

Clackamas County Sheriff's Office

Use of Force Annual Report 2018

Overview

At the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, we invest in hiring people who have the right temperament for public safety work with backgrounds that demonstrate good decision making. Fewer than 4% of applicants are hired. Typically, it takes eighteen months of training from the date of hire to the day a Deputy Sheriff begins their independent assignment. Then, throughout their career, professional training and on-going performance evaluation continue. These standards are among the ways we ensure we have a professional workforce capable of making the right decisions in the field.

Each day in carrying out their duties our deputies are involved in numerous and varied interactions with the people they contact. When resistance occurs, we expect our deputies to use their skills and abilities to safely and effectively resolve confrontations and minimize the need to use force whenever reasonably possible. To ensure this capacity, our deputies receive monthly training by certified instructors on all categories of force and de-escalation techniques.

Our commitment to public safety emphasizes respect, professionalism and the protection of human life, even when force is necessary. In the use of force to effectively gain control of an incident, deputies shall only use force that reasonably appears necessary, given the totality of the circumstances perceived by the deputy at the time of the event. Deputies are trained to continually evaluate the situation after an application of force, and render first aid as needed. Further, deputies are required to intervene when they believe a use of force is unjustified or excessive.

The Sheriff's Office recognizes the degree of responsibility that comes with the authority to use force and the obligation to be accountable for its proper use. Toward that end, every use of force must be lawfully justified. Whenever a deputy uses force, they are required to complete an after-action Use of Force Report documenting and explaining why force was used, the nature of the force, and the outcome. All Use of Force Reports are reviewed by supervisors to determine whether the deputy's actions were justified and within policy. We also review those reports to ensure consistency in practices throughout our agency and to inform our training needs.

We realize that law enforcement use of force is a matter of critical public concern and that transparency in use of force practices is essential to community trust. The intent of our Use of Force Annual Report is to aid the public in understanding our practices by providing transparent and accountable information. The data presented in this report is derived from the Use of Force Reports completed by our deputies and required by policy to be submitted in every use of force.

Use of Force Facts

Number of Use of Force events1: 544

Number of subjects involved: 615

Total Use of Force reports: 811

Force was used in 1 out of every 252 Calls for Service (0.4%).²

Force was used in 1 out of every 13 custodies (8.0%).3



Use of Force by Subject Race

	# of Individuals	% of Total
Asian	7	1.1%
Black	63	10.2%
Hispanic or Latino	23	3.7%
Indian	3	0.5%
Native American or Alaska Native	8	1.3%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	5	0.8%
White	473	76.9%
Unknown	33	5.4%
Totals	615	100%

¹ Events are unique incidents separated by time and/or space. A single event may involve multiple deputies, subjects, force types, and circumstances requiring force.

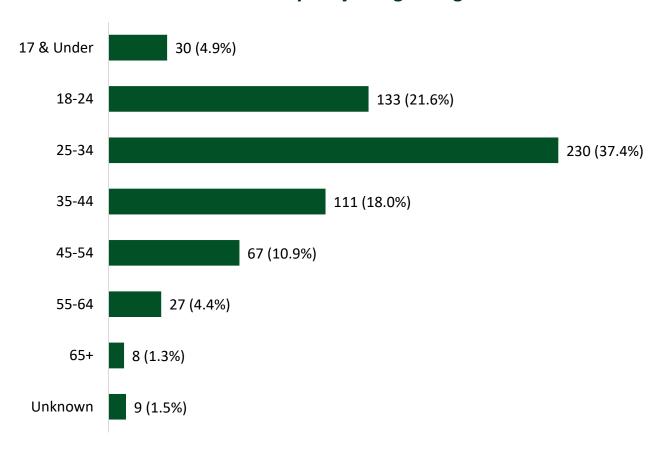
² Includes dispatched and self-initiated calls.

³ Excludes jail custodies.

Use of Force by Subject Sex

	# of Individuals	% of Total
Female	121	19.7%
Male	492	80.0%
Unknown	2	0.3%
Totals	615	100%

Use of Force by Subject Age Ranges



Incidents and Circumstances Requiring Force

	# of Use of Force Reports	% of Total
Arrest Warrant	94	11.6%
Deputy Safety	101	12.5%
Disturbance	55	6.8%
Domestic Disturbance	57	7.0%
Elude/Escape	88	10.9%
Elude/Pursuit	43	5.3%
Escape from Custody	4	0.5%
Felony Incident/Arrest	75	9.2%
High-Risk Traffic Stop	59	7.3%
Misdemeanor Incident/Arrest	107	13.2%
Prisoner Transport	4	0.5%
Subject Hiding in Building/Premises/Cell	3	0.4%
Subject Intoxicated	32	3.9%
Subject Mental Health Crisis	31	3.8%
Subject Suicidal	16	2.0%
Unknown Risk Stop (Vehicle/Subject)	21	2.6%
Welfare Check	9	1.1%
Other	12	1.5%
Totals	811	100%

Force Types

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	# of Occurrences	% of Use of Force Reports (n=811)
Control Hold	163	20.1%
Firearm – Display Only	298	36.7%
Firearm – Used	0	0%
Focus Blow	70	8.6%
Handcuffed/Leg Restraint	149	18.4%
Impact Device – Display Only	6	0.7%
Impact Device – Used	17	2.1%
Joint Management	94	11.6%
K9 – Display Only	24	3.0%
K9 – Used	19	2.3%
Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint	3	0.4%
OC Spray – Display Only	3	0.4%
OC Spray – Used	1	0.1%
Pressure Point	19	2.3%
Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)	14	1.7%
Restraint Chair	1	0.1%
Spike	10	1.2%
Takedown	87	10.7%
Taser – Display Only	43	5.3%
Taser – Used	35	4.3%
Other	136	16.8%
Total	1,196	

Reported Injuries

Subjects reported 92 injuries. About 96% of the reported injuries were abrasions/lacerations. Deputies reported 27 injuries.

Use of Force Facts

Number of Use of Force events4: 206

Total Use of Force reports: 761

Force was used on 1 out of every 70 adults in custody (1.4%).5



Use of Force by AIC Race

	# of Individuals	% of Total
Asian	0	0%
Black	24	11.7%
Hispanic	7	3.4%
Native American	0	0%
White	168	81.6%
Other	2	1.0%
Unknown	5	2.4%
Totals	206	100%

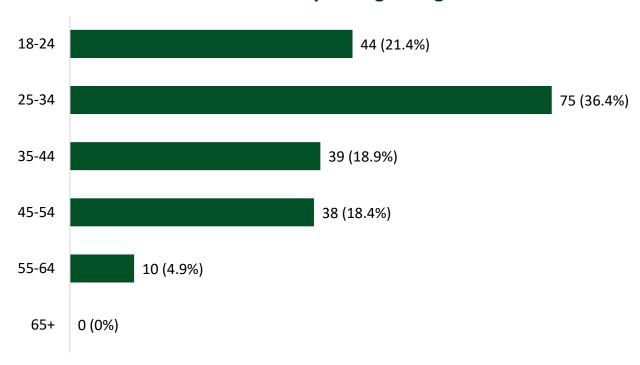
⁴ Events are unique incidents separated by time and/or space. A single event may involve multiple deputies, force types, and circumstances requiring force.

⁵ Includes individuals booked into jail in 2018 and individuals still in custody from previous years.

Use of Force by AIC Sex

	# of Individuals	% of Total
Female	76	36.9%
Male	130	63.1%
Totals	206	100%

Use of Force by AIC Age Ranges



Circumstances Requiring Force

	# of Occurrences	% of Use of Force Reports (n=761)
Maintain Order and Discipline	630	82.8%
Prevent AIC Self-Harm	213	28.0%
To Affect Arrest	3	0.4%
To Defend Others (Staff or AIC)	164	21.6%
To Defend Self	141	18.5%
To Prevent Escape (Arrest)	5	0.7%
To Prevent Escape (Facility)	8	1.1%
Other	124	16.3%
Total	1,288	

Method of Restraint Used

	# of Occurrences	% of Use of Force Reports
		(n=761)
Handcuffs	323	42.4%
Flex Cuffs	0	0%
Leg Restraints	125	16.4%
Spit Hood	164	21.6%
Belly Chains	4	0.5%
Restraint Chair	379	49.8%
Other	12	1.6%
Total	1,007	

Force Types

	# of Occurrences	% of Use of Force Reports (n=761)
Control Hold	191	25.1%
Firearm – Display Only	0	0%
Firearm – Used	0	0%
Impact Device – Display Only	0	0%
Impact Device – Used	0	0%
Joint Management	62	8.1%
Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint	0	0%
OC Spray – Display Only	0	0%
OC Spray – Used	0	0%
Physical Contact	656	86.2%
Physical – Other	56	7.4%
Pressure Point	35	4.6%
Strikes	39	5.1%
Takedown	62	8.1%
Taser – Display Only	8	1.1%
Taser – Used	7	0.9%
Total	1,116	

Reported Injuries

AICs reported 43 injuries. About 77% of the reported injuries were abrasions/lacerations. Deputies reported 11 injuries.