

# Use of Force Data

First Pass

CPC June 2020

# State Database

- Attorney General has attempted to create a consistent data mechanism across police organizations in New Jersey
- All data is collected and available at: [www.njoag.gov/force](http://www.njoag.gov/force) and then click on DASHBOARD.
- This is still a BETA dashboard version; database driven by individual officer report vs. incident

[Access Use of Force Data Dashboard \(Beta Version\)](#)

[Download User Guide](#)

[Complete User Survey](#)

[Download Full Dataset](#)

*Please note that you will be accessing a beta version of the Use of Force Dashboard, which is in active development. Continuing to use the dashboard indicates your understanding that the information in this dashboard is presented "as is." Future versions or publications of this dashboard may contain additional or clarified information. If you believe the beta version of the dashboard contains an error, please email [beta@njoag.gov](mailto:beta@njoag.gov). For users on a mobile browser, please download the SAS Visual Analytics App from your device app store before proceeding to the dashboard.*

# Comparing Communities

- You can view data at the state, county, and then individual department level or officer name
- Data captured from October 1, 2020 through April 2021 (so far)
- Only completed or closed incidents are included
- For all of New Jersey 7 months:
  - 4,327 incidents
  - 7,616 total officer reports
  - 1.76 officer reports per incident

**Select County, PD, & Officer ▼**

County ▼

Agency Name ▼

Enter Officer Name...

# South Orange Data

- Between October 2020 and April 2021, South Orange PD reported 8 use of force incidents with 16 officer reports
  - 3 incidents with 1 officer report
  - 2 incidents with 2 officer reports
  - 3 incidents with 3 officer reports
    - 5 (60%) incidents generated 13 (80%) of the 16 officer reports
- **Incident Types**
  - 4 of 8 (50%) potential mental health or medical emergencies – no arrests
  - 1 trespassing, 1 disturbance, 1 MV stop and 1 welfare check (Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> incident) – all arrested
- **Subject Demographics**
  - 3 of 8 (38%) involved juveniles; 5 of 8 males;  
1 white, 3 black, 3 Hispanic, and 1 two or races identified
- South Orange appears to allow/encourage officers to report as they personally experienced the incident, other departments are more uniform (each officer report is identical)
  - But that makes it difficult to analyze force interaction type at the incident level (see next slide) – and given the disparity across departments on officers per incident, it is also difficult to compare at the incident level almost forcing analysis at the individual police officer report level

# Sample Incident with Three Officer Reports

- The variety in categorizing incident type makes it difficult to aggregate by incident
- There must be times where officers arrive at different time periods during the incident, with different reasons for being called
- Similarly with Subject Resistance 1 – each officer experiences something different
- Acting Chief Dolinac confirmed that each of these officers used the type of force noted in the report (i.e, there is no reporting of witnesses an act of use of force.)

officer gender	officer race	incident date	running incident count	incident aggregate count	incident type 1	incident type 2	Officer Injury	Interaction Type	Subject Age	Subject Gender	subject race	Subject Resistance 1
male	Black	1/1/21	4	2021-1	other		0	used arms	50	male	hispanic	resistive tension
male	White	1/1/21	4	2021-1	Welfare Check		0	used take down	50	male	hispanic	resistive tension
male	White	1/1/21	4	2021-1	mv/traffic stop		0	used arms	50	male	hispanic	dead weight resistance

# Why are there multiple officers involved?

- Acting Chief Dolinac reminded the committee that one of the reasons multiple officers are involved is that the South Orange Police Department has the luxury of being able to back one another up when there is a call for service or an incident.
- In addition, Acting Chief Dolinac suggested that one metric of interest is harm to suspects, and harm to our police officers. He is pleased to report that very rarely are suspects or police officers harmed during these incidents.
- Over these 8 months with 16 interactions, only one officer reported an injury ( $1/16 = 6.25\%$ ) and one subject reported abrasion/laceration/puncture (drop down menu of options) ( $1/8 = 12.5\%$ )

October 2020 – April 2021

Difficult to categorize type of force across incidents

# officers	Date	Incident Type	Interaction Type	Subject Age	Subject Resistance	Subject Actions
1	10/24/20	Disturbance (drinking, fighting, disorderly)	used take down	32	other	prevent harm to another; threat with edge
3	11/9/20	medical emergency	used arms / other / other	Juvenile	resistive tension	attempt to self harm
2	11/28/20	potential mental health	used legs/kicked; used arms	39	verbal	resisted arrest/police officer control
3	1/1/21	other/welfare check / mv traffic stop	used arms; used take down; used arms	50	resistive tension	resisted arrest/police officer control
2	3/11/21	Medical Emergency	other; used arms	Juvenile	non responsive	resisted arrest/police officer control
3	4/3/21	mv/traffic stop	used arms	24	resistive tension	resisted arrest/police officer control
1	4/5/21	potential mental health	used arms	Juvenile	attempt to flee	resisted arrest/police officer control
1	4/5/21	trespassing	used take down	28	resistive tension	resisted arrest/police officer control

# Demographics of SO Police Officers Involved

- All 16 reports were made by 9 male officers (not surprising since SO had 1 female officer until February and now SO has 3?)
  - Dr. Rios indicated that research shows that female officers are less likely to use force
- Dr. Rios also indicated that officer tenure should be analyzed as well – tenure does not appear to be captured in the beta database
- One officer had 4 reports, one had 3, two had 2, and five had 1.



# Police Call Context

- Lt. Acevedo suggested the committee view these 8 incidents in context to all South Orange Police Call Outs overall, and by subgroup.
- On average, the SOPD responds to about 25 calls a day, or 750 calls a month. So for seven months, we are looking at over 5,000 calls. 8 incidents of 5,000 calls is very small, 0.16%.
- On average, medical calls (which includes emotionally disturbed assistance calls) is about 10% of that call volume. Still small, 4 medical/emotional disturbed of 500 calls, 0.8%.
- These of course are averages and overtime we can align actual monthly police calls to the use of force data.

# Comparison Essex County

- Wealthier, suburban areas have more incidents with potential mental health/medical incidents than poorer, urban areas
- Wealthier, suburban areas have more officers involved per incident than poorer, urban areas
- Are poorer, urban areas not reporting use of hands when supporting mental health/medical calls or do they not support mental health/medical calls?

department	10/20-4/21	avg. # of reports	# officers	#1 reason	#2 reason	#3
West Caldwell	4	3.5	14	potential mental health	medical emergency	other
Maplewood	7	3	21	potential mental health	medical emergency	disturbances
Glen Ridge	2	3	6	other	potential mental health	domestic
Cedar Grove	2	3	6	mv/traffic stop	possession of CDS	potential mental health
Roseland	1	3	3	mv/traffic stop		
Verona	5	2.8	14	potential mental health	assault	disturbances
Fairfield	7	2.57	17.99	disturbance	assault	eluding
Essex Fells	2	2.5	5	mv/traffic stop	possession of CDS	potential mental health
Nutley	15	2.13	31.95	potential mental health	disturbance	domestic
Monclair	12	2.08	24.96	potential mental health	medical emergency	assault
South Orange	8	2	16	potential mental health	mv/traffic stop	medical emergency
Bloomfield	13	1.92	24.96	potential mental health	mv/traffic stop	assault
West Orange	15	1.87	28.05	potential mental health	mv/traffic stop	assault
Millburn	5	1.8	9	robbery	assault	mv/traffic stop
Livingston	9	1.67	15.03	disturbance	mv/traffic stop	domestic
Newark	299	1.42	424.58	domestic	other	assault
Irvington	36	1.39	50.04	assault	suspect with gun	suspicious person
Belleville	11	1.36	14.96	other	mv/traffic stop	assault
East Orange	20	1.2	24	mv/traffic stop	other	possession of CDS
Orange	19	1.11	21.09	disturbance	mv/traffic stop	other

# Crime vs. Use of Force Incidents

- Comparison of crime vs. use of force within Essex County
- Use of force is generally small, coupled with small populations make for some skewed rankings
- South Orange is 10<sup>th</sup> rank in crime, yet 7<sup>th</sup> rank in use of force

Highest UCR crime 2019 per population	crime rank	Highest Use of Force Incident per population	incident rank
Orange	1	Newark	1
Newark	2	Essex Fells	2
Irvington	3	Fairfield	3
East Orange	4	Irvington	4
Belleville	5	Orange	5
West Orange	6	Nutley	6
Monclair	7	South Orange	7
Nutley	8	Verona	8
Maplewood	9	West Caldwell	9
South Orange	10	West Orange	10
Bloomfield	11	Monclair	11
Glen Ridge	12	East Orange	12
Cedar Grove	13	Belleville	13
Roseland	14	Livingston	14
Millburn	15	Maplewood	15
Livingston	16	Bloomfield	16
West Caldwell	17	Glen Ridge	17
Verona	18	Millburn	18
Fairfield	19	Roseland	19
Essex Fells	20	Cedar Grove	20

# Comparison to NJ Towns

- Asked David Kraiker, Census Guru, to identify towns with similar demographics to South Orange
- David provided a list of towns with a similar median income level (\$167,000 - \$187,000)

South Orange, Maplewood, New Providence, Montclair, Englewood Cliffs, Teafly, Demarest, Wycloff, Ramsey, Park Ridge, Hillsdale, Rivervale, Upper Saddle River, Old Tappan

- David also provided a list of towns with a similar % of African Americans
  - 25% South Orange
  - 28% West Orange
  - 22% Montclair
  - 31% Union Twp
  - 20% Bloomfield
  - 19% Elizabeth
  - 26% Englewood
  - 26% Teaneck
  - 25% Hackensack
  - 26% Paterson

# Comparison Median Income

median income \$167-192M)	incidents	total number officers involved	avg. officers per incident	# juvenile	# mental / health issues	% mental/health issues
South Orange	8	16	2	3	4	50%
Maplewood	7	21	3	0	5	71%
New Providence	1	1	1	0	0	0%
Montclair	12	25	2.1	3	7	58%
Englewood Cliffs	4	7	1.8	0	1	25%
Tenafly	1	2	2	0	1	100%
Demarest	1	1	1	0	1	100%
Wyckoff	2	6	3	0	2	100%
Ramsey	6	8	1.3	1	3	50%
Upper Saddle River	n/a					
Park Ridge	1	1	1.0	0	1	100%
Hillsdale	n/a					
River Vale	1	1	1	0	0	0%
Old Tappan	n/a					

- Hillsdale, Upper Saddle River and Old Tappan did not show up as a police force in the beta dashboard (probably combined with another town)
- Not sure what other towns do with their juvenile interactions
- Use of Force for Mental / health issues seem to be significant in these communities
- South Orange Data input scrutinized for accuracy; other departments may have not had same scrutiny in transcription

# Comparison African American Population

% African American Population	incidents	total number officers involved	avg. officers per incident	# juvenile	# emotional / health issues	% emotional/health issues
25 % South Orange	8	16	2.0	3	4	50%
28 % West Orange	15	28	1.9	0	5	33%
22 % Montclair	12	25	2.1	2	7	58%
20 % Bloomfield	13	25	1.9	1	3	23%
19% Elizabeth	40	56	1.4	0	3	8%
26 % Englewood	13	25	1.9	1	3	23%
26 % Teaneck	19	57	3.0	3	8	42%
25 % Hackensack	17	28	1.6	1	7	41%
26 % Paterson	103	139	1.3	7	4	4%
31 % Union Twp	41	64	1.6	0	11	27%

- Paterson and Elizabeth again very few use of force reported for Mental / Health Emergencies.
- Not sure what the relationship is between number of responding officers and emotional/health issues and how it is related to policies/procedures