaning they were overrepresented in use-of-force incidents. In contrast, females, who made up 28.8% of all arrests, were involved in only 14.3% of reported use-of-force cases. This suggests that female arrestees were less likely to experience the use of force during an arrest compared to their male counterparts. Table 3.2 provides a detailed comparison of use-of-force incidents by gender in relation to arrest rates.

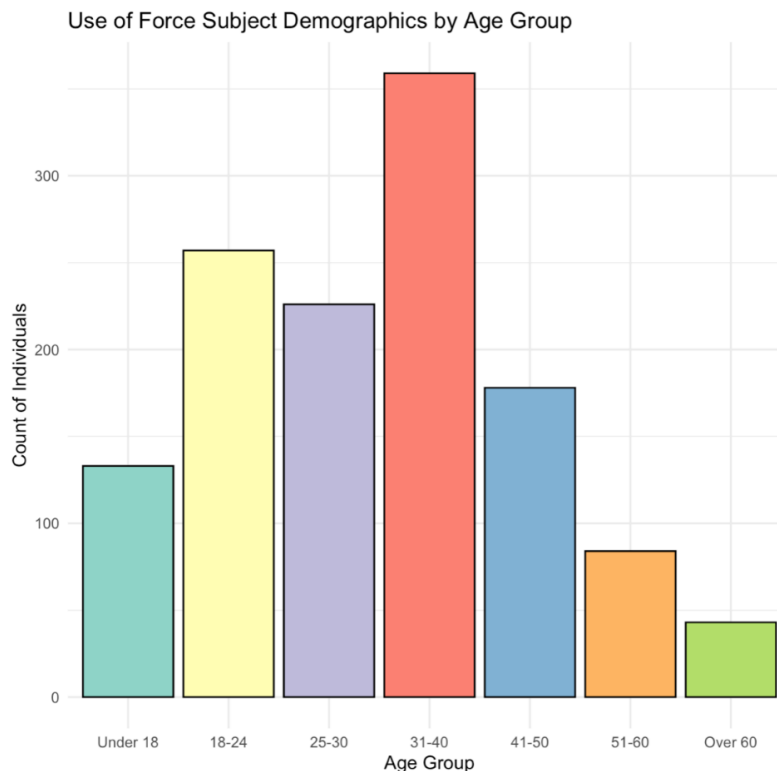
**Table 3. 2: Use of Force by Gender Compared to Arrestee**

Arrestee Gender	Total Subjects	Total Arrestees	UoF Percentage	Arrest Percentage
Male	1,141	137,424	85.7	71.2
Female	190	55,542	14.3	28.8

Police recorded the age of all individuals involved in use-of-force incidents, revealing trends in age distribution. The most frequently affected group was individuals aged 31-40, with approximately 350 reported incidents. This was followed by those aged 18-24, accounting for around 250 incidents, and individuals aged 25-30, who were involved in roughly 220 incidents. Younger subjects under the age of 18 were involved in approximately 125 incidents. The frequency of use-of-force incidents declined with age, with about 180 cases involving individuals aged 41-50, around 80 incidents for those aged 51-60, and only about 40 incidents involving individuals over 60. This distribution suggests that use-of-force incidents most

commonly occurred among individuals in their early to mid-adult years, peaking in the 31-40 age range, while incidents decreased significantly among older individuals. Figure 3.1 highlights the use-of-force incidents by age during the study period.

**Figure 3. 1: Use of Force by Age of Subject**



### III.C: Summary of Force Type

When police complete a use-of-force report, they must document all control methods applied during an incident. The data reveals that multiple types of force are often used within a single event, with the same type of force sometimes applied by multiple officers or against multiple subjects. Other than verbal commands, which are typically listed in most incidents, physical force actions, including techniques such as pressure points, control holds, leg sweeps, kicks, and takedowns, were the most common category, occurring in 46.6% of incidents (545 instances). Firearm-point only, where an officer aimed but did not discharge a firearm, was the second most frequently reported category, appearing in 40.3% of cases (471 instances). Conducted Electronic Weapons (CEWs), commonly known as tasers, were deployed in 29.3% of incidents (342 instances). Less commonly used methods included chemical force action (3.93%), K-9 deployment (1.97%), less-lethal projectiles (1.11%), and firearm discharge (0.17%). This data highlights the varying degrees of force applied in police interactions, and the more severe forms of force were used less frequently. Table 3.3 shows the type of force used by officers in each incident.

**Table 3. 3: Control Categories (Incidents)**

Control Category	Count	Percentage
Verbal Commands	917	78.4
Physical Force Action	545	46.6

Control Category	Count	Percentage
Firearm - Point Only	471	40.3
Conducted Electronic Weapon	342	29.3
Chemical Force Action	46	3.93
K-9	23	1.97
Less Lethal Projectile	13	1.11
Firearm - Discharge	2	0.17

When analyzing individual officer-subject interactions rather than overall incidents, the frequency pattern remains similar. However, the percentages shift to reflect the fact that multiple officers often use force during a single event. Physical force actions, such as control holds and takedowns, were applied 1,357 times (67.4%). Firearm-pointing occurred in 851 interactions (42.3%), while Conducted Electronic Weapons (CEWs) were deployed 506 times (25.1%). The higher total number of interactions compared to reported incidents indicates that multiple officers frequently apply the same type of force within a single encounter. Table 3.4 shows the type of force used by officers in each interaction. Again, it is worth noting that multiple types of force are often reported within a single event.

**Table 3. 4: Control Categories (Interactions)**

Control Category	Count	Percentage
Verbal Commands	1,535	76.3
Physical Force Action	1,357	67.4
Firearm - Point Only	851	42.3
Conducted Electronic Weapon	506	25.1
Chemical Force Action	60	2.98
K-9	32	1.59
Less Lethal Projectile	17	0.845
Firearm - Discharge	4	0.199

Examining the distribution of force between officers and subjects provides further insight into force dynamics. Physical force actions were applied by 604 officers against 558 subjects, suggesting that certain individuals experienced force from multiple officers. This pattern persisted across other control categories, including firearm pointing, where 530 officers directed their weapons at 559 subjects, and CEW deployment, which involved 324 officers using the device against 349 subjects. These figures highlight the frequent involvement of multiple officers in use-of-force incidents. Table 3.5 shows the type of force distribution between officers and subjects.

**Table 3. 5: Control Categories (Officers and Subjects)**

Control Category	Officers	Subjects
Verbal Commands	881	996
Physical Force Action	604	558
Firearm - Point Only	530	559
Conducted Electronic Weapon	324	349
Chemical Force Action	42	48
K-9	20	23
Less Lethal Projectile	13	13
Firearm - Discharge	3	2

### III.D: Officer Perception of Subject and Scene Assessment

Police officers' initial perception of subjects and assessment of scene conditions play a critical role in determining the use of force. Before applying any force, officers must evaluate potential threats or resistance and report their perception of the subject. The data reveal that in 34.3% of incidents (401 cases), officers perceived subjects as "Actively Aggressive," including verbal and physical aggression. Nearly as common were cases where officers assessed subjects as "Possibly Under Threat," accounting for 31.9% of incidents (373 cases). Non-aggressive subjects were involved in 27.6% of incidents (323 cases), while 25.3% (296 cases) involved individuals perceived as emotionally disturbed. Additionally, officers perceived subjects as armed in 20.4% of incidents (239 cases), and 16.4% of incidents (192 cases) involved subjects with a history of hostility toward law enforcement. These findings highlight the varying factors influencing officers' decisions in use-of-force situations.

When analyzing officer-subject interactions rather than overall incidents, the patterns of officer perception shift slightly. Active aggression was noted in 624 interactions, representing 31.0% of all interactions, while possible threats were identified in 599 interactions (29.8%). This variation between incident counts and interaction counts suggests that situations involving aggressive or threatening behavior were more likely to involve multiple officers. As a result, these incidents may have led to a greater number of interactions, reinforcing the complexity and intensity of force application in such scenarios.

The data highlights the complexity of use-of-force incidents involving emotionally disturbed individuals. Of the 291 subjects identified as emotionally disturbed (22.8% of all subjects), a majority (59.1%) were also perceived as verbally aggressive, and half (50.5%) were suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Physical aggression was noted in 37.7% of these cases, and 29.8% had prior hostile encounters with law enforcement. Additionally, nearly a quarter (24.6%) were perceived as armed. Only 6.6% were classified as non-aggressive, indicating that emotional disturbance frequently coincides with behaviors that may heighten the likelihood of force being used. These overlapping factors pose particular challenges for officers, who must navigate immediate safety concerns while ensuring an appropriate response to individuals potentially experiencing mental health crises.

These initial perceptions highlight that officers often face situations involving active aggression or perceived threats, while also encountering individuals experiencing mental health crises or emotional disturbances. Table 3.6 presents a breakdown of officers' perceptions of subjects based on both incidents and interactions. Please note that an officer can report multiple perceptions of the subject for a single incident.

**Table 3. 6: Officer Perception of Subject**

Perception	Incidents	Interactions	Subjects	Percent Incidents	Percent Interactions	Percent Subjects
Actively Aggressive	401	624	407	34.3	31.0	31.8
Possibly Under Threat	373	599	380	31.9	29.8	29.7
Other	383	565	426	32.8	28.1	33.3
Non-Aggressive	323	503	365	27.6	25.0	28.5
Actively Aggressive	324	483	332	27.7	24.0	26.0

Perception	Incidents	Interactions	Subjects	Percent Incidents	Percent Interactions	Percent Subjects
Emotionally Disturbed	296	467	291	25.3	23.2	22.8
Armed	239	389	252	20.4	19.3	19.7
Previous Hostility	192	302	193	16.4	15.0	15.1

### III.E: Subject Resistance and Severity of Force Used

The use-of-force reporting system requires officers to document the type of resistance encountered during each incident, revealing the complexity and rapidly evolving nature of these encounters. The data shows that subjects frequently exhibit multiple forms of resistance within a single event. The most commonly reported categories include "Other" resistance (44.5% of incidents, 520 cases) and fleeing (44.3%, 518 cases). Threat or hostile behavior was reported in 34.7% of incidents (406 cases), followed by fighting stance or combative behavior (32.5%, 380 cases) and dead weight or non-compliant behavior (28.9%, 338 cases). Less frequent forms of resistance included threatening use of a weapon (13.0%, 152 incidents), armed assault (6.93%, 81 incidents), unarmed assault (5.47%, 64 incidents), and suicidal behavior (6.67%, 78 incidents). This overlap of resistance types underscores the dynamic nature of these situations, where a subject initially displaying hostility may later attempt to flee or become physically combative. These complexities highlight the challenges officers face in making split-second decisions under high-pressure conditions.

An important distinction emerges when examining incidents as a whole versus each officer-subject interaction. Fighting stance or combative behavior, for example, appears in 32.5% of incidents (380) but accounts for approximately 30.5% of interactions (613), suggesting that such encounters often require more than one officer to safely manage a combative individual. Similarly, resistance in the form of fleeing or threatening behaviors sometimes involves multiple officers, reinforcing the idea that measures of resistance at the incident level can differ from those recorded at the interaction level. This underscores the need to carefully interpret data on use-of-force incidents, particularly given the potential for multiple officers and multiple forms of resistance to occur within a single episode. Table 3.7 presents a breakdown of the initial resistance that led to the officer using force on a subject.

**Table 3. 7: Initial Resistance that Led to Force**

Resistance Type	Incidents	Interactions	Subjects	Percent Incidents	Percent Interactions	Percent Subjects
Other <sup>17</sup>	520	821	576	44.5	40.8	45.0
Fleeing	518	763	545	44.3	37.9	42.6
Threat/Hostile	406	635	414	34.7	31.5	32.4
Fighting Stance	380	613	390	32.5	30.5	30.5
Dead Weight	338	540	345	28.9	26.8	27.0
Threatening Use of Weapon	152	234	151	13.0	11.6	11.8
Suicidal	78	127	79	6.67	6.31	6.18

<sup>17</sup> In the section of the use-of-force report addressing initial resistance, officers have the option to select "Other" as a generic response category.



Resistance Type	Incidents	Interactions	Subjects	Percent Incidents	Percent Interactions	Percent Subjects
Armed Assault	81	115	83	6.93	5.71	6.49
Unarmed Assault	64	86	66	5.47	4.27	5.16

We also examined the steps officers used to achieve compliance during incidents involving reportable use of force. It explores both the earliest (i.e., first) force tactic applied and the last (i.e., final) tactic that ultimately secured compliance. The data demonstrate that officers often begin with a relatively low level of force—frequently verbal commands—and then escalate or de-escalate as necessary, depending on the subject’s response. This process highlights the importance of ongoing officer assessments regarding the proportionality and necessity of force at each stage of an encounter.

Analysis of the first force used in each incident illustrates that verbal commands were the most common initial action (1,353 incidents). Unsurprisingly, they were also associated with the highest average number of steps to achieve compliance (2.56), as only incidents that escalated beyond verbal commands were required to be reported to the state. By contrast, tactics like chemical force (e.g., pepper spray) and less-lethal projectiles were both used less frequently (10 and 4 incidents, respectively) and yielded quicker resolutions (1.00 steps on average). Other measures, such as conducted electronic weapons (e.g., tasers) and physical force actions, fell somewhere in between, at 1.37 and 1.56 steps, respectively. Simply pointing a firearm was employed 384 times as an initial tactic and resulted in an average of 1.30 steps to compliance, suggesting that the display of a weapon alone can sometimes achieve subject compliance without further escalation. Table 3.8 shows the first force action taken by an officer and the number of additional steps required to achieve compliance.

**Table 3. 8: First Force Used and Steps to Compliance**

First Force Category	Avg. Steps Used	Number of Incidents
Chemical Force Action	1.00	10
Less Lethal Projectile	1.00	4
K-9	1.14	7
Firearm - Point Only	1.30	384
Conducted Electronic Weapon	1.37	84
Physical Force Action	1.56	171
Verbal Commands	2.56	1,353

Focusing on the final force used to secure compliance underscores a related but distinct pattern. Physical force actions resolved the largest number of incidents (819), though on average, it required 2.56 steps before the subject complied. Conversely, firearm—point only was the final tactic in 648 incidents and took fewer steps (1.61 on average) to achieve compliance. Meanwhile, more specialized or higher-risk tactics—such as firearm discharges or less-lethal projectiles—were reported less frequently but carried higher average steps (3.00 and 2.12, respectively). This suggests that while certain methods can bring about a resolution quickly, others tend to occur within a broader pattern of escalating or de-escalating steps. Table 3.9 shows the final force action taken by an officer and the number of steps required to achieve compliance.

**Table 3. 9: Final Force Used and Steps to Compliance**

Final Force Category	Average Steps Used	Number of Incidents
Firearm - Point Only	1.61	648
Less Lethal Projectile	2.12	16
Conducted Electronic Weapon	2.21	340
Chemical Force Action	2.29	41
K-9	2.30	20
Verbal Commands	2.33	126
Physical Force Action	2.56	819
Firearm - Discharge	3.00	3

Further insight can be drawn from examining the combinations of first and final force used. For instance, in a significant portion of events, officers began with verbal commands but escalated to physical force actions (644 incidents) or firearm—point only (363 incidents). In other encounters, they started and ended with the same tactic—e.g., verbal commands throughout (37 incidents<sup>18</sup>), or conducted electronic weapons used at both the outset and conclusion (73 incidents). Although rare, there were a few instances (3 total) where a firearm was ultimately discharged after initially pointing it (2 incidents) or beginning with verbal commands (1 incident). These data emphasize the dynamic nature of use-of-force incidents, where officers may shift tactics several times before gaining compliance or determining that further escalation is not required. Table 3.10 shows the first and final force action taken by an officer.

**Table 3. 10: First and Final Force Used**

First Force Category	Final Force Category	Number of Incidents
Verbal Commands	Physical Force Action	644
Verbal Commands	Firearm - Point Only	363
Firearm - Point Only	Firearm - Point Only	284
Verbal Commands	Conducted Electronic Weapon	255
Physical Force Action	Physical Force Action	152
Firearm - Point Only	Verbal Commands	76
Conducted Electronic Weapon	Conducted Electronic Weapon	73
Verbal Commands	Verbal Commands	37
Verbal Commands	Chemical Force Action	29
Firearm - Point Only	Physical Force Action	16
Verbal Commands	K-9	13
Verbal Commands	Less Lethal Projectile	11
Chemical Force Action	Chemical Force Action	10
Physical Force Action	Verbal Commands	9
Physical Force Action	Conducted Electronic Weapon	8
Conducted Electronic Weapon	Physical Force Action	7
K-9	K-9	7
Conducted Electronic Weapon	Verbal Commands	4
Firearm - Point Only	Conducted Electronic Weapon	4
Less Lethal Projectile	Less Lethal Projectile	4

<sup>18</sup> Incidents involving only verbal commands did not meet the threshold for state reporting. However, in some cases, one officer may have used only verbal commands while another officer involved in the same incident employed a higher level of force. In those cases, all of the force from the incident were to be reported.

First Force Category	Final Force Category	Number of Incidents
Firearm - Point Only	Firearm - Discharge	2
Firearm - Point Only	Chemical Force Action	1
Firearm - Point Only	Less Lethal Projectile	1
Physical Force Action	Chemical Force Action	1
Physical Force Action	Firearm - Point Only	1
Verbal Commands	Firearm - Discharge	1

These findings underscore the importance of officers' decision-making at each step of an encounter. They also highlight the prevalence of lower-level tactics, like verbal commands and firearm display, which may be sufficient to resolve many incidents without resorting to additional force. Nonetheless, when subjects are more resistant or the circumstances pose a heightened risk, officers may employ additional or higher levels of force to bring an incident under control safely. As with all use-of-force metrics, the broader context, including the subject's behavior, the presence of weapons, and situational factors, remains critical to evaluating whether officers' actions were necessary and proportionate to the threat faced.

### III.F: Evaluation of Force Escalation and Resistance by Race

The relationship between subject race and the use of force by police is inherently complex and multifaceted. Several factors contribute to this complexity, including the nature of initial police-subject interactions, underlying social dynamics, and methodological limitations, such as the absence of suitable comparison groups or benchmarks. Specifically, as discussed in Chapter II, analyses exploring racial determinants of police force are limited by their inability to establish clear counterfactuals. For example, we lack precise data on comparable incidents in which force was not employed, thus preventing full comparisons based on race. Despite these methodological constraints, this section provides an initial statistical exploration of potential racial disparities in police escalation of force, explicitly accounting for subjects' initial levels of resistance.

At the outset, it is important to recognize that, when considering all incidents in aggregate, there was no statistically significant difference in police escalation of force based solely on subject race. This result was obtained through a simple difference-in-means analysis conducted across all incidents statewide, as well as separately within each police department. Nonetheless, we emphasize caution in interpreting these findings as the absence of statistical significance does not conclusively indicate the absence of disparities.

To examine the connection between subject resistance, police escalation, and potential racial disparities more rigorously, we developed a multi-stage analytical framework. Initially, resistance behaviors reported by police officers were categorized into three severity levels to standardize diverse resistance behaviors captured in the data: lower severity ("Dead Weight," "Fleeing," and "Other"), medium severity ("Threat/Hostile," "Fighting Stance," and "Suicidal"), and higher severity ("Threatening Use of Force," "Unarmed Assault," and "Armed Assault"). Subsequently, police force escalation patterns were analyzed using the total number of force escalation steps as a key metric. This proportionality analysis aimed to identify whether the relationship between resistance severity and the force applied differed significantly across racial groups. Specifically, for each resistance level, we calculated and compared the average number of escalation steps between racial groups. Statistical significance was assessed using chi-square tests to determine if differences in escalation patterns existed when controlling for resistance severity.

Due to low counts in the dataset for certain racial groups, all subjects other than those identified as Black or White were excluded from this part of the analysis, enabling more reliable statistical comparisons.

The results of the escalation analysis are summarized in Tables 3.11 and 3.12. Across lower- and medium-severity incidents, both White and Black subjects experienced nearly identical average escalation steps, with minimal differences ( $\pm 0.1$  steps). Chi-square tests confirmed no statistically significant differences between these groups ( $p = 0.168$  for lower severity and  $p = 0.175$  for medium severity). Interestingly, within higher-severity resistance incidents, Black subjects experienced a higher average number of escalation steps (1.93) compared to White subjects (1.61). However, the difference of approximately 0.32 steps was not statistically significant ( $p = 0.073$ ), though it approaches borderline significance. This finding suggests the necessity of additional data collection and possibly alternative analytical methods in future research to clarify whether significant racial disparities exist under conditions of severe resistance.

**Table 3. 11: Force Severity by Resistance**

Severity	$\chi^2$ statistic	p-value
Lower	5.05	0.168
Medium	4.96	0.175
Higher	6.95	0.073

**Table 3. 12: Force Severity by Race**

Race	Severity	Count	Average Steps	Baseline Average Steps	Difference
White	Lower	914	2.22	2.21	+0.01
Black	Lower	731	2.19	2.21	-0.02
White	Medium	165	2.29	2.23	+0.06
Black	Medium	78	2.12	2.23	-0.12
White	Higher	18	1.61	1.75	-0.14
Black	Higher	14	1.93	1.75	+0.18

### III.G: Summary of Reported Injuries

As shown in Table 3.13, there were 373 reported officer injuries involving 231 unique officers across 190 distinct use-of-force incidents (16% of reported incidents resulted in an officer injury). Of these incidents, 53 resulted in multiple officer injuries.

In terms of departmental reporting:

- 32 departments reported no officer injuries
- 20 departments reported a single officer injury
- 25 departments reported injuries between 2 and 10 officers
- 5 departments reported more than 10 officer injuries, with the highest total being 28 injuries in a single department

Appendix table C.6 provides a summary of officer injuries for all departments.

**Table 3. 13: Summary of Officer Injuries**

Total Injuries	Total Officers Injured	Incidents with $\geq 1$ Injury	Incidents with Multiple Injuries
373	231	190	53

Examining the relationship between force escalation and injury risk at the town level, we observed a moderate positive correlation (approximately Pearson's  $r = 0.50$ ). Specifically, departments employing a higher average number of force escalation steps also tended to report a higher proportion of injured officers. Figure 3.2 visually confirms the statistical relationship by demonstrating that towns with higher average escalation steps consistently experience higher officer injury rates. While we do not know the direction of causality, these results underscore the potential physical risks associated with increased escalation of force and highlight the importance of effective training and de-escalation techniques in reducing officer injury occurrences.

**Figure 3. 2: Officer Injury by Force Escalation**



As shown in Table 3.14, there were 1,082 reported subject injuries involving 491 unique subjects across 464 distinct use-of-force incidents (39% of reported incidents resulted in a subject injury). Of these incidents, 175 resulted in multiple subject injuries.

In terms of departmental reporting:

- 13 departments reported no subject injuries
- 17 departments reported a single subject injury

- 41 departments reported injuries between 2 and 10 subjects
- 11 departments reported more than 10 subject injuries, with the highest total being 56 injuries in a single department

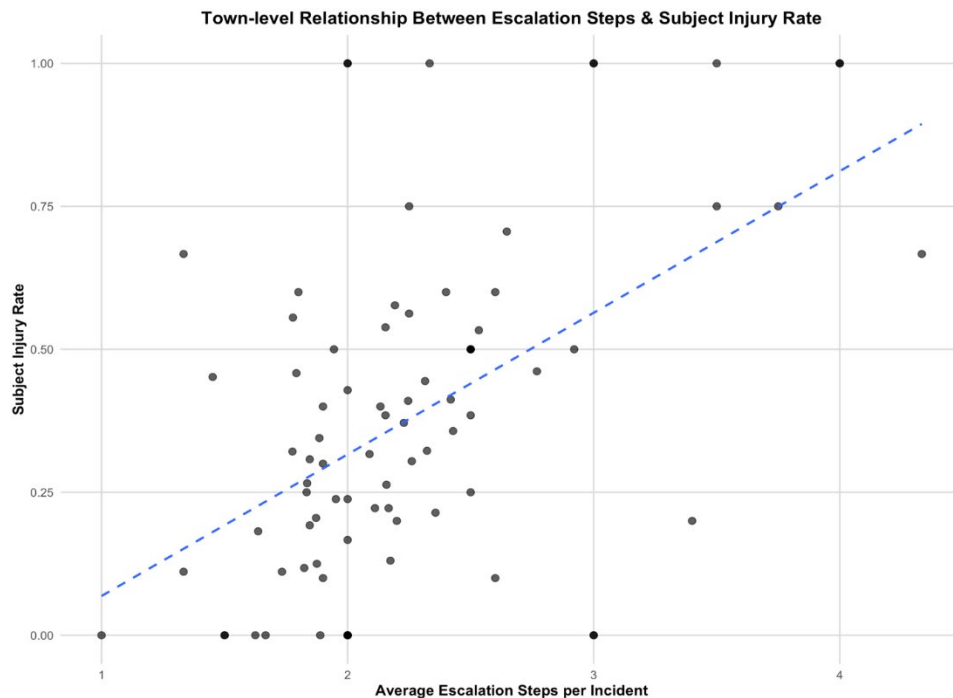
Appendix table C.7 provides a summary of subject injuries for all departments.

**Table 3. 14: Summary of Subject Injuries**

Total Injuries	Total Subjects Injured	Incidents with $\geq 1$ Injury	Incidents with Multiple Injuries
1,082	491	464	175

Analyzing the relationship between force escalation and subject injury risk, we found a moderate positive correlation (Pearson's  $r \approx 0.52$ ). Departments employing a higher average number of force escalation steps tend to have higher rates of subject injury. The accompanying scatter plot with regression line (Figure 3.3) further illustrates this relationship, visually reinforcing the connection between increased escalation steps and the incidence of subject injuries. While we are not suggesting a causal relationship, this evidence underscores the potential importance of refining de-escalation strategies to minimize harm to subjects involved in police interactions.

**Figure 3. 3: Subject Injury by Force Escalation**



## IV. Summary of Connecticut State Police Data Findings

This section analyzes use-of-force data submitted by the Connecticut State Police (CSP) for the 2022 and 2023 calendar years. During this period, CSP utilized its own long-standing data collection and investigation system, rather than the POSTC reporting tool. This system captures 73 data fields and was the basis for the data provided to IMRP for analysis. CSP was able to replicate most—but not all—of the data elements required by POSTC.

From 2022 to 2023, CSP reported 316 use-of-force cases, involving 317 distinct incidents, 324 officers, and 326 subjects. The use-of-force incident number may differ from the case number. Therefore, a unique incident identifier was developed based on combinations of date and time, cross-validated with incident addresses when available. For both years, the custom identifiers closely aligned with the original case numbers; thus, either identifier could have been used reliably in this report.

As shown in Table 4.1, each incident involved an average of approximately 1.68 officers, with a median of one officer per incident.

**Table 4. 1: Overall Incident Summary**

Total Cases	Total Incidents	Total Troopers	Total Subjects	Avg. Trooper per Incident	Median Troopers per Incident
316	317	324	326	1.68	1

During the 2022 and 2023 calendar years, the State Police recorded a total of 17,616 arrests. While it is not always clear whether each use-of-force incident resulted in an arrest, summons, or medical intervention, even under the assumption that every use-of-force event led to an arrest, these incidents would account for only approximately 1.8% of all arrests. Arrests increased by 4% from 2022 to 2023, and reported use-of-force incidents increased by 37%. Use-of-force incidents also increased as a percentage of arrests from 1.6% in 2022 to 2.1% in 2023. Overall, across both years, CSP officers used force in 18 out of every 1,000 arrests.

The majority of subjects involved in a use-of-force incident were White (78.6%), with Black individuals accounting for 20.2%. Hispanic subjects represented 21.7% of all incidents, while non-Hispanics comprised 74.9%. Table 4.2 illustrates the number of use-of-force incidents by race and ethnicity.

**Table 4. 2: Incidents by Race and Ethnicity**

Race	Number of Incidents	Percent (%)
White	257	78.6%
Black	66	20.2%
Asian	1	0.3%
Unknown	3	0.9%
Ethnicity		
Hispanic	71	21.7%
Non-Hispanic	245	74.9%
Unknown	11	3.4%

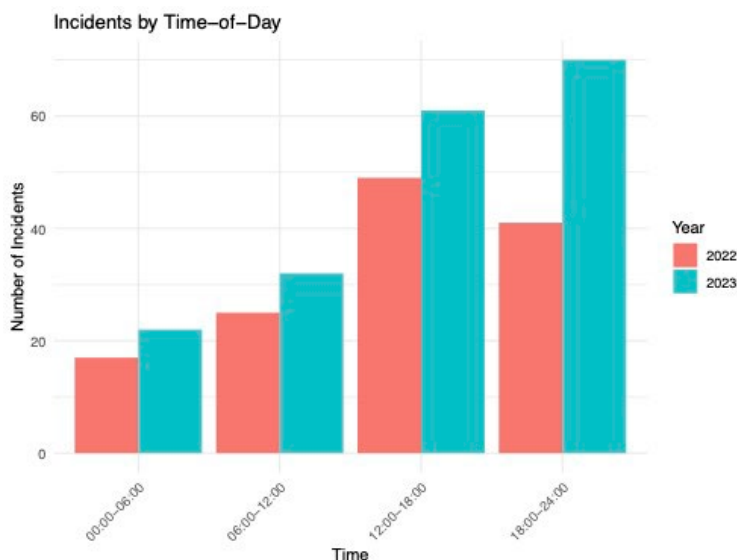
The majority of subjects involved were male (89.0%), and subjects had a mean age of 35.7 years (median age: 33 years). Table 4.3 illustrates the number of use-of-force incidents by gender and age.

**Table 4. 3: Incidents by Gender and Age**

Gender	Number of Incidents	Percent (%)
Male	291	11.0%
Female	36	89.0%
Mean Age	Median Age	Age SD
35.7	33	13.8

Figure 4.1 shows that use-of-force incidents most frequently occurred during the afternoon and evening hours, specifically between 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., and again from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.—with noticeable peaks during these periods. In 2022, incidents declined slightly during the evening hours compared to the afternoon. However, in 2023, incidents increased in both time blocks, with overall growth observed across all time periods between 2022 and 2023.

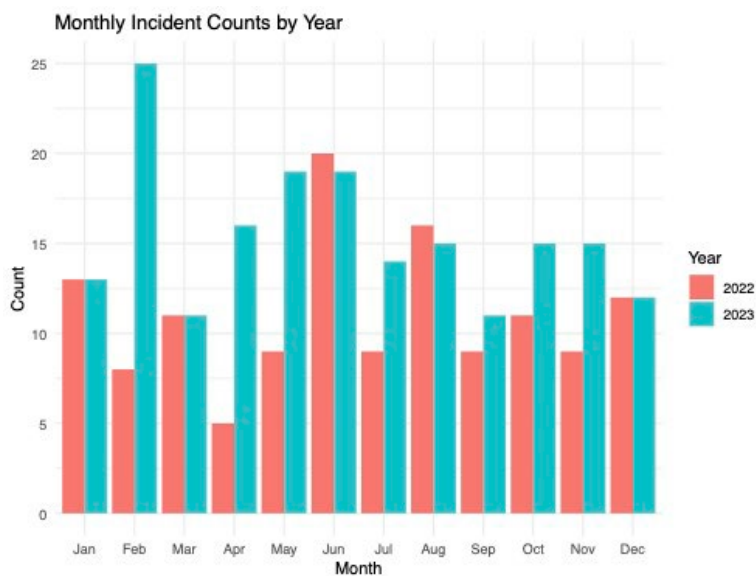
**Figure 4. 1: Incidents by Time of Day**



Monthly trends in use-of-force incidents showed considerable variability in both 2022 and 2023. With the exception of a notable spike in February 2023—when 25 incidents were reported—June consistently had the highest number of incidents across both years. While February 2023 also saw an increase in arrests compared to the same month in 2022, similar increases occurred in other months of 2023 as well. We do not have additional information to determine why the number of incidents increased in February 2023. It is important to note that many use-of-force incidents do not result in an arrest, and other unmeasured factors may contribute to these fluctuations. Overall, monthly incident totals ranged from 5 to 20 in 2022 and from 11 to 25 in 2023. Figure 4.2 displays the number of incidents by month.



**Figure 4. 2: Incidents by Month**



#### IV.A: Perception of Subject and Scene Assessment

CSP documented various incident activities that led to use-of-force actions, with disturbances being the most common (18.9% overall). Mental health-related incidents and traffic service-related incidents each accounted for approximately 14.9%. Weapon-related incidents were the fourth most frequent at 10.1%, followed by incidents involving drugs and alcohol (8.9%). The least common activities leading to the use of force were warrants (4.6%) and robberies (0.9%). Table 4.4 shows the activity that led to the interaction with a trooper.

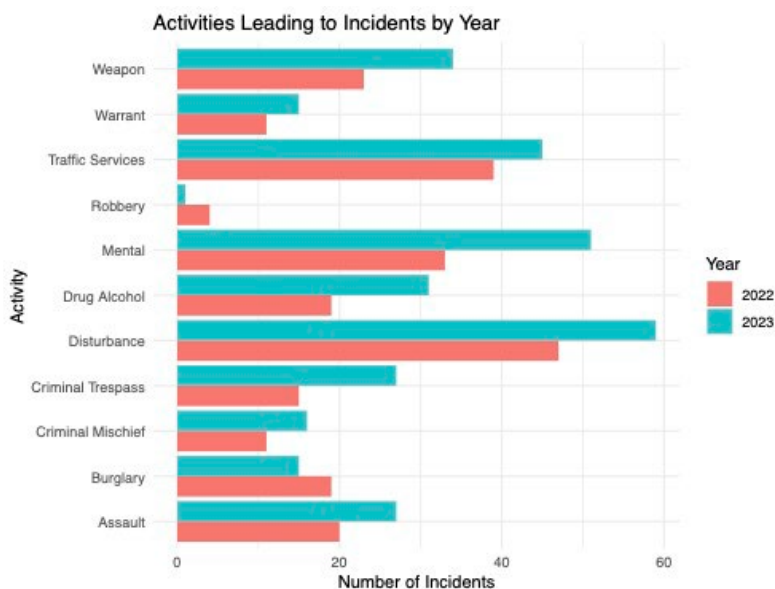
**Table 4. 4: Activity that Led to Use-of-Force Interaction**

Activity	Incidents	Percent (%)
Disturbance	106	18.9
Mental	84	14.9
Traffic Services	84	14.9
Weapon	57	10.1
Drug Alcohol	50	8.9
Assault	47	8.4
Criminal Trespass	42	7.5
Burglary	34	6.0
Criminal Mischief	27	4.8
Warrant	26	4.6
Robbery	5	0.9

Figure 4.3 illustrates the number of incidents by year and the activity that led to the interaction with the trooper. Disturbances, mental incidents, and traffic services remained the top categories in both 2022 and

2023 as the listed activity that led to the interaction. There was an increase in weapon-related incidents from 2022 (9.5%) to 2023 (10.6%).

**Figure 4. 3: Activity that Led to the Incident by Year**



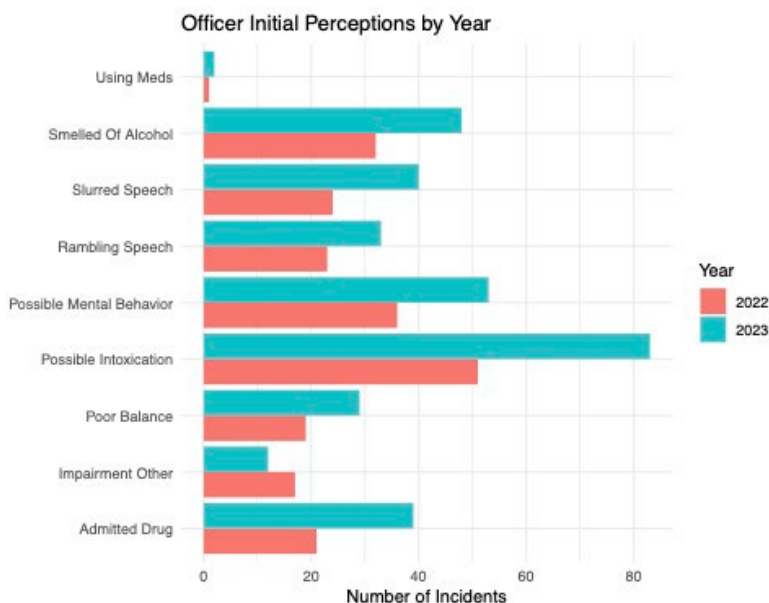
Officers frequently perceived subjects as possibly intoxicated (23.8%), followed by observations related to possible mental health issues (15.8%) and smelling of alcohol (14.2%). Additional common perceptions included slurred speech (11.4%) and admitted drug use (10.7%). Table 4.5 shows the officers' perception of the subjects for all incidents during the study period.

**Table 4. 5: Officer Perception of Subject (Overall)**

Perception	Incidents	Percent (%)
Possible Intoxication	134	23.8
Possible Mental Behavior	89	15.8
Smelled of Alcohol	80	14.2
Slurred Speech	64	11.4
Admitted Drug	60	10.7
Rambling Speech	56	10.0
Poor Balance	48	8.5
Impairment Other	29	5.2
Using Meds	3	0.5

Year-over-year, officers' perceptions as a percentage of all incidents remained relatively consistent, with increases in admitted drug use (from 9.4% in 2022 to 11.5% in 2023) and possible intoxication (from 22.8% in 2022 to 24.5% in 2023). Figure 4.4 illustrates the officers' initial perception of the subject by year.

**Figure 4. 4: Officer Initial Perception of Subject by Year**



## IV.B: Summary of Force Type

This analysis distinguishes between **instances** and **incidents** of use of force. An *instance* refers to a single officer using force against a single subject. In contrast, an *incident* may include multiple instances, meaning it can involve several officers and/or subjects. Under the mandated use-of-force reporting protocol introduced in July 2022, each officer is required to complete a separate report for every subject on whom they used force. However, the Connecticut State Police (CSP) does not currently collect data in this format.

The most frequently reported control method by CSP was the display of a firearm without discharge, accounting for 26.3% of all officer-subject instances, 20.5% of distinct incidents, and 22.3% of distinct subjects. Takedowns were the second most common method, comprising 22.4% of instances, 22.6% of incidents, and 21.9% of subjects. Pressure points or control holds ranked third, used in 17.2% of instances, 13.3% of incidents, and 12.9% of subjects.

Other commonly reported methods included Taser deployments via probe or drive stun, representing 9.7% of instances, 12.0% of incidents, and 11.7% of subjects. Taser use in warning mode (arc or laser only) accounted for 8.9% of instances, 12.2% of incidents, and 12.1% of subjects. Less frequently used were physical strikes, including hand or fist strikes (3.7% of instances, 5.0% of incidents, 4.8% of subjects) and elbow, knee, or foot strikes (3.1% of instances, 4.4% of incidents, 4.2% of subjects). Table 4.6 provides a detailed breakdown of control methods used by instances, incidents, and subjects.

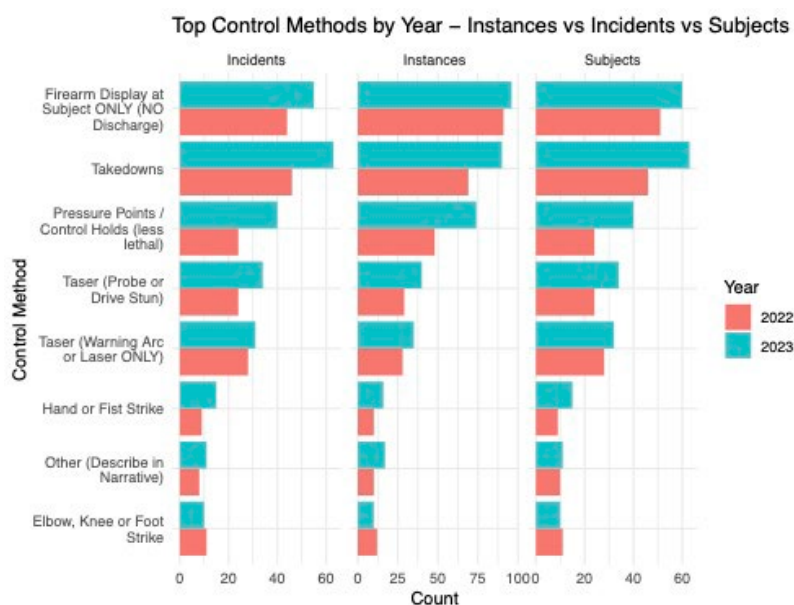
**Table 4. 6: Control Method Applied by Troopers**

Control Method	Instances	Incidents	Subjects	% Instances	% Incidents	% Subjects
Baton Strike	3	3	3	0.422	0.622	0.604

Control Method	Instances	Incidents	Subjects	% Instances	% Incidents	% Subjects
Chemical munitions	4	2	2	0.563	0.415	0.402
Choke Hold / Neck Restraint	2	2	2	0.281	0.415	0.402
Elbow, Knee, or Foot Strike	22	21	21	3.09	4.36	4.23
Firearm Discharge	7	4	4	0.985	0.830	0.805
Firearm Display Only	187	99	111	26.3	20.5	22.3
Hand or Fist Strike	26	24	24	3.66	4.98	4.83
Impact Munitions	4	2	2	0.563	0.415	0.402
OC Spray	16	16	16	2.25	3.32	3.22
Other	27	19	21	3.80	3.94	4.23
Pressure Points / Control Holds	122	64	64	17.2	13.3	12.9
Takedowns	159	109	109	22.4	22.6	21.9
Taser (Probe or Drive Stun)	69	58	58	9.70	12.0	11.7
Taser (Warning Arc or Laser Only)	63	59	60	8.86	12.2	12.1

Year-over-year analysis indicates a shift in control methods used by CSP troopers. The display of firearms decreased, from 29.3% of officer-subject instances in 2022 to 24.0% in 2023. The use of pressure points or control holds increased from 15.4% in 2022 to 18.5% in 2023, suggesting that there may be a gradual shift toward alternative physical control tactics. Figure 4.5 illustrates the distribution of control methods used against subjects by year.

**Figure 4. 5: Control Method by Year**



## IV.C: Resistance Types and Associated Control Methods

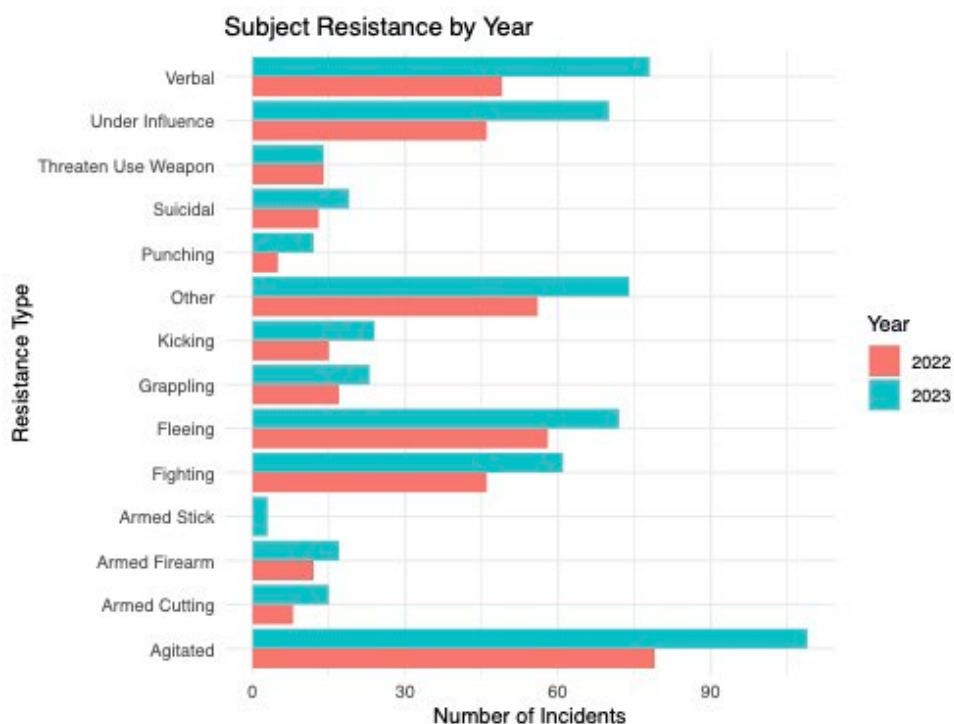
Subjects' resistance frequently involved agitated behavior (18.6%), fleeing (12.9%), and verbal resistance (12.6%). Being under the influence was also common (11.5%), alongside physical fighting (10.6%). More severe resistance types, such as armed firearm incidents (2.9%) and threats to use weapons (2.8%), were less common. Table 4.7 shows the resistance resulting from the application of force.

**Table 4. 7: Resistance Resulting in Force (Overall)**

Resistance Type	Incidents	Percent (%)
Agitated	188	18.6
Fleeing	130	12.9
Other	130	12.9
Verbal	127	12.6
Under Influence	116	11.5
Fighting	107	10.6
Grappling	40	3.96
Kicking	39	3.87
Suicidal	32	3.17
Armed Firearm	29	2.87
Threaten Use Weapon	28	2.78
Armed Cutting	23	2.28
Punching	17	1.68
Armed Stick	3	0.297

Yearly comparisons reveal relatively stable resistance types (see Figure 4.6). The frequency of agitated behavior decreased by 0.5 percentage points from 2022 (18.9%) to 2023 (18.4%), while fleeing incidents decreased from 13.9% to 12.2%. The occurrence of armed firearm incidents remained stable (2.9% in both years).

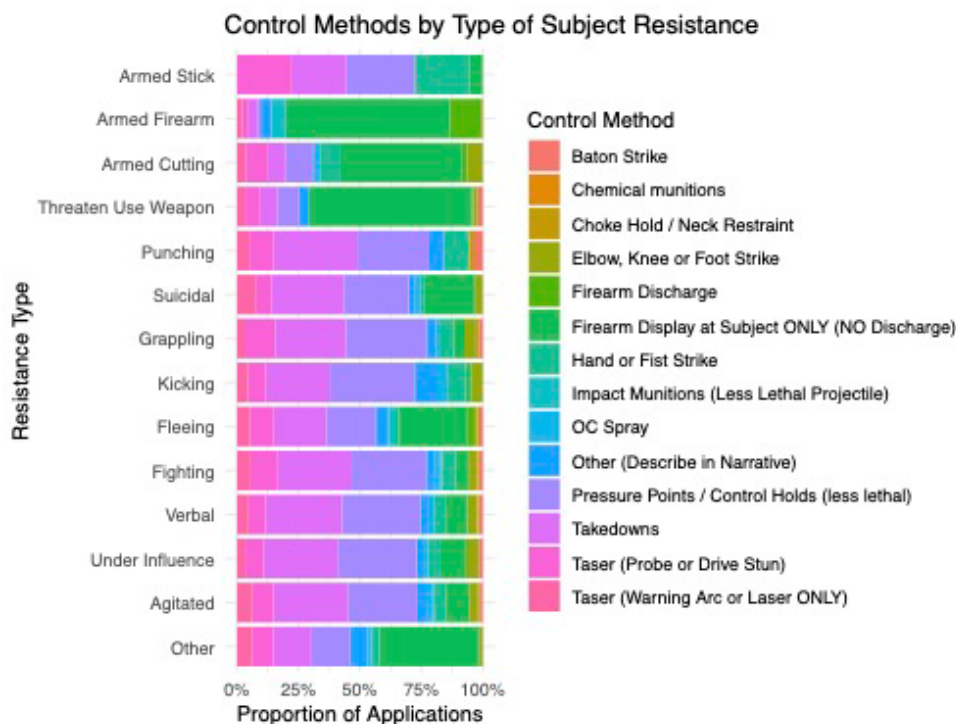
**Figure 4. 6: Subject Resistance by Year**



To assess how different types of subject resistance influenced officers' choice of control methods, resistance behaviors were cross-tabulated with corresponding control techniques and presented as proportions within each resistance category (see Figure 4.7). This analysis was conducted by linking each officer's reported control method to the associated subject resistance behavior at the incident-subject level. The resulting proportions highlight how often specific control techniques were used in response to particular forms of resistance, offering insight into decision-making patterns.

Figure 4.7 reveals distinct trends. Resistance behaviors involving actual or perceived weapon threats, such as Armed with a Firearm, Armed with a Cutting Instrument, or Threatening Weapon Use, most commonly resulted in firearm displays, and in some cases, firearm discharges or less-lethal projectile deployments. Conversely, resistance types such as Agitation, Verbal Resistance, and Under the Influence more frequently prompted physical control tactics, particularly takedowns and pressure points/control holds.

**Figure 4. 7: Control Method by Type of Resistance**



#### IV.D: Summary of Reported Injuries

This section focuses on subject injuries, as there were no reported officer injuries in the data.

Of the 326 subjects involved in use-of-force incidents, 128 (39.3%) sustained some injury. The rate of injuries remained relatively consistent, as a percentage of all incidents, across both reporting years, with 39.6% of subjects injured in 2022 and 39.0% in 2023 (see Table 4.8). It is worth noting that we do not know whether the injury resulted from the use-of-force action or was sustained before the interaction with a trooper.

**Table 4. 8: Subject Injuries**

Year	Total Subjects	Number Injured	Percent Injured (%)
2022	139	55	39.6
2023	187	73	39.0
Total	326	128	39.3

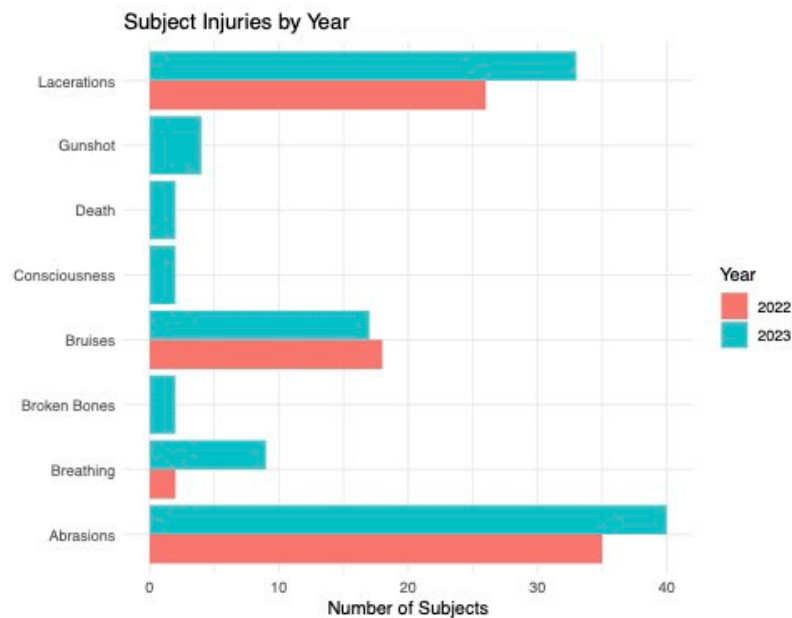
Among the documented injuries, abrasions were the most common type, accounting for 39.5% of all reported injuries. Lacerations were the second most frequent injury (31.1%), followed by bruises (18.4%). More severe injuries were relatively rare, including breathing difficulties (5.79%), gunshot wounds (2.11%), broken bones (1.05%), loss of consciousness (1.05%), and fatalities (1.05%) (see Table 4.9).

**Table 4. 9: Subject Injury Types**

Injury Type	Number of Subjects	Percent (%)
Abrasions	75	39.5
Lacerations	59	31.1
Bruises	35	18.4
Breathing	11	5.79
Gunshot	4	2.11
Broken Bones	2	1.05
Consciousness	2	1.05
Death	2	1.05

Year-over-year analysis of injury types revealed some variations. The proportion of abrasions decreased from 43.2% in 2022 to 36.7% in 2023, while breathing-related injuries increased from 2.47% to 8.26%. The year 2023 also saw the emergence of some severe injury categories not reported in 2022, including broken bones (1.83%), loss of consciousness (1.83%), death (1.83%), and gunshot wounds (3.67%). Lacerations remained relatively stable, accounting for 32.1% of injuries in 2022 and 30.3% in 2023 (see Figure 4.8).

**Figure 4. 8: Subject Injury by Year**





## Appendix A: Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council Use of Force Policy

**State of Connecticut**  
**Police Officer Standards and Training Council**  
**Use of Force Policy**  
(Adopted November 12, 2020)

**1. Purpose**

The law enforcement profession recognizes and values the sanctity of human life and respect for every person's rights and dignity. As guardians of a lawful and ordered society, police officers are vested with significant authority, the judicious use of which serves to protect public safety while fortifying public confidence in the legitimacy of the police. A peaceful resolution is the best, most desired outcome in all situations. To that end, police officers must use only the level of force necessary to achieve legitimate, lawful purposes and resolve each situation they face fairly and safely. Acknowledging that circumstances may compel the use of physical force upon a person, up to and including deadly force, police officers must view the use of force as a last resort.

**2. Policy**

Police officers must use only the minimum level of force necessary to achieve a lawful purpose. Any use of force must be reasonable, proportionate to the threat, and employed in a manner consistent with this policy. While not an actual use of force, the mere presence of a police officer can be intimidating to some. Therefore, officers should be mindful of their body language and tone of voice upon arrival at a scene and throughout their interaction with subjects, complainants, and witnesses.

**3. Definitions**

- A.** "Acting in a Law Enforcement Capacity" means any on-duty police officer or any off-duty police officer who identifies themselves as such and asserts their law enforcement authority.
- B.** "Active Resistance" means any physical act undertaken by a subject against an officer that could reasonably impede or defeat the officer's lawful attempt to gain control of the subject.
- C.** "Chokehold/Neck Restraint" means a physical maneuver or other method of restraint applied to the neck area or that otherwise impedes the ability to breathe or restricts blood circulation to the brain.
- D.** "Deadly Force" means any force that is likely to cause serious injury or death.
- E.** "Deadly weapon" means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles.

- F. “De-escalation” means the use of strategies and/or techniques to reduce the intensity of or stabilize a conflict or potentially volatile situation.
- G. “Imminent” means likely to occur at any moment; impending.
- H. “Last resort” means a final course of action, used only when other reasonable options are unavailable or have failed.
- I. “Less-Lethal Force” means any force that is not likely to cause serious physical injury or death. Less lethal force includes weaponless defensive and control techniques (such as open hand strikes, elbow or closed fist strikes, leg sweeps, kicks, and forcible restraint), weapons and munitions (such as OC spray or chemical agents such as tear gas, CEW, projectiles like rubber bullets and bean-bag rounds, batons and other impact weapons, and flash bang devices), and K9.
- J. “Mitigation” means the action of reducing the danger, severity, seriousness, or potential harmfulness of a condition or circumstance.
- K. “Necessary” means an action chosen when, in an officer’s judgement, no effective alternative exists.
- L. “The objectively reasonable standard” is the legal standard used to determine the lawfulness of a use of force under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court established this standard in its ruling in *Graham v. Connor* (490- U.S. 386, 1989).
- M. “Officer created jeopardy” means situations where officers needlessly put themselves in a position where they must use deadly force to protect themselves.
- N. “Passive Resistance” means an unarmed, non-violent person’s failure or refusal to cooperate with a police officer’s lawful directions, such as in an act of civil disobedience or by a non-violent handcuffed person. Passive resistance generally involves lack of voluntary movement by the resister.
- O. “Police officer,” as used in this policy, means any Connecticut “peace officer,” as defined in CGS 53a-3.
- P. “Physical Force” means any intentional contact used upon or directed toward the body of another person, including restraint and confinement.
- Q. “Positional Asphyxia” is a condition where the supply of oxygen to a person’s body is deficient because their body position prevents them from breathing adequately, usually as a result of an airway obstruction or limitation in chest wall expansion.
- R. “Proportional Force” means force that is reasonably necessary to overcome the level of resistance, aggression, or threat an officer confronts.

- S. “Reasonable” means sound, fair, sensible, and not excessive under the circumstances.
- T. “Reasonable belief that a person has committed an offense” means a reasonable belief in facts or circumstances which if true would in law constitute an offense. If the facts or circumstances would not legally constitute an offense, an incorrect belief that they do, even if reasonable, does not justify the use of physical force.
- U. “Serious Physical Injury” means physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death, serious protracted and obvious disfigurement, a serious health impairment, or an extended loss or impairment of any body part or bodily organ.
- V. “Unreasonable Force” means any force applied in a manner inconsistent with this policy or applicable law.
- W. “Unreasonable Risk” means unwarranted exposure to the possibility of a negative consequence.

#### **4. Moral and Ethical Obligations Regarding the Use of Force**

All police officers must comply with this policy and uphold the legal, moral, and ethical obligations of their sworn service to the public, including:

##### **A. Duty to Render Aid**

An officer shall render aid and request an emergency medical service (EMS) response as soon as possible for any person who sustains an injury, complains of injury, or otherwise exhibits signs of medical distress including shortness of breath, altered mental status, or loss of consciousness.

An EMS response shall be requested for any person subjected to the use of a firearm, impact weapon, impact projectile, conducted energy weapon (CEW), oleoresin capicum (OC) spray, or K-9 apprehension. A supervisor shall be immediately notified of any EMS response initiated under these conditions, and injuries shall be documented and photographed whenever possible.

##### **B. Duty to Intervene**

Any police officer acting in a law enforcement capacity who witnesses the use of force by any other officer, regardless of rank or department, that the witnessing officer knows to be unreasonable, must intervene to attempt to stop such use of force. The witnessing officer shall intervene in any manner necessary to stop any unreasonable, excessive or illegal use of force, including by verbal or physical means or both. Unreasonable force is any force applied in a manner inconsistent with this policy or applicable law.

These requirements do not apply to officers acting in an undercover capacity if intervening will significantly compromise their safety or the safety of another.

In rare cases, exigent circumstances may prevent an officer from complying with these requirements. For example:

- (1) An officer may be engaged in a simultaneous attempt to apprehend another person.
- (2) An officer may be actively engaged in rendering aid to a seriously injured person.
- (3) An officer may be separated by space, elevation, physical barriers, terrain, or other hazards or impediments that prevent access necessary to intervene.

If circumstances prevent or impede effective intervention, these circumstances shall be promptly reported and documented.

Any officer who fails to intervene in an incident involving unreasonable use of force that they witness may be subject to disciplinary action and criminal prosecution for the actions the offending officer took.

### **C. Duty to Report**

Any police officer acting in a law enforcement capacity who witnesses or otherwise becomes aware of the use of force by any other officer, regardless of rank or department, that the witnessing officer knows to be unreasonable shall notify a supervisor as soon as practicable. The witnessing officer shall also prepare a written report that thoroughly explains how force was used and submit that report as prescribed by Department procedures.

Any officer who fails to report any unreasonable use of force as required by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and criminal prosecution.

### **D. Prohibition Against Retaliation**

The Department and its employees are strictly prohibited from taking any retaliatory, discriminatory, or punitive action against any officer who acts in good faith in accordance with this policy or cooperates in any internal or criminal investigation related thereto.

## **5. De-escalation and Mitigation**

Officers should use force as a last resort and employ de-escalation and mitigation techniques to the greatest extent practicable. Officers are not required to delay taking

protective measures that are immediately necessary or to place themselves or others at imminent risk of harm in order to attempt de-escalation, but they should consider the following options that might minimize or avoid the use of force:

- A. Using a non-threatening, non-confrontational tone of voice
- B. Listening carefully and expressing empathy
- C. Slowing down the pace of an incident
- D. Waiting to take action until the threat subsides
- E. Placing additional space or barriers between the officer and a person
- F. Permitting a person to move about
- G. Permitting a person to ask questions or engage in conversation
- H. Tactical repositioning or seeking cover
- I. Requesting additional resources

De-escalation is most effective when done purposefully, with patience and flexibility. These techniques should only be employed when circumstances permit, and it is safe to do so.

## **6. Use of Physical Force**

The use of force by an officer shall be necessary, reasonable and proportionate to the threat encountered. Physical force may only be used to achieve a lawful purpose. Before resorting to physical force and whenever safe and feasible, officers should first make reasonable attempts to gain compliance through verbal commands and allowing appropriate time under the circumstances for voluntary compliance.

### **A. Considerations**

Before deciding to use physical force, an officer should consider the following:

- (1) The immediacy of the threat
- (2) The nature and severity of the crime or circumstances
- (3) The nature and duration of actions taken by the subject
- (4) Whether the subject is actively resisting custody
- (5) Whether the subject is attempting to evade arrest by flight

- (6) The number of subjects in comparison to the number of officers
- (7) The size and condition of the subject in comparison to the officer
- (8) The age, health, and condition of the subject
- (9) The subject's violent history, if known
- (10) The presence of a hostile crowd or agitators
- (11) Whether the subject is under the influence of drugs or alcohol to the extent it would affect their tolerance towards pain

**B. Permissible Purposes for the Use of Physical Force**

When necessary and reasonable, an officer may use proportionate physical force to:

- (1) Gain control of a subject who poses an imminent risk to the officer, themselves, or a third person.
- (2) Effect an arrest of a person whom the officer reasonably believes to have committed an offense unless the officer knows the arrest is not authorized.
- (3) Effect an arrest pursuant to a warrant unless the officer knows the arrest warrant is invalid.
- (4) Prevent the escape from custody of a person unless the officer knows the custody is not authorized.
- (5) Gain compliance to a lawful order.

**C. Prohibitions on the Use of Physical Force**

The following actions are prohibited:

- (1) Using physical force against any handcuffed or restrained person except to the extent necessary to counter active resistance, prevent escape, prevent the person from sustaining injury, or prevent the person from injuring another.
- (2) Using physical force for the purpose of retaliation.
- (3) Using physical force against a person whose health, age, physical condition, or circumstances make it likely that serious physical injury will result.
- (4) Standing on or kneeling on the neck of another person.

#### **D. Restrictions on the Use of Physical Force**

The following are prohibited except under circumstances where deadly force is deemed reasonable and necessary, consistent with this policy:

- (1) *The intentional use of a chokehold or neck restraint. Including but not limited to: (1). Arm bar hold, (2). Carotid artery hold, (3). Lateral vascular neck restraint, (4). Neck restraint or hold with a knee or other object is prohibited. The use of a choke hold or neck restraint may only be used when the use of deadly physical force is necessary.*
- (2) Intentional strikes to the head, neck, spine, or sternum with an impact weapon, improvised impact weapon, knee, kick, or hard object, or striking the head against a hard surface.
- (3) The intentional discharge of a less-lethal launcher projectile at close range to the head, neck, or chest.

#### **7. Positioning of Persons Under Officer's Control**

Restrained persons shall be positioned so that breathing is not obstructed. Restrained persons should be maintained in a seated position or placed on their side. Restrained persons should not be placed in a prone or other position that increases the risk of positional asphyxia.

#### **8. Less Lethal Force**

An officer may use less lethal force when reasonable and necessary to overcome the use or imminent use of force against an officer or a third person. The level of less lethal force used must be proportionate to the threat, perceived or existing. Less lethal force may not be used against any person engaged in passive resistance.

#### **9. Use of Deadly Physical Force**

Deadly force must be used as a last resort. Any use of deadly force must be reasonable and necessary. When feasible and consistent with personal safety, an officer shall give warning of his or her intent to use deadly physical force.

##### **A. Permissible Purposes for Deadly Force**

A police officer is justified in using deadly force upon another person only when his or her actions are objectively reasonable under the given circumstances at that time and the officer reasonably believes the use of deadly force is necessary to:

- (1) Defend himself or herself or another person from the use or imminent use of deadly physical force, or



- (2) Effect an arrest of a person if the following circumstances exist:
  - a. The officer reasonably believes the person has committed or attempted to commit a felony that involved the infliction of serious physical injury and
  - b. The officer has determined there are no available reasonable alternatives to the use of deadly force and
  - c. The officer believes that the use of deadly force creates no unreasonable risk of injury to any other person.
- (3) Prevent the escape of a person if the following circumstances exist:
  - a. The officer reasonably believes the person has committed a felony that involved the infliction of serious physical injury and poses a significant threat of death or serious physical injury to others.
  - b. The officer has determined there are no available reasonable alternatives to the use of deadly force.
  - c. The officer believes that the use of deadly force creates no unreasonable risk of injury to any other person.

#### **B. Prohibitions on the Use of Deadly Force**

- (1) Deadly force may not be used against any person for the purpose of protecting property.
- (2) Deadly force may not be used against any person who poses a threat only to themselves.

#### **C. Use of Firearms**

The discharge of a firearm by an officer in any setting other than a training or testing exercise, or to dispatch an animal, shall be considered a use of deadly force. The discharge of a firearm against another person should be considered a last resort.

The discharge of a firearm is prohibited:

- (1) When, in the professional judgment of the officer, doing so will unnecessarily endanger an innocent person.
- (2) In the defense of property.

- (3) To summon assistance, except in an emergency and no other reasonable means is available.
- (4) When fired as a warning shot.
- (5) When fired at or into a moving or fleeing vehicle, except:
  - a. To counter an imminent threat of death or serious physical injury from an occupant by means other than the vehicle.
  - b. When a driver is intentionally placing others in the vehicle's path causing an imminent risk of serious injury, such as driving into a crowd of assembled persons or into an occupied area not intended for vehicular traffic.
  - c. When an officer is unavoidably in the path of a vehicle and cannot move to safety. Officers are strongly discouraged from positioning themselves in the actual or potential path of travel of any vehicle.

#### **D. Post Event Review of Deadly Physical Force Incidents**

A post event review regarding any use of force shall determine whether any involved officer acted in a manner consistent with or inconsistent with this policy.

Officers must be aware that they are subject to the standards set forth by State Law. In accordance with State Law, evaluations of an officer's actions related to a use of deadly force will consider, *but are not limited to*, the following factors:

- (1) Whether the person possessed or appeared to possess a deadly weapon
- (2) Whether the officer engaged in reasonable de-escalation measures prior to using deadly force
- (3) Whether any unreasonable conduct of the officer led to an increased risk of an occurrence of the situation that precipitated the use of deadly force.

Officers should be aware that the statutory language "but are not limited to" may mean that factors not specified in law or in this policy are considered in the evaluation of an officer's actions.

### **10. Reporting Uses of Force**

#### **A. Required Reporting and Review**

A reportable use of force **to the State shall be the following:**

- (1) Striking another person with an open or closed hand, elbow, knee, club or baton, kicking another person
- (2) Using OC spray, CEW, or less lethal projectile
- (3) Using a chokehold or neck restraint
- (4) Pointing a firearm, less lethal launcher, or CEW laser sight at a person
- (5) The discharge of a firearm, for other than training, testing, or to dispatch an animal
- (6) **Any incident where a police officer uses physical force that is likely to cause serious physical injury, as defined in C.G.S. 53a-3, to another person or the death of another person.**

The electronic State of Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council *Use of Force* form shall be completed for any incident that involves a reportable use of force. A separate form shall be completed for each person subjected to a reportable use of force. Except as provided below, the officers involved shall complete the form as soon as is practical. The required supervisory review of any use of force shall be completed in a timely manner.

**Any action that results in, or is alleged to have resulted in, injury to another person shall be reported internally.**

The Office of the Chief State's Attorney Inspector General shall investigate any incident in which an officer uses deadly force or in which a death occurs as a result of any use of force and shall direct the completion of reports as deemed necessary.

The department shall document and maintain a record of any incident in which an officer reports or is aware of an unreasonable, excessive, or *illegal* use of force as specified in this policy. This record shall include, at minimum, the name of the officer(s) involved; the date, time, and location of the incident; a description of the circumstances; and the names of any victims and witnesses present, if known.

## **B. Annual Use of Force Reporting**

Each year, but not later than February 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year, the department shall ensure that each completed *State of Connecticut – Police Officer and Standards Training Council - Use of Force Report (POSTC Form – PUOF)* **that meets the reporting requirements of either C.G.S. 7-282e and/or C.G.S. 54-1t is** submitted in electronic form to the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division of the Office of Policy and Management **or its designee**. Prior to the submission of

these reports, the department shall redact any information that may identify a minor, victim, or witness.

**Use of force reports that do not meet the State reporting requirements by statute, but are required by this policy, shall be stored in-house.**

## **11. Training**

The Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) will oversee development and implementation of a single, standardized training curriculum to include lesson plans and presentation material regarding all aspects of this policy for the purposes of in-service or review training. To qualify for POSTC credit, Use of Force training must be delivered by a POSTC certified Use of Force instructor. The Department may elect to offer additional training in any area of this policy, but such training may not supplant any portion of the POSTC approved training module. Any additional training offered must be delivered by a POSTC certified Use of Force instructor using a POSTC approved lesson plan.

All Departments shall ensure that every peace officer bound by this policy completes all required POSTC Use of Force training prior to December 31, 2022 unless granted an extension by the DESPP/POSTC Academy Administrator. Thereafter, the Department shall ensure that every officer completes the POSTC recertification training module no less than once annually.

## **12. Related Policies**

Other policies related to this and department use of force policies include but may not be limited to:

- A. Oath of Office**
- B. Ethics**
- C. Firearms**
- D. Controlled Electrical Weapon**
- E. Less-Lethal Weapons/Munitions**
- F. Pursuit**
- G. Crowd Control**
- H. Body Camera/In-Car Camera**
- I. Canine Unit**

## Appendix B: Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council Use of Force Reporting Form



# State of Connecticut - Police Officer Standards and Training Council USE OF FORCE REPORT

## CASE AND SUBJECT INFORMATION SECTION

### Police Department Information

PD Town or Troop    Agency #

Case Number #    Date of Report

### Incident Information

Date of Inc.    T.O.D.

Incident Apt/Unit #

Incident Street Address

Incident City

State CT

### Subject's Information

First Name    Last Name    Date of Birth

Apt/Unit #

Address Street

Address City

State

Race

Hispanic

-

☐

Yes

☐

No

Sex

☐

Male

☐

Female

Subject Height & Weight

Feet

Inches

Pounds

## PRE-INCIDENT INFORMATION SECTION

Officer's First Name    Officer's Last Name    Officer's Badge Number

Officer Self Identified

☐

Yes

☐

No

Origins of Initial Contact    Officer's Assignment    Officer's Arrival Transport    Officer's Arrival Uniform

-

-

-

-

### Activity That Led To Incident (Check All That Apply)

☐ Welfare Check

☐ Medical Emergency

☐ Potential Mental Health Incident

☐ MV/Traffic Stop

☐ Execute Warrant

☐ Other

☐ Possible Crime in Progress

Crime #1

Crime #2

Crime #3

Crime #4

Crime #5

### Location Environment (Check All That Apply)

☐ Subject's Residence

☐ Other Residence

☐ Outdoors - Public Area

☐ Outdoors - Priv. Property

☐ Indoors - Public Building

☐ Indoors - Private Property

☐ Educational Facility

☐ Commercial Establishment

Other

## OFFICER ASSESSMENT OF SCENE AND SITUATION SECTION

### Officer's Initial Perception of Subject (Check All That Apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Aggressive	<input type="checkbox"/> Actively Aggressive (Verbal)
<input type="checkbox"/> Previous Hostility Toward LEO	<input type="checkbox"/> Actively Aggressive (Physical)
<input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Under the Influence	<input type="checkbox"/> Armed with <input style="width: 400px;" type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Emotionally Disturbed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input style="width: 400px;" type="text"/>

### Subject's Initial Resistance Resulting in Use of Force (Check All That Apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Threat/Hostile	<input type="checkbox"/> Fighting Stance/Combative
<input type="checkbox"/> Dead Weight/Non-Compliant	<input type="checkbox"/> Threatening Use of Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Fleeing	<input type="checkbox"/> Un-Armed Assault
<input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal	<input type="checkbox"/> Armed Assault with <input style="width: 300px;" type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input style="width: 400px;" type="text"/>	

## APPLICATION OF FORCE NARRATIVE SECTION

☐ Use of Force Warning Provided to the Subject?

### OFFICER'S ACTIONS

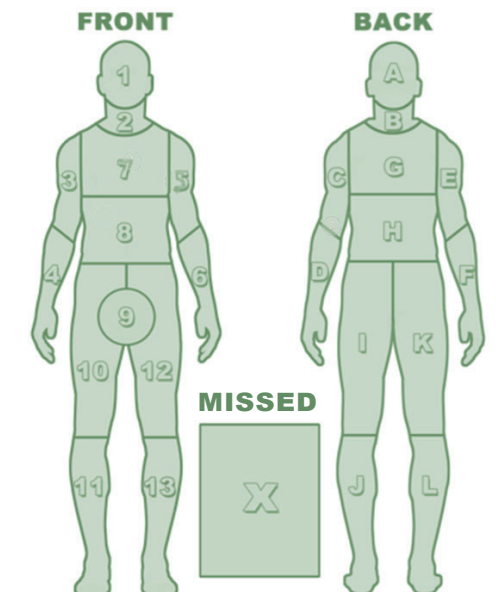
#	Control Category	Control Method	Body Region	# of Strikes
1	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-

### SUBJECT'S ACTIONS

Response Category	Response Method
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

### Use of CEW Details

Serial # on CEW(s) Deployed	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
Serial # on Cartridge(s) Deployed	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
Type of Cartridge	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
# and Length of Display of Arc (sec.)	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>
# and Length of Drive-Stun Applications (sec.)	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>
# and Length After Probe Contact (sec.)	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>
Time Between Applications (sec.)	#1 <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/> #2 <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/> #3 <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>
CEW was Downloaded by Whom?	<input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/>



Body Regions Template

**Use of OC Spray Details**Yes No ☐ N/A

Subject Permitted to De-contaminate After Transport?

☐☐

Medical Evaluation Performed?

☐☐

Was OC Spray Effective?

☐☐

Number of OC Spray Applications

**POST - INCIDENT INFORMATION SECTION****OFFICER Injuries (Check All that Apply)**

- ☐ None
- ☐ Officer Complaint of Pain
- ☐ Officer Contusion/Bruise
- ☐ Officer Abrasion/Laceration
- ☐ Officer Blunt Trauma/Concussion
- ☐ Officer Fracture/Dislocation
- ☐ Officer Chest Pains
- ☐ Officer Breathing Difficulty
- ☐ Officer Probe Puncture Only
- ☐ Officer Gunshot
- ☐ Officer Death
- ☐ Unknown
- ☐ Other

**SUBJECT Injuries (Check All that Apply)**

- ☐ None
- ☐ Subject Complaint of Pain
- ☐ Subject Contusion/Bruise
- ☐ Subject Abrasion/Laceration
- ☐ Subject Blunt Trauma/Concussion
- ☐ Subject Fracture/Dislocation
- ☐ Subject Chest Pains
- ☐ Subject Breathing Difficulty
- ☐ Subject Probe Puncture Only
- ☐ Subject Gunshot
- ☐ Subject Death
- ☐ Unknown
- ☐ Other

**Checked by Medical?**☐ Yes ☐ Refusal ☐ N/A☐ Yes ☐ Refusal ☐ N/A**Transported to Hospital?**☐ Yes ☐ Yes **INCIDENT ANALYSIS AND SUMMARY SECTION****Was Supervisor Notified?**☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A Time of Notification **Was Supervisor at the Scene?**☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Supervisor's First Name

Supervisor's Last Name

Supervisor's Badge #

Video Footage Available?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Video Footage Type?

(Hold Control Button for Multi-Selection)

Body Worn

Cell Phone

Commercial Building

Motor Vehicle



Officer Comments

Officer's Comments

Officer's First Name

Officer's Last Name

Officer's Badge Number

Officer's Ink Signature

Or

Officer's  
Digital Signature

Email to Supervisor

Supervisor Evaluation (Mandatory)

- ☐ I find this use of force by this officer to be within POSTC policy.
- ☐ I find this use of force by this officer to be outside POSTC policy, but reasonable and necessary.
- ☐ I find this use of force by this officer to be outside POSTC policy.
- ☐ Needs further review.

Supervisor Narrative Supporting Findings

Supervisor's Evaluation

Supervisor's First Name

Supervisor's Last Name

Supervisor's Badge Number

Supervisor's Ink Signature

Or

Supervisor's  
Digital Signature

Email for Review

☐ Yes

☐ No

Dept. use only: This incident meets the POSTC requirement for submission to the State.

## Appendix C: Data Tables

**Table C.1: Reported Interactions by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b># Reported Interactions</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>
Ansonia	39	1.8%
Avon	14	0.6%
Berlin	2	0.1%
Bethel	2	0.1%
Bloomfield	23	1.0%
Branford	13	0.6%
Bridgeport	24	1.1%
Bristol	1	0.0%
Brookfield	6	0.3%
Canton	0	0.0%
Capitol Police	1	0.0%
Central CT State University	1	0.0%
Cheshire	5	0.2%
Clinton	2	0.1%
Coventry	5	0.2%
Cromwell	4	0.2%
CT EnCon	5	0.2%
Danbury	16	0.7%
Darien	9	0.4%
Derby	18	0.8%
East Hampton	17	0.8%
East Hartford	156	7.1%
East Haven	25	1.1%
East Lyme	10	0.5%
East Windsor	3	0.1%
Easton	1	0.0%
Enfield	17	0.8%
Fairfield	9	0.4%
Farmington	11	0.5%
Glastonbury	1	0.0%
Granby	3	0.1%
Greenwich	1	0.0%
Groton City	3	0.1%
Groton Long Point	0	0.0%
Groton Town	41	1.9%
Guilford	8	0.4%
Hamden	23	1.0%
Hartford	150	6.8%
Ledyard	12	0.5%
Madison	0	0.0%
Manchester	61	2.8%
Mashantucket	3	0.1%

**Table C.1: Reported Interactions by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b># Reported Interactions</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>
Meriden	94	4.3%
Middlebury	3	0.1%
Middletown	30	1.4%
Milford	38	1.7%
Mohegan Tribal	5	0.2%
Monroe	4	0.2%
Montville	9	0.4%
Naugatuck	76	3.4%
New Britain	28	1.3%
New Canaan	0	0.0%
New Haven	185	8.4%
New London	60	2.7%
New Milford	15	0.7%
Newington	18	0.8%
Newtown	12	0.5%
North Branford	1	0.0%
North Haven	2	0.1%
Norwalk	106	4.8%
Norwich	10	0.5%
Old Saybrook	3	0.1%
Orange	6	0.3%
Plainfield	6	0.3%
Plainville	11	0.5%
Plymouth	10	0.5%
Portland	0	0.0%
Putnam	4	0.2%
Redding	0	0.0%
Ridgefield	1	0.0%
Rocky Hill	14	0.6%
Seymour	3	0.1%
Shelton	4	0.2%
Simsbury	8	0.4%
South Windsor	39	1.8%
Southington	86	3.9%
Stamford	82	3.7%
Stonington	1	0.0%
Stratford	2	0.1%
Suffield	7	0.3%
Thomaston	11	0.5%
Torrington	18	0.8%
Trumbull	8	0.4%
University of Connecticut	4	0.2%

**Table C.1: Reported Interactions by Police Department**

<b>Derpartment Name</b>	<b># Reported Interactions</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>
Vernon	26	1.2%
Wallingford	16	0.7%
Waterbury	156	7.1%
Waterford	28	1.3%
Watertown	40	1.8%
West Hartford	51	2.3%
West Haven	23	1.0%
Weston	1	0.0%
Westport	26	1.2%
Wethersfield	9	0.4%
Willimantic	21	1.0%
Wilton	5	0.2%
Windsor	20	0.9%
Windsor Locks	5	0.2%
Winsted	7	0.3%
Wolcott	1	0.0%
Woodbridge	0	0.0%

**Table C.2: Reported Incidents by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b># Reported Incidents</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>
Ansonia	16	1.1%
Avon	7	0.5%
Berlin	2	0.1%
Bethel	1	0.1%
Bloomfield	11	0.8%
Branford	6	0.4%
Bridgeport	17	1.2%
Bristol	1	0.1%
Brookfield	6	0.4%
Canton	0	0.0%
Capitol Police	1	0.1%
Central CT State University	1	0.1%
Cheshire	3	0.2%
Clinton	2	0.1%
Coventry	5	0.4%
Cromwell	3	0.2%
CT EnCon	3	0.2%
Danbury	15	1.1%
Darien	6	0.4%
Derby	10	0.7%
East Hampton	9	0.6%
East Hartford	100	7.1%
East Haven	18	1.3%
East Lyme	7	0.5%
East Windsor	1	0.1%
Easton	1	0.1%
Enfield	14	1.0%
Fairfield	8	0.6%
Farmington	8	0.6%
Glastonbury	1	0.1%
Granby	2	0.1%
Greenwich	1	0.1%
Groton City	3	0.2%
Groton Long Point	0	0.0%
Groton Town	22	1.6%
Guilford	8	0.6%
Hamden	18	1.3%
Hartford	109	7.8%
Ledyard	7	0.5%
Madison	0	0.0%
Manchester	45	3.2%
Mashantucket	3	0.2%

**Table C.2: Reported Incidents by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b># Reported Incidents</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>
Meriden	55	3.9%
Middlebury	2	0.1%
Middletown	16	1.1%
Milford	24	1.7%
Mohegan Tribal	4	0.3%
Monroe	3	0.2%
Montville	2	0.1%
Naugatuck	29	2.1%
New Britain	26	1.9%
New Canaan	0	0.0%
New Haven	124	8.9%
New London	36	2.6%
New Milford	10	0.7%
Newington	13	0.9%
Newtown	6	0.4%
North Branford	1	0.1%
North Haven	2	0.1%
Norwalk	63	4.5%
Norwich	6	0.4%
Old Saybrook	3	0.2%
Orange	6	0.4%
Plainfield	5	0.4%
Plainville	7	0.5%
Plymouth	8	0.6%
Portland	0	0.0%
Putnam	4	0.3%
Redding	0	0.0%
Ridgefield	1	0.1%
Rocky Hill	11	0.8%
Seymour	3	0.2%
Shelton	2	0.1%
Simsbury	5	0.4%
South Windsor	22	1.6%
Southington	34	2.4%
Stamford	40	2.9%
Stonington	1	0.1%
Stratford	2	0.1%
Suffield	4	0.3%
Thomaston	5	0.4%
Torrington	13	0.9%
Trumbull	5	0.4%
University of Connecticut	3	0.2%

**Table C.2: Reported Incidents by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b># Reported Incidents</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>
Vernon	22	1.6%
Wallingford	11	0.8%
Waterbury	108	7.7%
Waterford	10	0.7%
Watertown	22	1.6%
West Hartford	36	2.6%
West Haven	22	1.6%
Weston	1	0.1%
Westport	14	1.0%
Wethersfield	6	0.4%
Willimantic	12	0.9%
Wilton	4	0.3%
Windsor	15	1.1%
Windsor Locks	5	0.4%
Winsted	4	0.3%
Wolcott	1	0.1%
Woodbridge	0	0.0%



**Table C.3: Use of Force Per 1,000 Arrests by Police Department**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Subjects Involved</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>	<b>Use of Force per 1,000 Arrests</b>
Ansonia	18	1.2%	14.3
Avon	6	0.4%	50.8
Berlin	2	0.1%	7.0
Bethel	2	0.1%	5.7
Bloomfield	14	0.9%	15.2
Branford	8	0.5%	11.2
Bridgeport	19	1.2%	5.1
Bristol	1	0.1%	0.7
Brookfield	5	0.3%	20.5
Canton	0	0.0%	0.0
Capitol Police	1	0.1%	50.0
Central CT State University	1	0.1%	15.6
Cheshire	3	0.2%	10.5
Clinton	2	0.1%	4.7
Coventry	5	0.3%	34.0
Cromwell	4	0.3%	9.3
CT EnCon	4	0.3%	23.9
Danbury	14	0.9%	4.8
Darien	7	0.4%	31.4
Derby	12	0.8%	18.4
East Hampton	11	0.7%	58.5
East Hartford	117	7.5%	57.9
East Haven	19	1.2%	17.8
East Lyme	8	0.5%	17.9
East Windsor	1	0.1%	2.3
Easton	1	0.1%	28.6
Enfield	15	1.0%	5.8
Fairfield	9	0.6%	8.2
Farmington	9	0.6%	12.2
Glastonbury	1	0.1%	1.4
Granby	2	0.1%	18.0
Greenwich	1	0.1%	1.2
Groton City	2	0.1%	3.1
Groton Long Point	0	0.0%	0.0
Groton Town	29	1.9%	30.6
Guilford	8	0.5%	30.3
Hamden	20	1.3%	13.8
Hartford	124	8.0%	22.8
Ledyard	7	0.4%	10.0
Madison	0	0.0%	0.0
Manchester	47	3.0%	17.0
Mashantucket	3	0.2%	8.1

**Table C.3: Use of Force Per 1,000 Arrests by Police Department**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Subjects Involved</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>	<b>Use of Force per 1,000 Arrests</b>
Meriden	63	4.0%	26.0
Middlebury	3	0.2%	55.6
Middletown	16	1.0%	11.7
Milford	25	1.6%	20.4
Mohegan Tribal	4	0.3%	9.1
Monroe	3	0.2%	14.6
Montville	4	0.3%	24.4
Naugatuck	44	2.8%	37.2
New Britain	26	1.7%	7.6
New Canaan	0	0.0%	0.0
New Haven	138	8.9%	14.2
New London	39	2.5%	40.3
New Milford	10	0.6%	16.9
Newington	13	0.8%	9.6
Newtown	7	0.4%	32.0
North Branford	1	0.1%	6.0
North Haven	2	0.1%	4.4
Norwalk	66	4.2%	23.8
Norwich	6	0.4%	2.4
Old Saybrook	3	0.2%	12.4
Orange	7	0.4%	10.7
Plainfield	5	0.3%	16.8
Plainville	6	0.4%	10.6
Plymouth	8	0.5%	33.8
Portland	0	0.0%	0.0
Putnam	4	0.3%	11.4
Redding	0	0.0%	0.0
Ridgefield	1	0.1%	25.0
Rocky Hill	12	0.8%	21.5
Seymour	3	0.2%	7.8
Shelton	2	0.1%	3.4
Simsbury	5	0.3%	22.4
South Windsor	29	1.9%	55.8
Southington	42	2.7%	43.3
Stamford	44	2.8%	12.1
Stonington	1	0.1%	1.5
Stratford	2	0.1%	1.3
Suffield	5	0.3%	39.1
Thomaston	5	0.3%	106.4
Torrington	13	0.8%	12.8
Trumbull	5	0.3%	6.7
University of Connecticut	3	0.2%	20.3

**Table C.3: Use of Force Per 1,000 Arrests by Police Department**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Subjects Involved</b>	<b>% Statewide Total</b>	<b>Use of Force per 1,000 Arrests</b>
Vernon	22	1.4%	16.9
Wallingford	12	0.8%	24.5
Waterbury	114	7.3%	16.7
Waterford	13	0.8%	15.8
Watertown	24	1.5%	60.2
West Hartford	42	2.7%	21.8
West Haven	22	1.4%	14.4
Weston	1	0.1%	50.0
Westport	17	1.1%	104.3
Wethersfield	6	0.4%	7.5
Willimantic	15	1.0%	11.2
Wilton	3	0.2%	11.8
Windsor	18	1.2%	23.7
Windsor Locks	5	0.3%	11.6
Winsted	4	0.3%	43.5
Wolcott	1	0.1%	10.0
Woodbridge	0	0.0%	0.0

**Table C.4: Use of Force and Arrest Rates for Black Subjects by Police Department**

Department Name	Total Black Subjects	UoF Percentage	Total Arrestees	Arrest Percentage	P-Value
Ansonia	5	0.9	503	1.5	0.3028
Avon	2	0.4	18	0.1	0.0412
Bloomfield	9	1.6	635	1.9	0.7068
Branford	1	0.2	102	0.3	0.8696
Bridgeport	12	2.2	1,842	5.6	0.0006
Cheshire	1	0.2	26	0.1	0.9388
Cromwell	2	0.4	101	0.3	1
Danbury	6	1.1	492	1.5	0.5294
Darien	4	0.7	42	0.1	0.0016
Derby	2	0.4	222	0.7	0.5208
East Hartford	65	11.7	971	2.9	0
East Haven	6	1.1	188	0.6	0.2004
East Lyme	2	0.4	56	0.2	0.5821
Enfield	4	0.7	572	1.7	0.0951
Fairfield	3	0.5	340	1	0.3496
Farmington	2	0.4	234	0.7	0.4668
Glastonbury	1	0.2	157	0.5	0.482
Granby	1	0.2	9	0	0.4092
Groton City	1	0.2	202	0.6	0.3018
Groton Town	13	2.3	221	0.7	0
Hamden	15	2.7	861	2.6	1
Hartford	67	12.1	2,433	7.4	0.0001
Ledyard	4	0.7	191	0.6	0.8851
Manchester	21	3.8	1,022	3.1	0.4376
Mashantucket	1	0.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Middletown	18	3.2	510	1.5	N/A
Milford	10	1.8	365	1.1	N/A
Mohegan Tribal	1	0.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Montville	2	0.4	27	0.1	0.1393
Naugatuck	28	5.1	340	1	0
New Britain	11	2.0	959	2.9	0.2381
New London	20	3.6	329	1	0
New Milford	2	0.4	51	0.2	0.506
Newington	6	1.1	276	0.8	0.7046
Newtown	1	0.2	18	0.1	0.7412
North Haven	1	0.2	123	0.4	0.6926
Norwalk	32	5.8	883	2.7	0
Norwich	1	0.2	802	2.4	0.0009
Old Saybrook	1	0.2	40	0.1	1
Plainville	1	0.2	106	0.3	0.8325
Plymouth	1	0.2	16	0	0.6802
Ridgefield	1	0.2	3	0	0.0901

**Table C.4: Use of Force and Arrest Rates for Black Subjects by Police Department**

Department Name	Total Black Subjects	UoF Percentage	Total Arrestees	Arrest Percentage	P-Value
Rocky Hill	2	0.4	117	0.4	1
Simsbury	1	0.2	32	0.1	1
South Windsor	10	1.8	125	0.4	0
Southington	15	2.7	150	0.5	0
Stamford	15	2.7	1,438	4.4	0.0693
Stratford	2	0.4	624	1.9	0.0126
Thomaston	1	0.2	11	0	0.4975
Torrington	1	0.2	132	0.4	0.6287
Trumbull	2	0.4	246	0.7	0.4183
University of Connecticut	2	0.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vernon	7	1.3	377	1.1	0.9634
Wallingford	1	0.2	85	0.3	1
Waterbury	52	9.4	2,772	8.4	0.4852
Watertown	6	1.1	84	0.3	0.001
West Hartford	18	3.2	719	2.2	0.1266
West Haven	12	2.2	680	2.1	1
Westport	8	1.4	44	0.1	0
Wilton	1	0.2	64	0.2	1
Windsor	11	2.0	421	1.3	0.2092

**Table C.5: Use of Force and Arrest Rates for Hispanic Subjects by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>Total Hispanic Subjects</b>	<b>UoF Percentage</b>	<b>Total Arrestees</b>	<b>Arrest Percentage</b>	<b>P-Value</b>
Ansonia	4	1.1	321	1.2	1
Berlin	1	0.3	59	0.2	1
Bloomfield	1	0.3	165	0.6	0.5998
Branford	1	0.3	144	0.5	0.7229
Bridgeport	7	1.9	1,327	5	0.0088
Brookfield	3	0.8	54	0.2	0.0509
Capitol Police	1	0.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cheshire	1	0.3	38	0.1	1
Coventry	1	0.3	15	0.1	0.5483
Danbury	1	0.3	1,463	5.5	0
Darien	2	0.6	80	0.3	0.7246
Derby	5	1.4	122	0.5	0.0357
East Hartford	48	13.2	632	2.4	0
East Haven	6	1.7	291	1.1	0.4797
East Lyme	1	0.3	51	0.2	1
East Windsor	1	0.3	90	0.3	1
Enfield	1	0.3	523	2	0.0305
Fairfield	3	0.8	235	0.9	1
Farmington	1	0.3	149	0.6	0.6913
Groton Town	3	0.8	134	0.5	0.6518
Hamden	1	0.3	204	0.8	0.4263
Hartford	42	11.6	1,884	7.1	0.0023
Ledyard	1	0.3	113	0.4	0.9554
Manchester	19	5.2	793	3	0.0251
Mashantucket	1	0.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Middlebury	1	0.3	3	0	0.0562
Middletown	1	0.3	207	0.8	0.0076
Milford	3	0.8	160	0.6	0.6269
Mohegan Tribal	1	0.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Naugatuck	11	3.0	292	1.1	0.0017
New Britain	14	3.9	1,633	6.2	0.0744
New London	8	2.2	212	0.8	0.0094
New Milford	2	0.6	153	0.6	1
Newington	2	0.6	360	1.4	0.2594
Norwalk	23	6.3	1,047	4	0.0375
Norwich	1	0.3	512	1.9	0.0333
Plainville	2	0.6	120	0.5	1
Rocky Hill	4	1.1	133	0.5	0.2355
South Windsor	5	1.4	86	0.3	0.0034
Southington	16	4.4	164	0.6	0
Stamford	19	5.2	1,378	5.2	1
Thomaston	1	0.3	6	0	0.1904

**Table C.5: Use of Force and Arrest Rates for Hispanic Subjects by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>Total Hispanic Subjects</b>	<b>UoF Percentage</b>	<b>Total Arrestees</b>	<b>Arrest Percentage</b>	<b>P-Value</b>
Torrington	2	0.6	196	0.7	0.89
Vernon	5	1.4	222	0.8	0.4316
Wallingford	4	1.1	116	0.4	0.1468
Waterbury	48	13.2	2,593	9.8	0.05
Watertown	3	0.8	61	0.2	0.0821
West Hartford	15	4.1	566	2.1	0.0193
West Haven	5	1.4	410	1.6	0.9279
Westport	6	1.7	27	0.1	0
Windsor	5	1.4	115	0.4	0.0253

**Table C.6: Summary of Officer Injuries by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>Total Injuries</b>	<b>Total Officers Injured</b>	<b>Incidents with ≥1 Injury</b>	<b>Incidents with Multiple Injuries</b>
Ansonia	8	7	6	1
Avon	1	1	1	0
Berlin	1	1	1	0
Bethel	0	0	0	0
Bloomfield	0	0	0	0
Branford	0	0	0	0
Bridgeport	13	8	7	1
Bristol	0	0	0	0
Brookfield	0	0	0	0
Capitol Police	0	0	0	0
Central CT State University	0	0	0	0
Cheshire	0	0	0	0
Coventry	0	0	0	0
Cromwell	0	0	0	0
CT EnCon	1	1	1	0
Danbury	6	6	6	0
Darien	3	2	2	0
Derby	6	2	2	0
East Hampton	0	0	0	0
East Hartford	33	25	19	6
East Haven	2	1	1	0
East Lyme	0	0	0	0
East Windsor	4	3	1	1
Enfield	1	1	1	0
Fairfield	0	0	0	0
Farmington	0	0	0	0
Glastonbury	0	0	0	0
Granby	0	0	0	0
Greenwich	0	0	0	0
Groton City	3	2	2	0
Groton Town	1	1	1	0
Hamden	4	3	3	0
Hartford	41	21	18	3
Ledyard	3	3	3	0
Manchester	19	10	10	0
Mashantucket	2	1	1	0
Middlebury	0	0	0	0
Middletown	33	17	7	10
Milford	1	1	1	0
Mohegan Tribal	0	0	0	0
Monroe	3	2	1	1
Montville	0	0	0	0



**Table C.6: Summary of Officer Injuries by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>Total Injuries</b>	<b>Total Officers Injured</b>	<b>Incidents with <math>\geq 1</math> Injury</b>	<b>Incidents with Multiple Injuries</b>
Naugatuck	7	4	3	1
New Britain	3	2	2	0
New London	12	6	6	0
New Milford	7	3	2	1
Newington	8	6	4	1
Newtown	4	3	1	1
North Branford	0	0	0	0
North Haven	0	0	0	0
Norwalk	24	16	13	3
Norwich	2	2	2	0
Old Saybrook	0	0	0	0
Plainfield	1	1	1	0
Plainville	1	1	1	0
Plymouth	0	0	0	0
Putnam	1	1	1	0
Ridgefield	0	0	0	0
Rocky Hill	3	2	2	0
Seymour	0	0	0	0
Shelton	0	0	0	0
Simsbury	0	0	0	0
South Windsor	1	1	1	0
Southington	9	7	5	2
Stamford	11	8	5	2
Stonington	0	0	0	0
Stratford	2	1	1	0
Suffield	0	0	0	0
Thomaston	1	1	1	0
Torrington	2	2	1	1
Trumbull	1	1	1	0
University of Connecticut	2	1	1	0
Vernon	0	0	0	0
Wallingford	2	1	1	0
Waterbury	34	21	18	2
Watertown	4	2	2	0
West Hartford	4	3	3	0
West Haven	6	2	2	0
Weston	7	1	1	0
Westport	1	1	1	0
Wilton	0	0	0	0
Windsor	1	1	1	0

**Table C.7: Summary of Subject Injuries by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>Total Injuries</b>	<b>Total Subjects Injured</b>	<b>Incidents with <math>\geq 1</math> Injury</b>	<b>Incidents with Multiple Injuries</b>
Ansonia	28	10	8	2
Avon	6	4	4	0
Berlin	0	0	0	0
Bethel	0	0	0	0
Bloomfield	11	5	3	2
Branford	7	3	3	0
Bridgeport	22	12	11	1
Bristol	0	0	0	0
Brookfield	1	1	1	0
Capitol Police	1	1	1	0
Central CT State University	0	0	0	0
Cheshire	5	1	1	0
Coventry	4	3	3	0
Cromwell	3	3	2	1
CT EnCon	1	1	1	0
Danbury	17	10	10	0
Darien	5	3	3	0
Derby	15	6	4	1
East Hampton	3	1	1	0
East Hartford	64	41	38	3
East Haven	16	6	6	0
East Lyme	3	3	3	0
East Windsor	7	1	1	0
Enfield	6	3	3	0
Fairfield	2	2	2	0
Farmington	2	2	2	0
Glastonbury	0	0	0	0
Granby	1	1	1	0
Greenwich	1	1	1	0
Groton City	4	3	3	0
Groton Town	15	6	6	0
Hamden	3	3	3	0
Hartford	108	56	54	2
Ledyard	4	1	1	0
Manchester	37	22	20	2
Mashantucket	0	0	0	0
Middlebury	1	1	1	0
Middletown	14	10	7	3
Milford	2	2	2	0
Mohegan Tribal	1	1	1	0
Monroe	3	2	2	0
Montville	0	0	0	0

**Table C.7: Summary of Subject Injuries by Police Department**

<b>Department Name</b>	<b>Total Injuries</b>	<b>Total Subjects Injured</b>	<b>Incidents with <math>\geq 1</math> Injury</b>	<b>Incidents with Multiple Injuries</b>
Naugatuck	27	13	11	2
New Britain	15	9	9	0
New London	45	11	11	0
New Milford	11	6	6	0
Newington	12	6	6	0
Newtown	11	3	3	0
North Branford	0	0	0	0
North Haven	1	1	1	0
Norwalk	63	25	24	1
Norwich	2	1	1	0
Old Saybrook	3	2	2	0
Plainfield	4	3	3	0
Plainville	21	4	4	0
Plymouth	1	1	1	0
Putnam	3	3	3	0
Ridgefield	0	0	0	0
Rocky Hill	4	3	3	0
Seymour	4	3	3	0
Shelton	3	1	1	0
Simsbury	0	0	0	0
South Windsor	11	5	5	0
Southington	44	12	12	0
Stamford	40	20	18	2
Stonington	0	0	0	0
Stratford	4	2	2	0
Suffield	0	0	0	0
Thomaston	5	2	2	0
Torrington	9	4	4	0
Trumbull	2	1	1	0
University of Connecticut	0	0	0	0
Vernon	24	8	8	0
Wallingford	13	6	6	0
Waterbury	141	53	51	2
Watertown	5	3	3	0
West Hartford	12	9	9	0
West Haven	9	6	6	0
Weston	4	1	1	0
Westport	11	7	4	2
Wilton	4	3	3	0
Windsor	7	3	3	0