

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

2021 USE OF FORCE

ANALYSIS AND REVIEW



Mission Statement

“To preserve the peace and to protect our community with fairness, integrity, pride, and respect.”



Use of Force Analysis and Review

Overview

The 2021 Use of Force Analysis and Review provides data collected from Use of Force reports and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) incidents. Use of Force reports are administrative reports that are separate from the incident report completed for CAD events. This analysis provided an overview of how Bloomfield Township Police Department is performing when it comes to Use of Force incidents, training, and policy review.

The officers of Bloomfield Township Police Department follow the guidelines set forth by the United States Supreme Court rulings in *Graham v. Conner* and *Tennessee v. Gardner*. The Department's Use of Force training goes beyond addressing force options, level of resistance, and case law. Use of Force training emphasizes gaining compliance through understanding of psychological factor, using effective communication skills, and other techniques designed to de-escalate situations when possible, and minimize the amount of force used. The primary purpose of force is to gain control and compliance over a subject in order to execute a lawful order.

Use of Force Policies

The Department divides Use of Force into two separate policies. Policy 4.01c is titled Deadly Force and states, *"The Bloomfield Township Police Department recognizes and respects the value of each human life. Therefore, it is the policy of this Department that police officers shall use only that force that is objectively reasonable to effectively bring an incident under control while protecting the lives of the officer or another."*

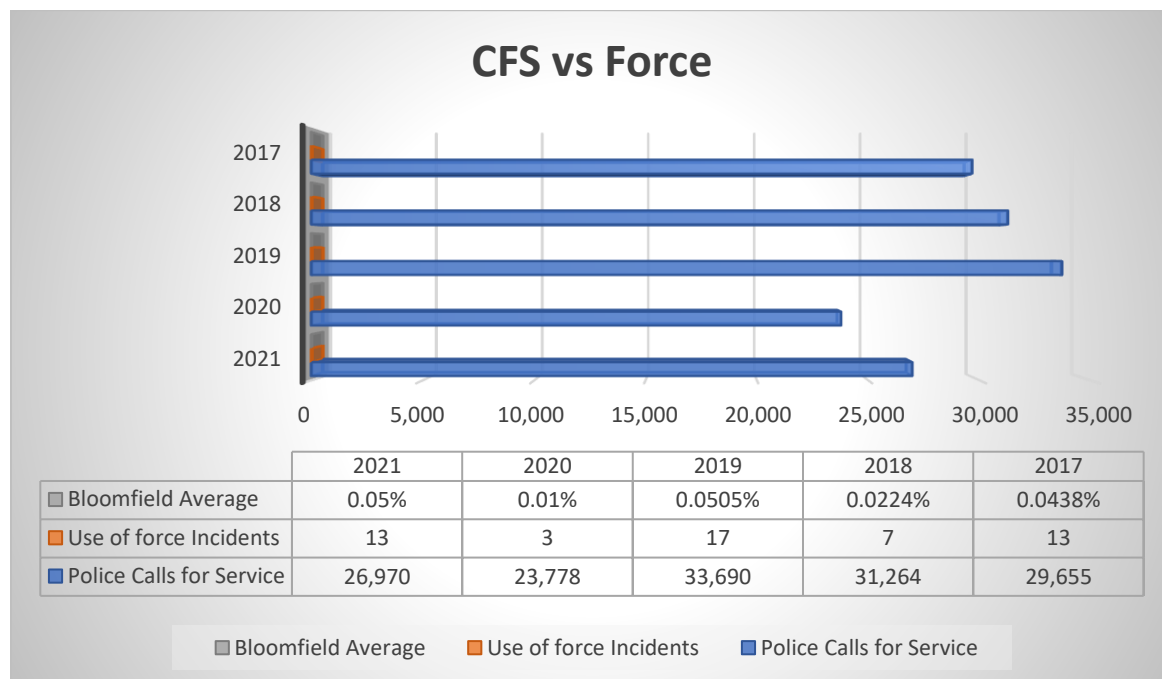
Policy 4.02c is titled Use of Less Lethal Force and states, *"It is the policy of the Bloomfield Township Police Department to utilize the amount of force that is reasonable to effectively bring an incident under control, while protecting the lives of the officer and others. The Use of Force must be objectively reasonable in affecting a lawful arrest"*

and/or in the lawful performance of duty. Police Officers are obligated to protect the rights and ensure the health and well-being of the public, including those accused of committing crimes, and /or those persons taken into protective custody.”

Use of Force Incidents

In 2021, calls for service increased 12% from 2020. The department responded to 26,970 calls for service resulting in 13 Use of Force incidents or .0482% incidents involving force. In all thirteen (13) incidents, the force used was within Department policy, procedure, and Michigan State Law. Furthermore, out of 26,970 calls for service, 1,212 resulted in arrests. Figure A. shows a five (5) year comparison between calls for service and the Use of Force. It shall be noted that per Policy 4.02c Use of Less Lethal Force, officers are required to complete as Use of Force report when pointing their service weapon at an individual(s).

Figure A.



Use of Force Demographics

A five (5) year breakdown regarding Use of Force with relation to race and gender is illustrated in Figure B and Figure C. In 2021, the average age was 35 years old. The oldest subject was 57 years of age and the youngest was 24 years of age.

Figure B.

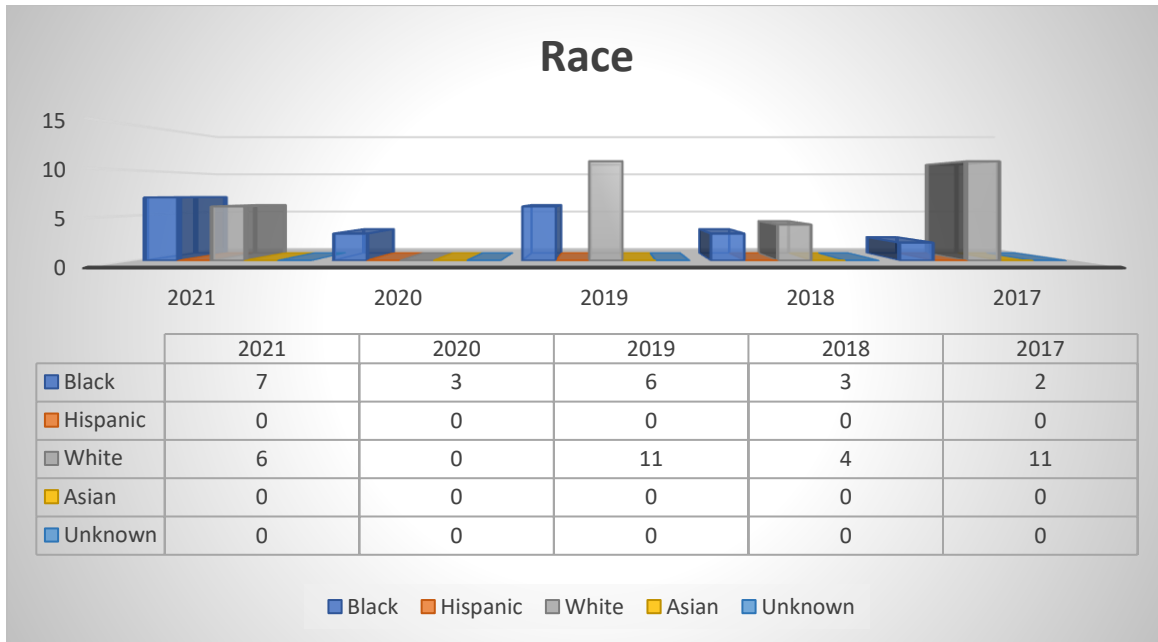
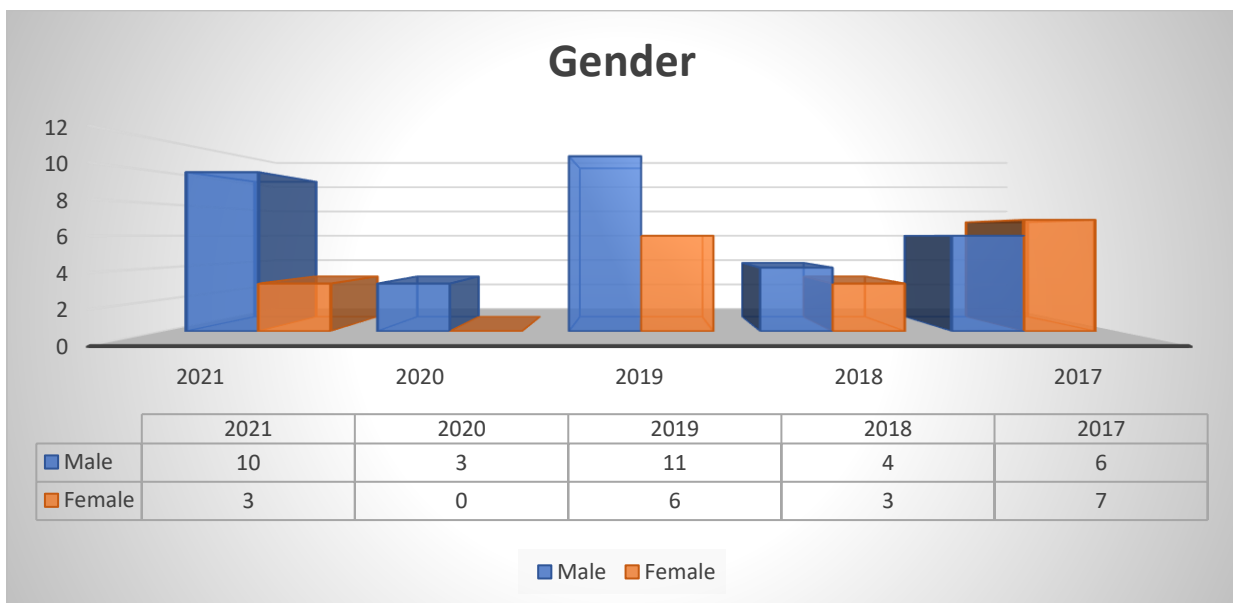


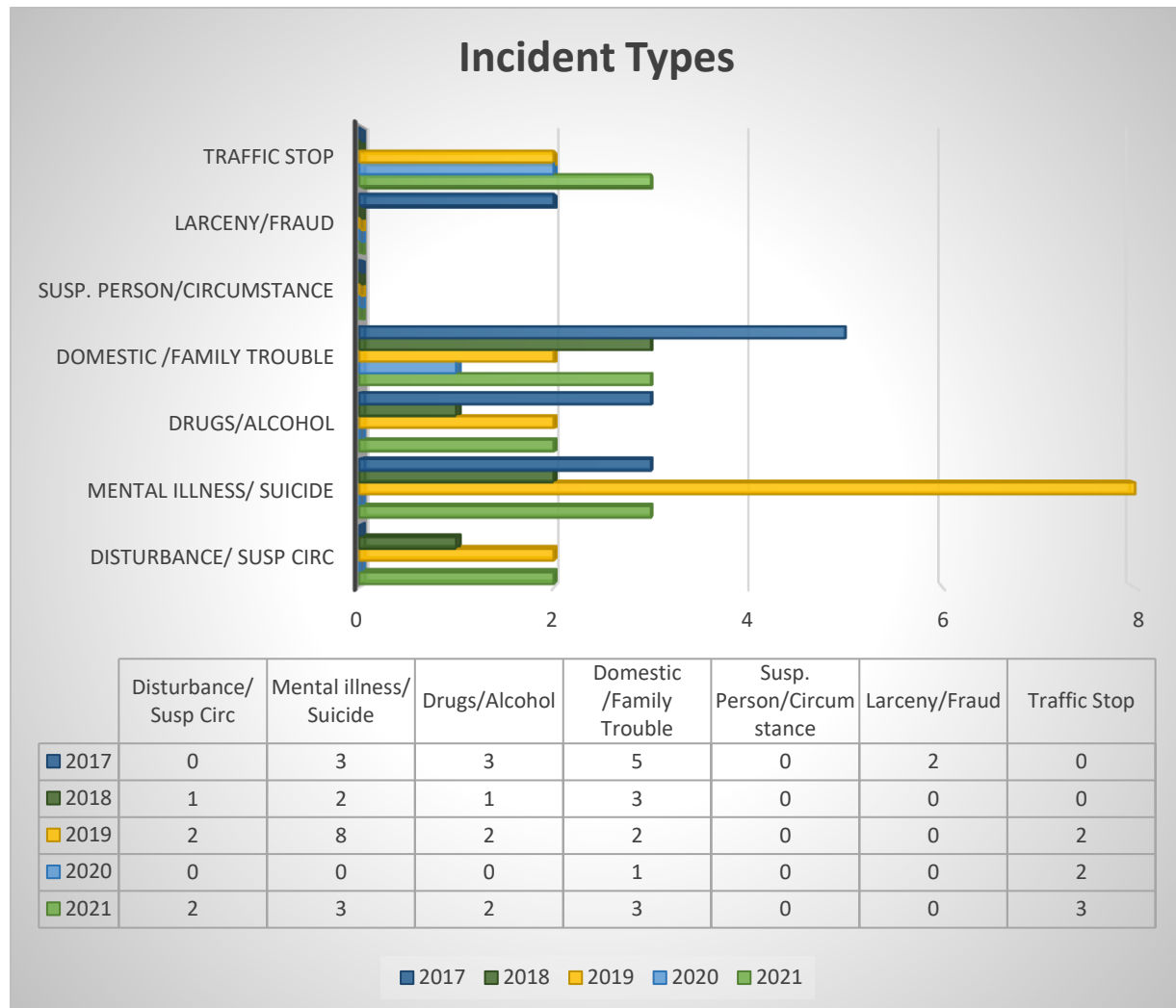
Figure C.



Use of Force Incidents

Seven (7) Use of Force incidents occurred during the night shift (1900-0700) and six (6) occurred during the day shift (0700-1900). Use of Force incident types are shown in Figure D.

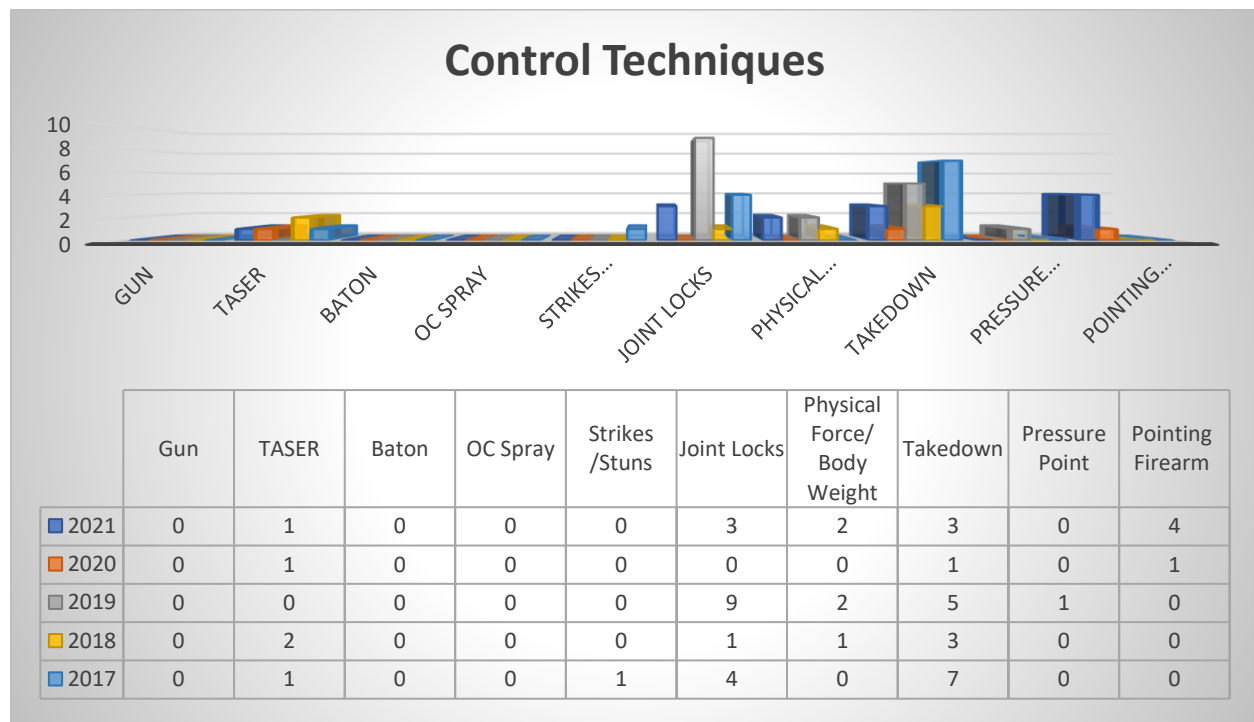
Figure D.



There were no deadly force incidents to report. There were two (2) incidents where individuals sustained injuries while being taken into custody. These injuries were treated at the scene and required no additional medical treatment. Officers sustained minor

injuries in three (3) incidents in which injuries were treated at the scene. Five (5) incidents involved the use of drugs and/or alcohol by individuals being arrested. There was one (1) TASER deployment and four (4) incidents where officers had to draw and point their service weapon at a subject to gain compliance. Additional compliance techniques are listed in Figure E.

Figure E.



Discipline

There were no excessive force complaints. All Use of Force incidents were within policy and no counseling or discipline was required.

Training Trends and Suggestions

In July, officers were issued new exterior vest carriers. Officers were given the option to relocate their intermediate weapons on their exterior vest. Their sidearm would remain on their duty belts. In order to increase officer confidence and minimize weapon confusion, officers were re-trained with TASER, baton, and a few selective control

tactics. Officers also conducted firearm training with their new exterior vest. De-escalation principles and critical-decision making were embedded in all firearm, intermediate weapons, and subject control training.

Looking forward to 2022, officers will continue to train in effective communication skills. Topics such as emotional intelligence and the relationship it has on an officer's DiSC profile will be included in the training schedule. The ability for an officer to recognize their own emotional state will further influence the use of de-escalation strategies.

Furthermore, officers will be instructed on Subject Control Tactics on a monthly basis. The goal of this training is to increase the officer's confidence with techniques and their ability to utilize the techniques when appropriate. Additionally, officers will participate in additional firearm training. Using a special firearm only designed for Simunitions rounds, officers will have the ability to conduct more high stress, low frequency training that will promote officer and public safety.

This yearly Use of Force analysis is conducted for the continuation of agency specific training, review, and implementation of department policy while maintaining department transparency to the citizens of Bloomfield Township.

Prepared by:

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