

Public Hearing

April 14, 2026

CPD's De-Escalation, Response to Resistance, and Use of Force Policy and Training

De-Escalation, Response to Resistance, and Use of Force Policy Development 2016-2026



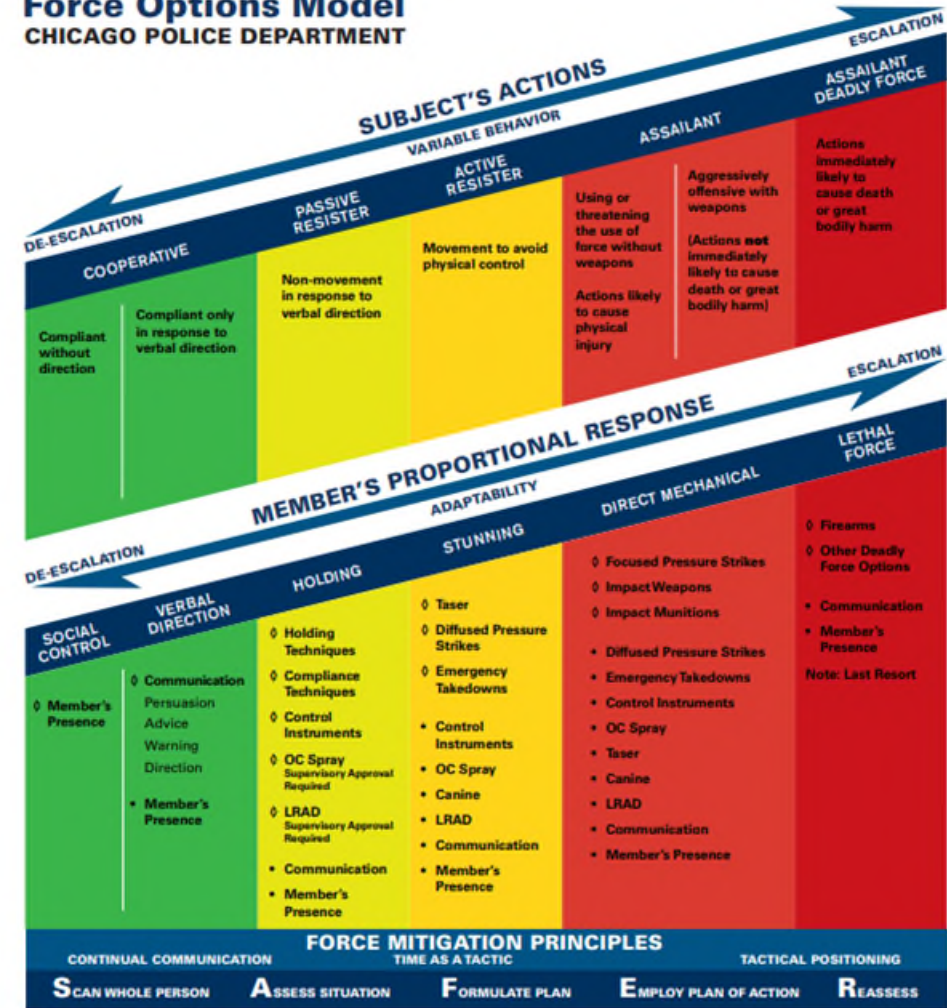


Force Options Model
CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

CPD Use of Force Policy

"Department members may only use force that is objectively reasonable, necessary, and proportional, under the totality of the circumstances, in order to provide for the safety of any person or Department member, stop an attack, make an arrest, bring a person or situation safely under control, or prevent escape."

- G03-02 DE-ESCALATION, RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE, AND USE OF FORCE



CPD-11.960 (11/17)



Force Mitigation and De-Escalation

Pre-2017

The Use of Force Model guided the escalation or de-escalation of member-applied force reasonably necessary to overcome the subject's resistance and to gain control.

Revised 2017

Established Force Mitigation Principles and Sanctity of Life

- Use de-escalation when safe and feasible to do so.
- Continually assess and modify force.
- Principles of Force Mitigation
 - Continual Communication
 - Tactical Positioning
 - Time as a Tactic.

Current 2026

Expanded Force Mitigation to Establish an Affirmative Requirement

- Required to use de-escalation techniques to prevent or reduce the need for force.
- Unless doing so would place a person or a Department member in immediate risk of harm or would be clearly ineffective.
- Continually assess the situation and considering individualized factors (e.g., age, disability).
- Modify the use of force as circumstances change and in ways consistent with officer safety.



Necessary Use of Force

Pre-2017

Amount of force reasonably necessary based on the totality of the circumstances to perform a lawful task, effect an arrest, overcome resistance, control a subject, or protect themselves or others from injury.

Revised 2017

Members will only use the amount of force required under the circumstances to serve a lawful purpose.

Current 2026

Department members will use the minimum amount of force needed to provide for the safety of any person or Department member, stop an attack, make an arrest, bring a person or situation safely under control, or prevent escape.



Specific Use of Force Prohibitions

Pre-2017

The Use of Force Model guided the identification of excessive force.

Revised 2017

Established Specific Prohibitions

- Use of excessive force, unwarranted physical force, or unprofessional conduct
- Using force based on bias or any protected characteristic
- Used as Punishment or Retaliation
- Used in response to person's lawful exercise of First Amendment rights
- Deadly Force only as a Last Resort, including chokeholds

Current 2026

Established Additional Prohibitions

- Not exhibit a condescending attitude or direct any derogatory terms toward any person.
- Prohibited from using deadly force against a person who is a threat only to themselves.
- Deadly Force only as a Last Resort, expanded to carotid artery restraints and other restraints above the shoulders with risk of positional asphyxiation
- Limited "Imminent Threat" to one that, from appearances, must be instantly confronted and addressed



Reporting and Reviews

Pre-2017

Members and detention aides in the performance of their duties will complete a TRR as specified.

Revised 2017

- Introduced new Tactical Response Report (TRR) and Investigation (TRR-I) Forms
 - Requiring a narrative for non-deadly force incidents.
 - Truthfully and completely describing the circumstances
 - Articulating the specific facts to explain decision to use force
- Established the Force Review Unit to function as an after-action-review capacity

Current 2026

- New leveling of force and required reporting (e.g., control holds to overcome resistance).
- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division (TRED) conducts Department-level reviews of reportable uses of force.
- Evaluate use of force to assess the relative frequency and type of force and identifying trends.
- Incident Debriefing Report (IDR) to records incident reviews by TRED and the required actions.
- Force Review Board (FRB) reviews Level 3 reportable uses of force: Deadly force, by command staff, and at Superintendent direction.



Transparency - Department Reporting

➤ Annual Use of Force Report

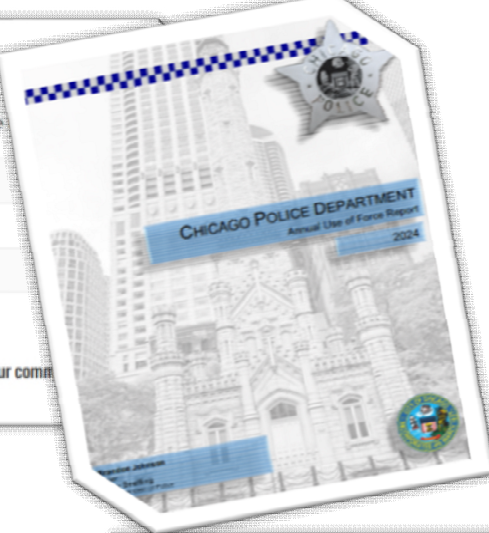
<https://www.chicagopolice.org/statistics-data/statistical-reports/use-of-force-annual-reports/>

Use of Force Annual Reports

These reports provide summary data regarding use of force

- 2024 Annual Use of Force Report
- 2023 Annual Use of Force Report
- 2022 Annual Use of Force Report
- 2021 Annual Use of Force Report

Your comment, please be sure to specify which year's report your comment



➤ Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Reports

<https://www.chicagopolice.org/statistics-data/statistical-reports/tactical-review-and-evaluation-division-reports/>



Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Reports

Quarterly and year end reports provide an overview of the Tactical Review and Evaluation Division's activities and pointing incidents.

- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Year End Report 2024
- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Mid Year Report 2024
- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Year End Report 2023
- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Midyear Report 2023
- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Year End Report 2022
- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Quarterly Report 2022 Q2
- Tactical Review and Evaluation Division Quarterly Report 2022 Q1
- Force Review Division Year End Report 2021
- Force Review Division Quarterly Report 2021 Q4
- Force Review Division Quarterly Report 2021 Q3
- Force Review Division Quarterly Report 2021 Q2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

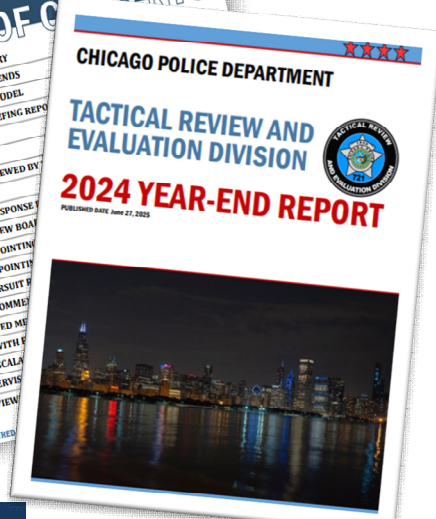
- 7 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
- 12 PATTERNS AND TRENDS
- 19 FORCE OPTIONS MODEL
- 24 INCIDENT DEBRIEFING REPORT
- 26 IDR CREATION
- 27 TRED REVIEW
- 28 REPORTS REVIEWED BY
- 29 IDR TOTALS
- 30 TACTICAL RESPONSE
- 34 FORCE REVIEW BOARD
- 39 FIREARM POINTING
- 40 FOOT PURSUIT
- 44 IDR RECOMMENDATIONS
- 49 INVOLVED MEMBERS
- 50 INVOLVED MEMBERS
- 51 IDR WITH FIREARMS
- 53 DE-ESCALATION
- 55 SUPERVISOR REVIEW
- 56 TRENDS

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

TACTICAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION DIVISION

2024 YEAR-END REPORT

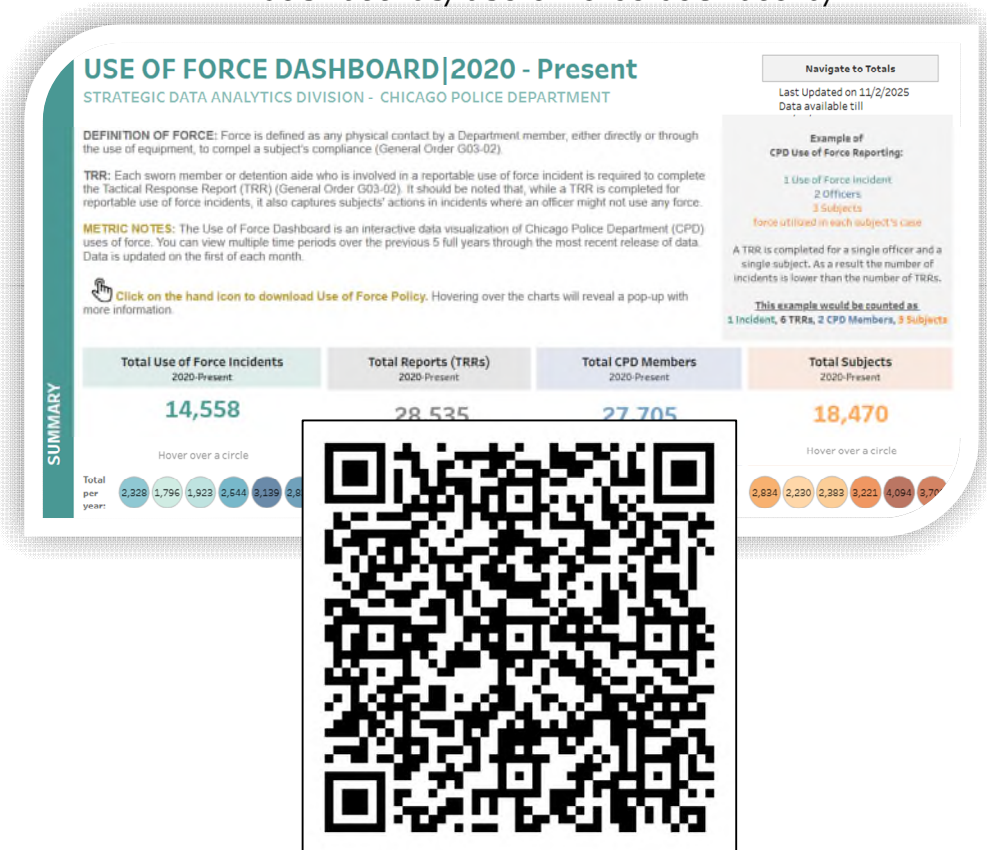
PUBLISHED DATE: APR 21, 2025



Transparency – Websites

➤ Use of Force Data Dashboard

<https://www.chicagopolice.org/statistics-data/data-dashboards/use-of-force-dashboard/>



➤ Use of Force Webpage

<https://www.chicagopolice.org/equity/use-of-force/>

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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De-escalation, Response to Resistance, and Use of Force Policy Reform

Use of Force Policy Reform • Home

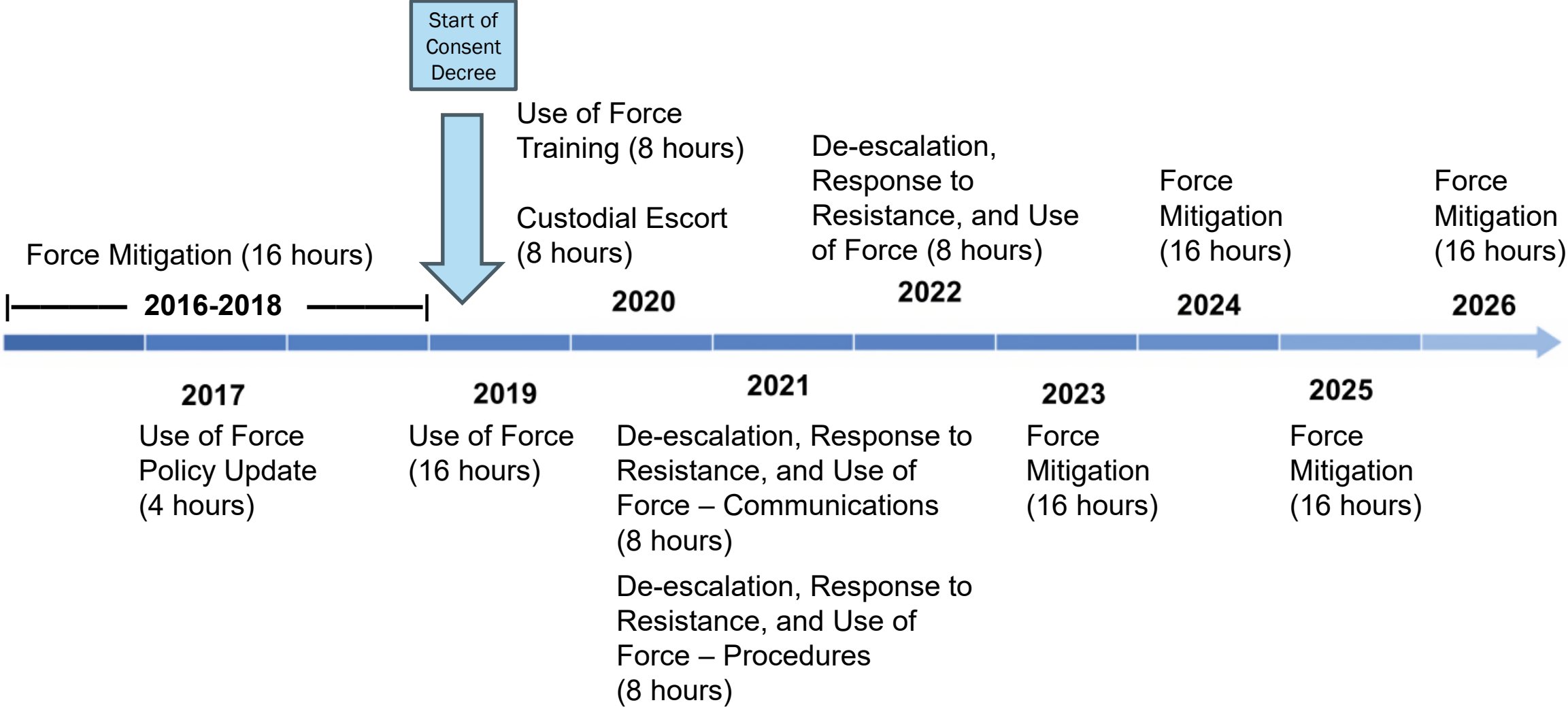
Overview

The Chicago Police Department has a set of policies that dictate Department members' ability to use force. The policies incorporated public feedback and codify the Department's highest priority as the sanctity of human life.

You can view General Order 03-02, de-escalation, response to resistance, and use of force, on the Department's Directives portal.

- Use of Force Reform Timeline
- Use of Force Directives
- Department on Use of Force Policy

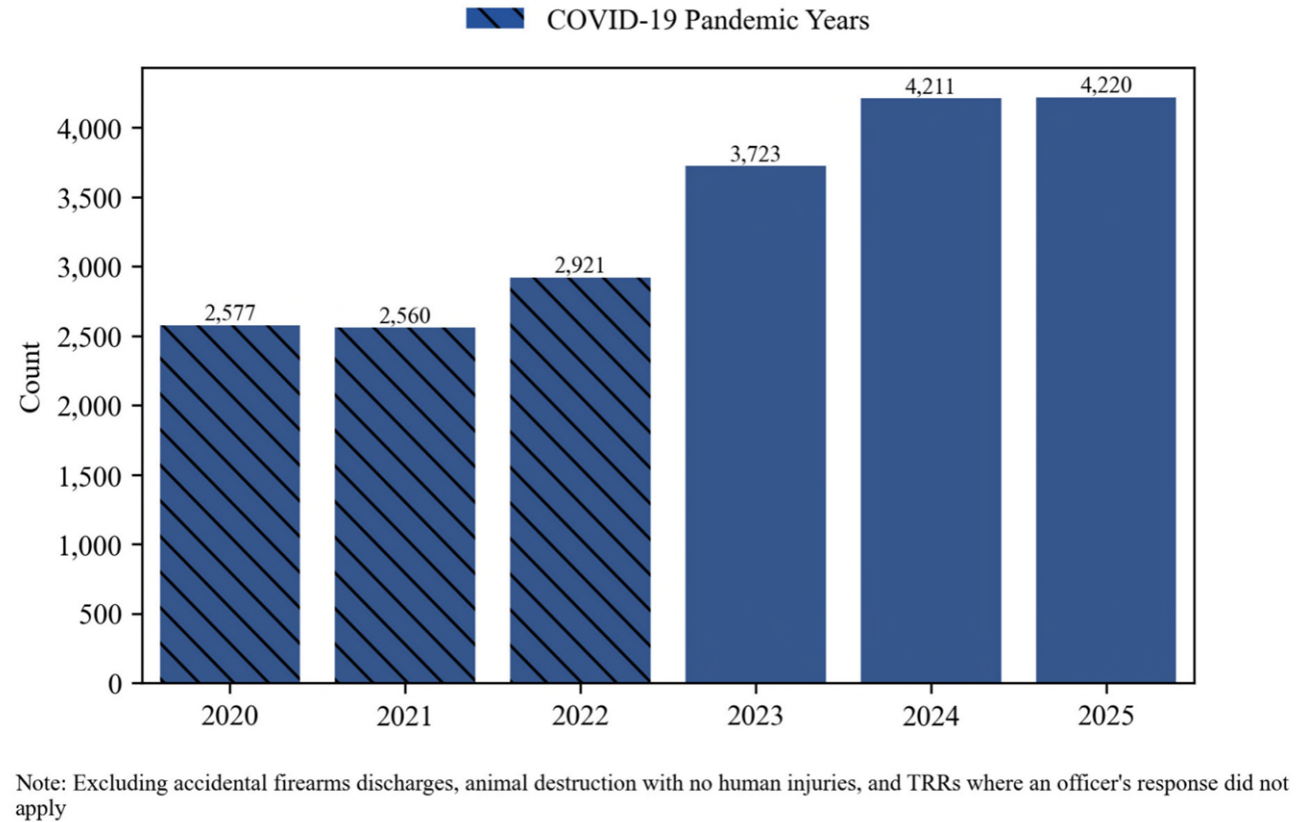
Total Hours of Use of Force Training: 124



CPD Firearm Pointing Incidents

Firearm Pointing Incidents (FPIs)

- A Firearm Pointing Incidents policy was adopted in 2019. This requires officers to notify the Office of Emergency Management and Communications when they point their firearm at a person. The notification automatically generates a Firearm Pointing Incident Report.
- CPD began collecting firearm pointing data for a full year beginning in 2020.
- CPD has observed an upward trend in FPIs since 2020.
- There was a small (0.2%) increase in 2025.
- In 2025, CPD launched the Firearm Pointing District-Level Review Program, *D24-06*, in which District Captains assess Firearm Pointing Incidents.



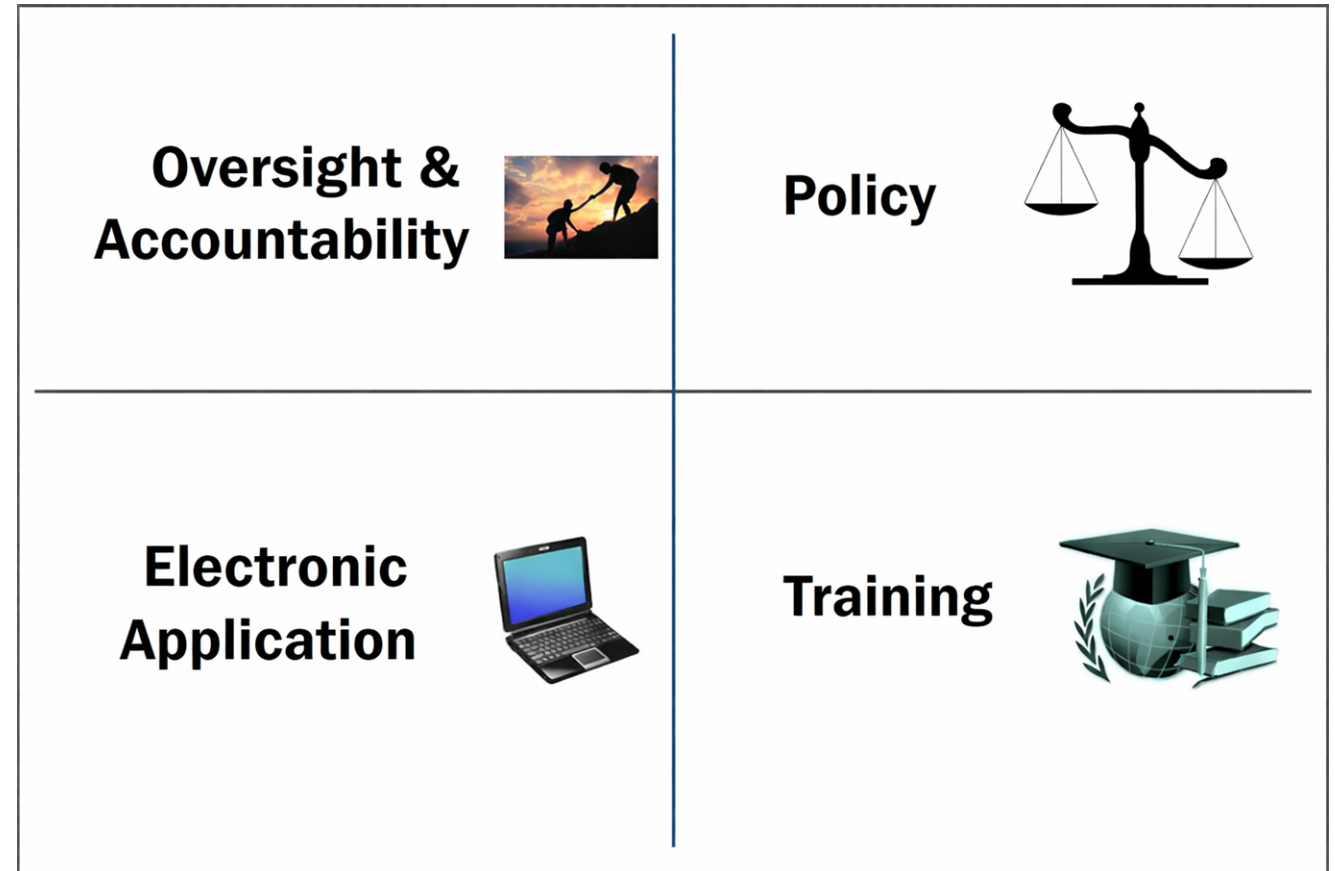
Firearm Pointing District-Level Review – Pilot Program: Review Process

Ø All FPIs come to the Tactical Review and Evaluation Division (TRED) for intake and assignment.

Ø Eligibility requirements for the District-Level Review Pilot Program:

- ✓ FPI involved a district-assigned officer in their district
- ✓ No associated foot pursuit (otherwise reviewed by TRED)
- ✓ No associated TRR (otherwise reviewed by TRED)

Ø If eligible, TRED assembles all necessary reports and video and forwards them to the District Captain.



Firearm Pointing District-Level Review – Pilot Program: Review Process

Chicago Police Department		Department Notice D24-06	
FIREARM POINTING INCIDENTS DISTRICT-LEVEL REVIEW - PILOT PROGRAM			
ISSUE DATE:	19 December 2025	EFFECTIVE DATE:	19 December 2025
RESCINDS:	01 July 2025 Version		
INDEX CATEGORY:	Department Notice		
CALEA:			

I. PURPOSE

This directive continues:

- A. the pilot program for district-level reviews of firearm pointing incidents.
- B. the existing guidelines for when Department members may point and are required to stop pointing a firearm at a person, including the reasonableness standard and the notification, recordation, and supervisory responsibilities for firearm pointing incidents, as outlined in the Department directive titled "[Firearm Pointing Incidents](#)."

II. SCOPE

- A. The Firearm Pointing Incident District-Level Review Pilot Program is implemented for firearm pointing incidents by sworn Department members assigned or detailed to [all Chicago Police Districts](#).
- B. The Firearm Pointing Incident District-Level Review Pilot Program will be:
 - 1. under the authority of and overseen by the Executive Director, Office of Constitutional Policing and Reform (OCPR).
 - 2. coordinated through and managed by the Tactical Review and Evaluation Division (TRED).
 - 3. reviewed for effectiveness, including evaluation of personnel and operational matters, at minimum, every three months.
 - a. This review will include but not be limited to an evaluation of the captains' reviews in relation to similar TRED reviews, in areas such as length of time of the incident reviews, the debriefing points identified by the captains, and the timeliness of providing the after-action recommendations.
 - b. Based on these reviews, recommendations will be made to continue, expand, modify, or terminate this pilot program under the direction of the Executive Director, Office of Constitutional Policing and Reform (OCPR).
- C. The captains assigned to the pilot program districts will be responsible for reviewing all occurrences in which a sworn Department member assigned or detailed to a pilot program district pointed a firearm at a person in the course of effecting a seizure, except for occurrences that include a reportable use of force (documented on a Tactical Response Report) or foot pursuit (documented on a Foot/Bicycle Pursuit Report).

NOTE: The firearm pointing incident after-action reviews that include a reportable use of force or foot pursuit by a sworn Department member assigned or detailed to a pilot program district will continue to be conducted by the Tactical Review and Evaluation Division (TRED) as outlined in the Department directive titled "[Firearm Pointing Incidents](#)."

- D. Firearm pointing incidents by sworn Department members continue to be governed by the existing guidelines as outlined in the Department directive titled "[Firearm Pointing Incidents](#)," including the reasonableness standard and the notification, recordation, and supervisory responsibilities.

- Ø District Captains complete after-action reviews to:
 - ü Determine if the FPI was within policy
 - ü Identify any issues that require corrective action or positive recognition
 - ü Ensure district chain-of-command takes corrective action with the member, when appropriate
 - ü Document the results of their review and any corrective action taken

Ø Reviews must be completed within 30 days.

Ø Completed reports go back to TRED and become part of their overall trend analysis.



Pilot Program Data Results and Moving Forward

Ø Pilot Program implemented in phases:

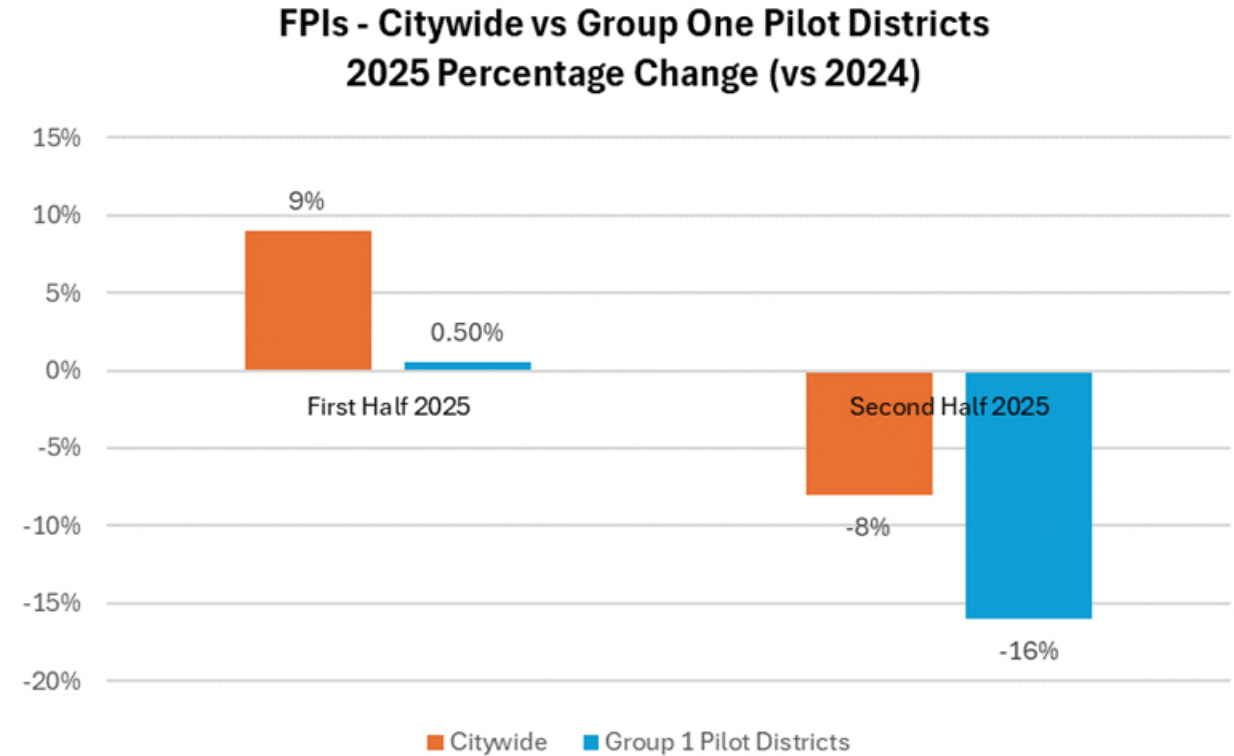
- Ø December 2024 - Group 1 Districts
- Ø June 2025 - Group 2 Districts
- Ø December 2025 - Group 3 Districts

Ø Group 1 FPI comparison data is shown to the right.
Note: Overall, FPIs increased by 0.2% in 2025.

Ø Group 2 and Group 3 data is currently under review.

Ø Quantitative analysis is limited at this stage due to the recent launch of the program.

Ø Initial feedback has been positive, and CPD is continuing to expand the program to enhance district-level accountability as part of a learning, self-correcting organization.



Use of Force Data Trends and Research

Trends in Use of Force Data

Trend analysis relies on multiple years of data. Evaluating long-term policies or rare events (such as the COVID19 pandemic) requires examining extended time periods.

By starting in 2010, you aren't just looking at a few selected numbers; you are looking at **three distinct periods** of CPD history and data.

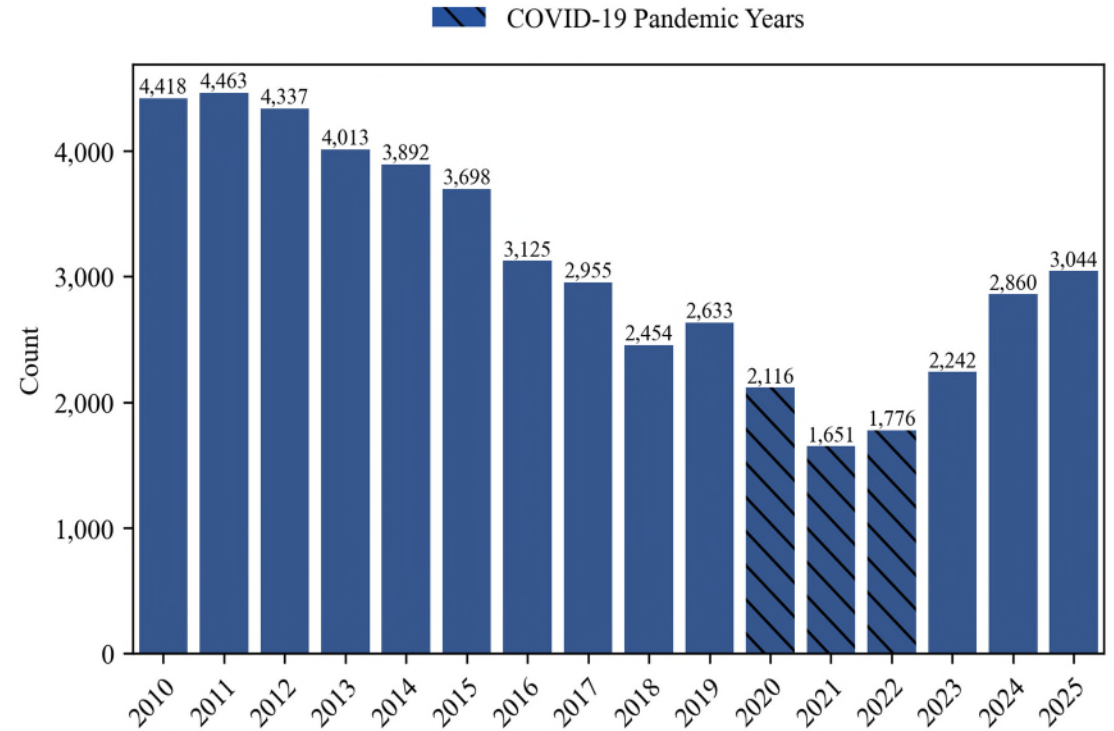
- **2010–2016:** The Pre-Consent Decree (Higher force, old standards).
- **2017–2019:** Transition Era (DOJ investigation and Consent Decree settlement negotiations).
- **2020–2022:** The Pandemic Anomaly (Artificial suppression of Police activity).
- **2023–Present:** The New Baselines (Post-pandemic recovery).

Although use of force incidents show an increase after the pandemic, the overall long-term trend since 2010 shows a decline

- **The post-COVID annual average is 25% lower than the pre-COVID annual average.**

Recent increases also align with enhanced training on reporting lower-level force, and the Tactical Review and Evaluation Division also focused on reinforcing reporting requirements with department supervisors.

Incidents



Note: Excluding accidental firearms discharges, animal destruction with no human injuries, and TRRs where an officer's response did not apply

Data accurate as of 4/7/2026

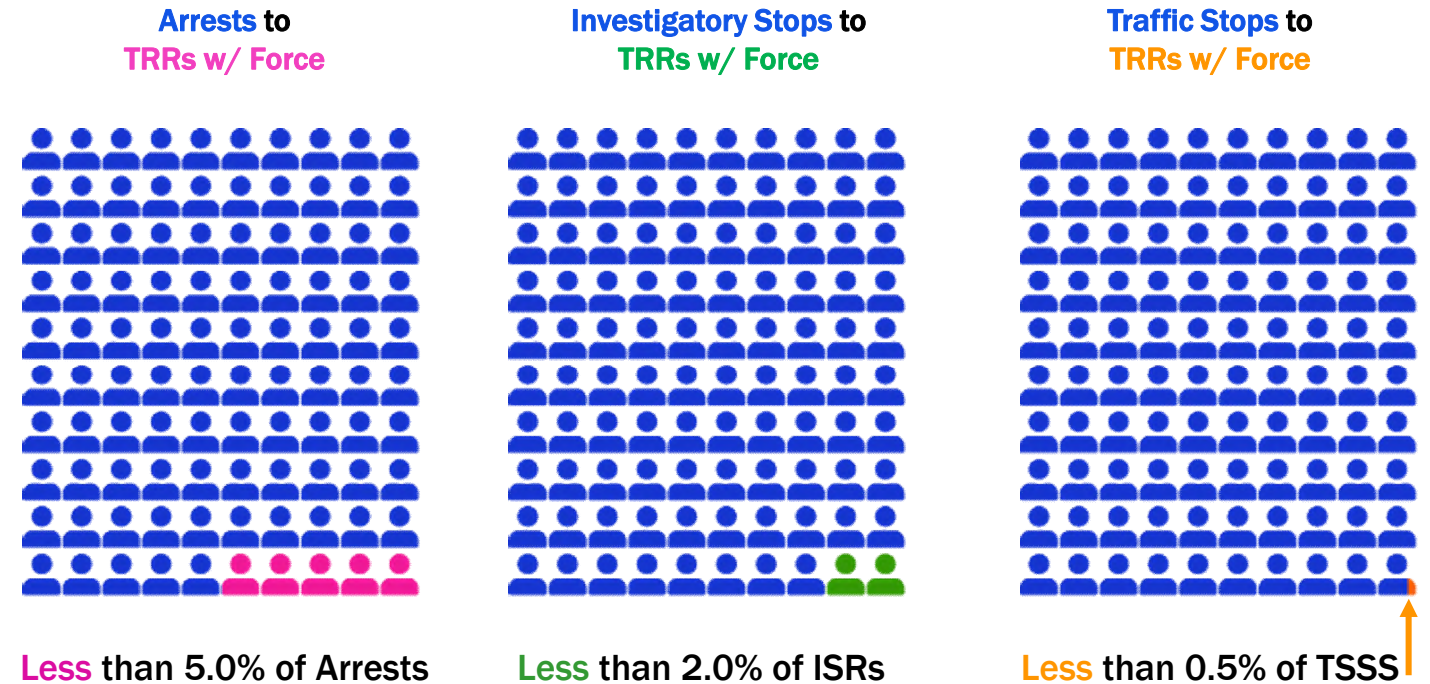


Perspective on Frequency of Use of Force Incidents

CPD uses force in only a small fraction of officer interactions.

- When a response or contact ends in some type of police activity, it is still a relatively small percentage of those “activities” that are associated with a use of force.
- For example, less than 5.0% of arrests, less than 2.0% of investigatory stops, and less than 0.5% of traffic stops are associated with a use of force.
- The pictographs to the right illustrate the relative frequency of use of force compared to these activities.

CPD Frequency of uses force in officer interactions



Data accurate as of 4/7/2026

Types of Force Commonly Used

CPD classifies reportable force into three levels:

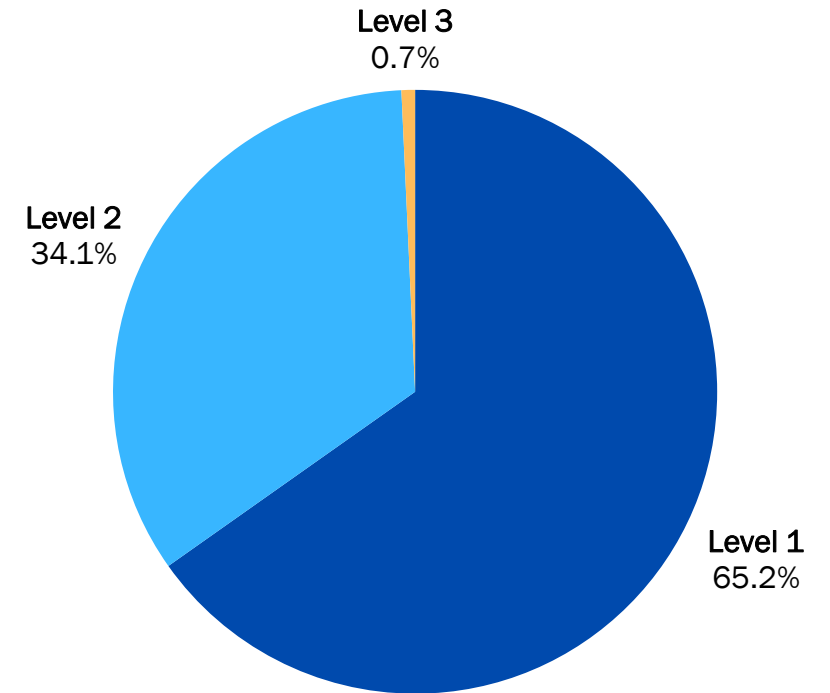
- **Level 1** – Involves actions that are likely to cause pain or injury but do not result in a reported injury or allegation of injury.
- **Level 2** – Includes actions that result in a reported injury or complaint of injury, as well as the use of weapons other than a firearm (e.g., OC spray, Taser, baton, etc).
- **Level 3** – Involves lethal force or actions that result in a life-threatening injury, or force resulting in hospital admission.

Approximately two-thirds of all use of force incidents are Level 1.

The most common types of force are:

- Handcuffing
- Escort Holds
- Push/Physical Redirection
- Take Downs

2025 TRR Occurrences by Force Level

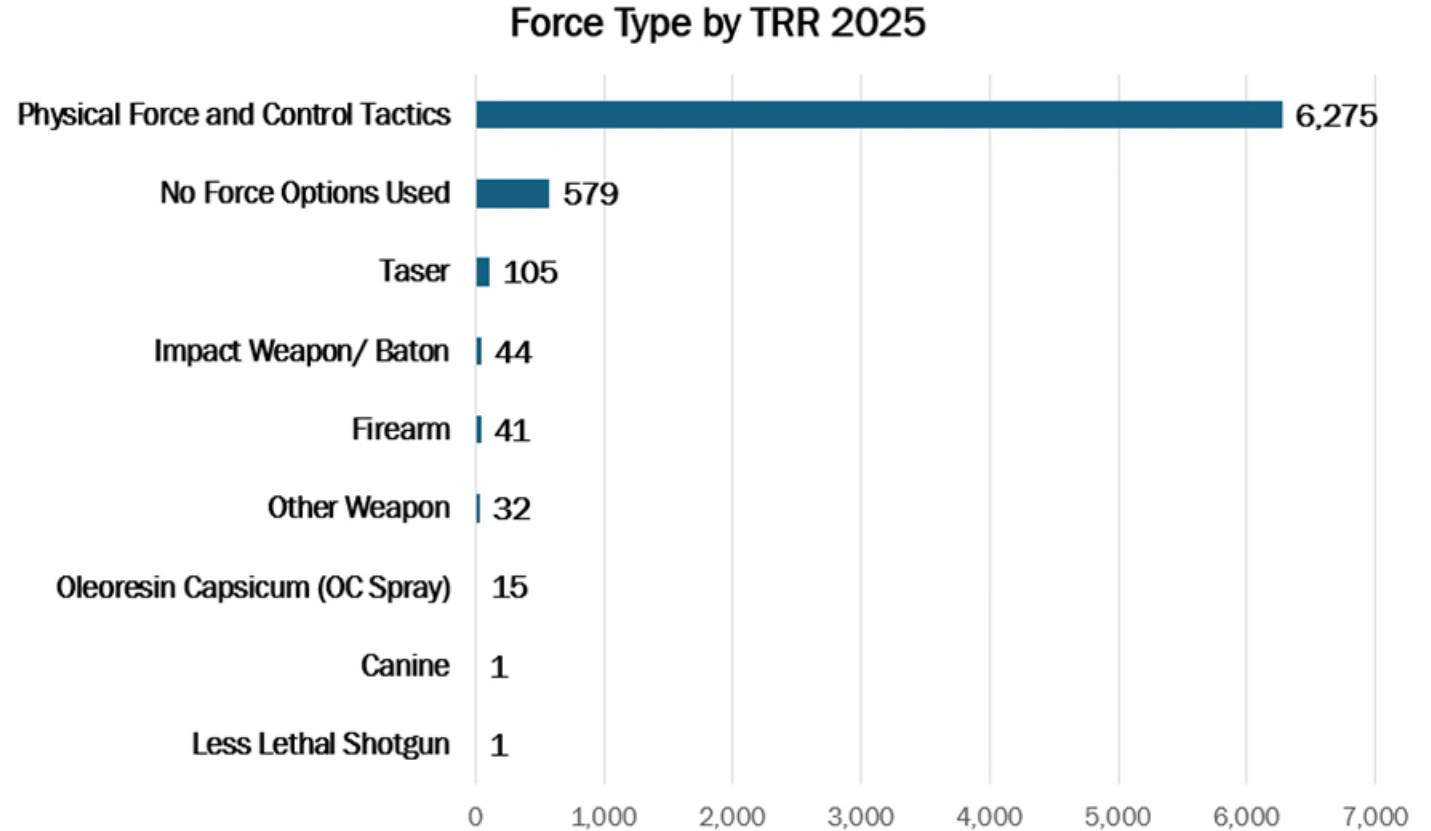


Data accurate as of 4/7/2026

Frequency of Force Used (2025)

In 2025, physical force and control tactics made up the majority of reportable force types in our TRR data.

- Take downs and Push/Physical redirection have been the most utilized methods for gaining compliance.

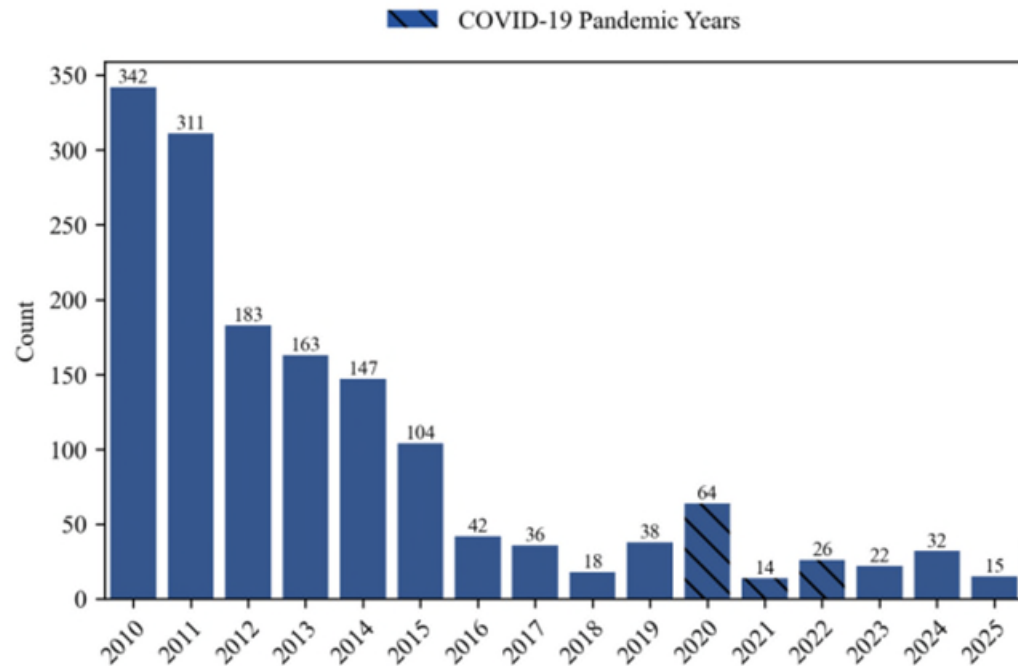


Data accurate as of 4/7/2026

Frequency of Force Used (2025)

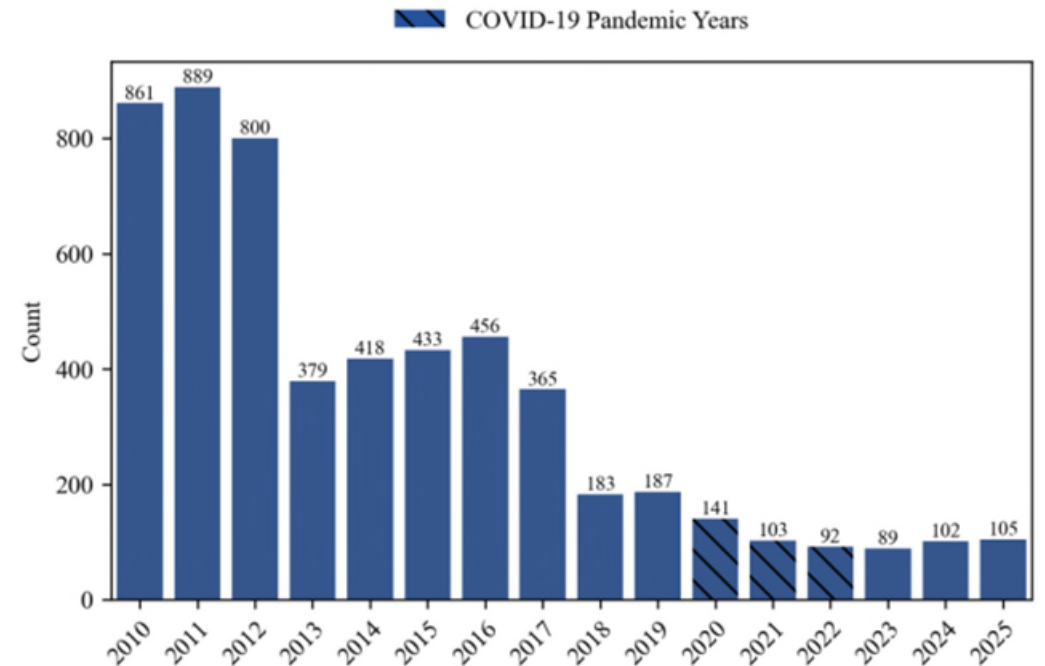
Historical data also shows that there has been a significant decline in the use of weapons to gain compliance (e.g., OC spray, Taser, Firearm).

Total TRRs with O.C. Spray Use by Year



Note: Excluding accidental firearms discharges, animal destruction with no human injuries, and TRRs where an officer's response did not apply. Count by TRR report ID. The totals were calculated based on the 'Weapon Use' section in the TRR application.

Total TRRs with Taser Use by Year

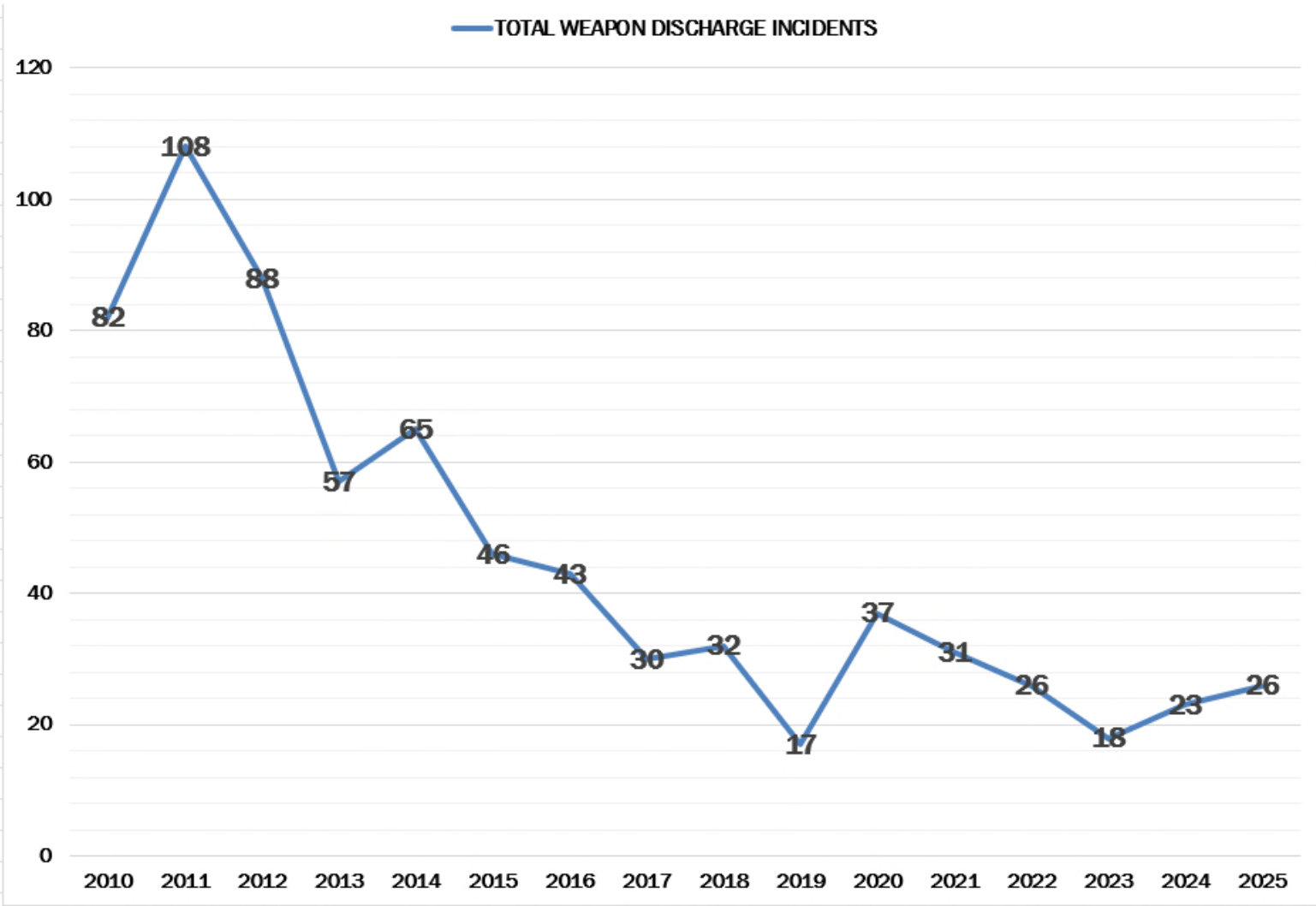


Note: Excluding accidental firearms discharges, animal destruction with no human injuries, and TRRs where an officer's response did not apply. Count by TRR report ID. The totals were calculated based on the 'Weapon Use' section in the TRR application.

Data accurate as of 4/7/2026



Officer Firearm Discharge



YEAR	TOTAL WEAPON DISCHARGE INCIDENTS
2010	82
2011	108
2012	88
2013	57
2014	65
2015	46
2016	43
2017	30
2018	32
2019	17
2020	37
2021	31
2022	26
2023	18
2024	23
2025	26

Data accurate as of 4/10/2026

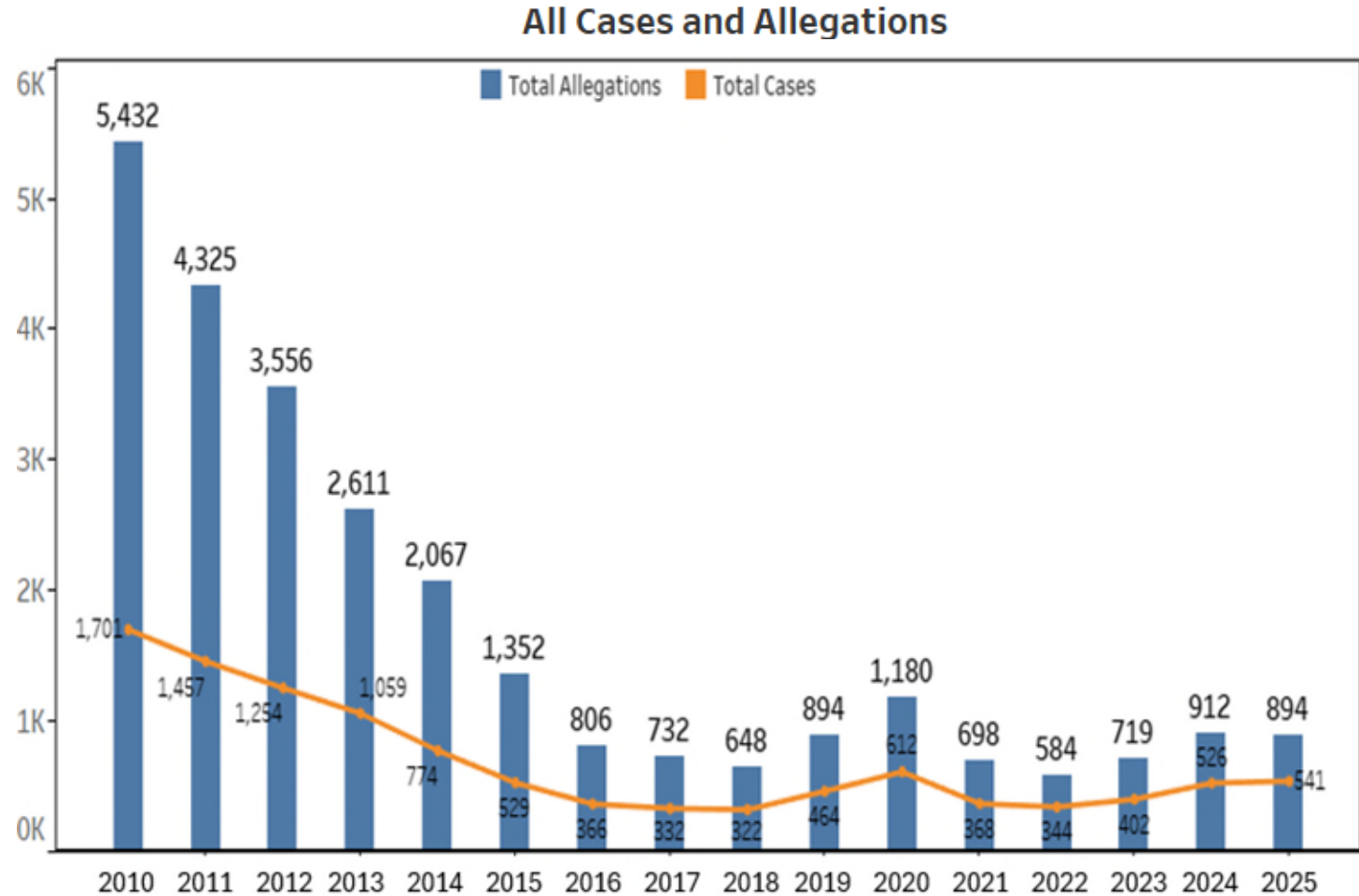
Trends in Complaints of Excessive Force

Similar to to use of force totals, complaints of excessive force have seen a significant structural decline since 2010

- Total Cases dropped from 1,701 in 2010 to 541 in 2025
- Total Allegations dropped from 5,432 in 2010 to 894 in 2025

Even though reporting compliance has increased, the volume of misconduct claims remains far below the historical norms.

The lower baseline also shows stable complaint levels despite streamlined access to file misconduct complaints against the department, which reinforces the idea that the department's internal oversight and training are working to prevent misconduct.



Data accurate as of 4/7/2026

Research on CPD Use of Force Demographic Trends

The University of Texas at San Antonio
UTSA Criminology & Criminal Justice

Chicago Police Department
Use of Force Data Analysis Project:
Results

- Researchers from the University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of Pennsylvania examined racial, ethnic, and gender differences in CPD use of force incidents from 2020-2023.
- They found CPD uses force most often in encounters involving Black individuals, followed by Hispanic individuals. CPD also uses force most often with males. These findings align with research conducted in other large police departments across the U.S.
- The study examines how these differences relate to police encounters, rather than the city's overall population demographics. Use of force data tied to police activity provides more meaningful insight when evaluating CPD policies, training, and practices.

Research on CPD Use of Force Demographic Trends

After accounting for factors such as violent crime, reported suspect demographics, and resistance, the level of force experienced by Black individuals was not statistically different from that experienced by White individuals. Hispanic individuals experienced slightly higher levels of force relative to their level of resistance compared with White individuals.

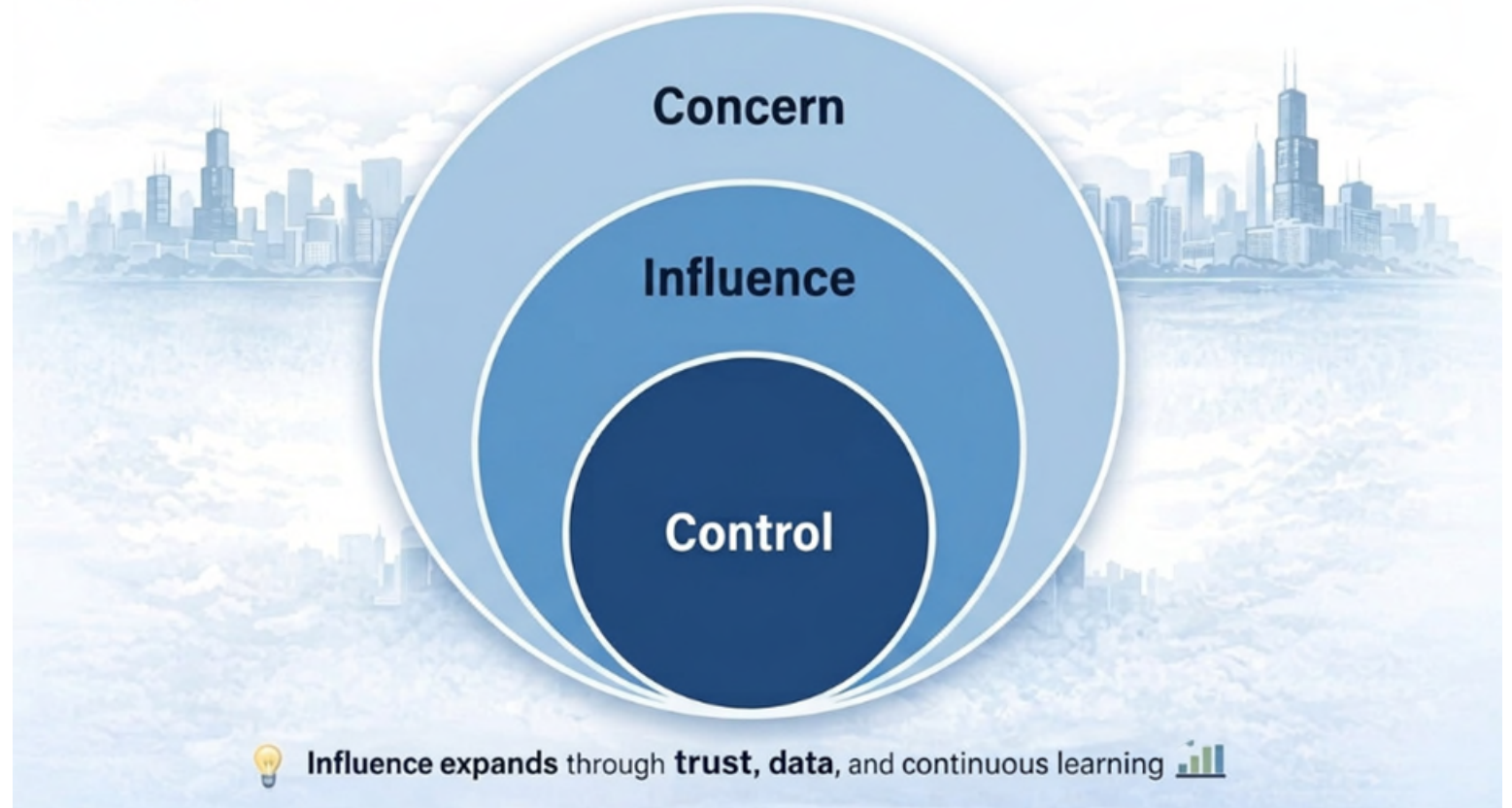
The study did not identify the reasons for these patterns, nor did it find evidence of intentional discrimination by CPD.

How will CPD use the research?

- CPD recognizes and acknowledges that use of force occurs more frequently in certain communities.
- Many factors may contribute to demographic patterns, including officer-related factors, characteristics of individuals officers interact with, or broader environmental conditions. Some of these factors fall within CPD's sphere of control and influence, while others do not.



Chicago Police Department – Sphere of Influence, Concern, and Control

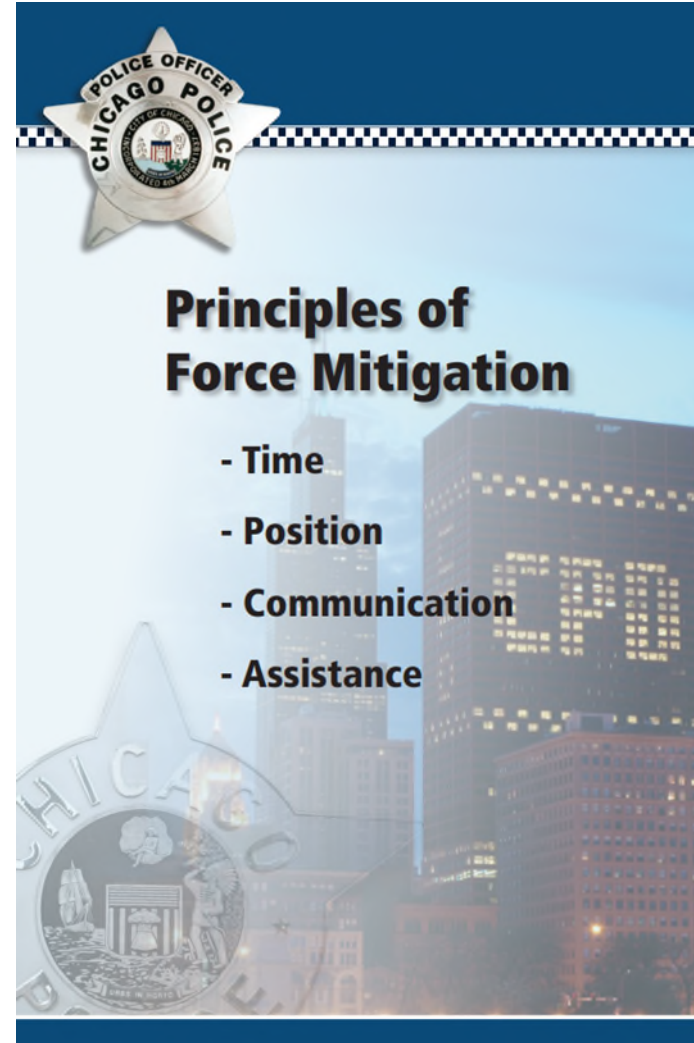


How will CPD use the research?



Importance of Force Mitigation / De-Escalation

- CPD's highest priority is the sanctity of human life.
- CPD seeks voluntary compliance whenever possible. When voluntary compliance cannot be achieved, force may be required to safely gain control of a person or situation.
- Use of force does not necessarily equate to a failure in de-escalation. Even if force is necessary, de-escalation can still lower the *level* of force needed to safely gain control of a person or situation.



Importance of De-Escalation

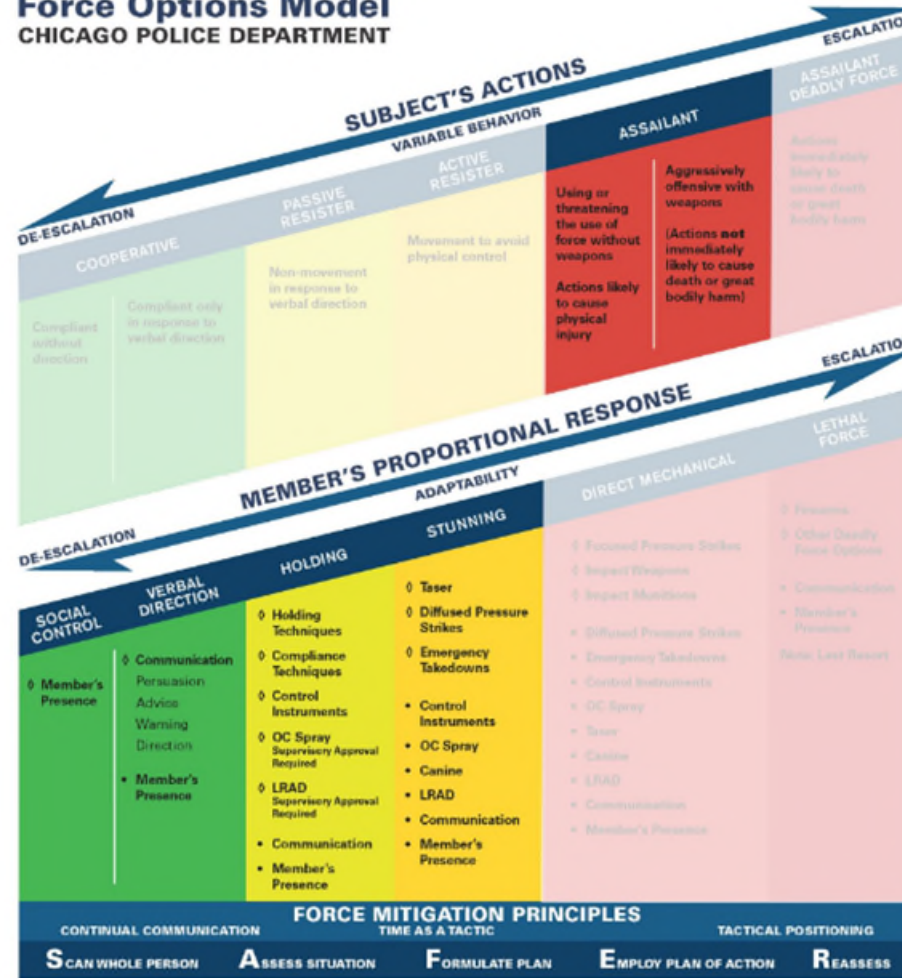
Researchers assigned numerical values (1-5) to both subject resistance and officer use of force. Comparing these values helps show how much force CPD officers typically use relative to the resistance they encounter.

The findings showed that, on average, CPD officers used less force than the maximum level permitted for the resistance they faced. This pattern held across all demographic groups.

Officers' consistent use of lower levels of force relative to resistance aligns with CPD's emphasis on de-escalation and supports the effectiveness of these efforts.



Force Options Model CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT



CPD-11.960 (11/17)



Use of Force FAQ Page & Research Report

- CPD has published a "Frequently Asked Questions" page on its website that provides additional information about the research study, along with answers to other common questions about use of force.
- CPD has also included a link to the full research paper on the website.



CPD's Continuing Efforts

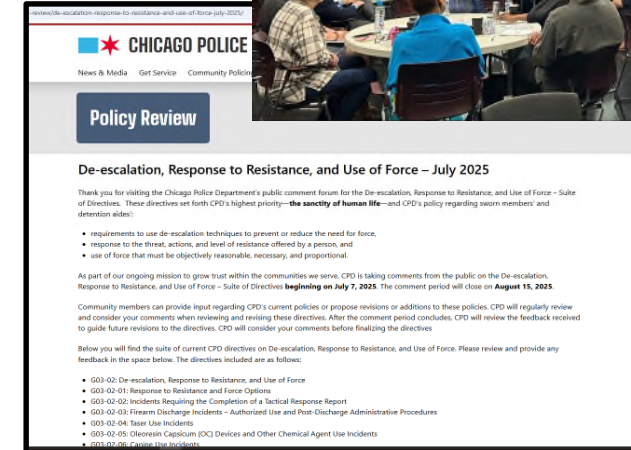
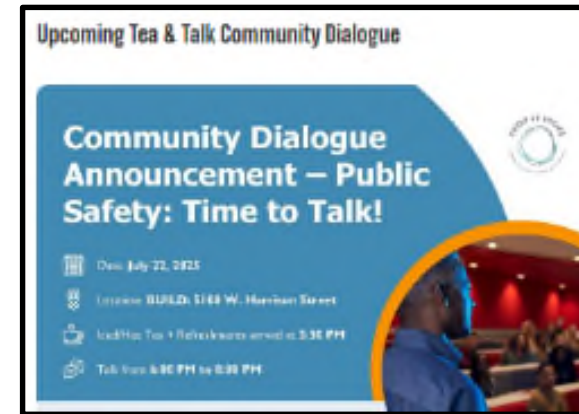
Continuing Efforts - 2025

2025 Engagements

- Community Conversations
- Chicago Community College Public Education Sessions
- Community Member meetings
- Public Posting for Policy Review and Comments

2025 Feedback

- Use of Force Policy Practices:
 - Emphasize, encourage, and reward for successfully de-escalating situations
- Data Transparency and Communication:
 - Improve data collection and trend analysis (e.g., mental-health-related calls, youth)
 - Publicly report on data dashboard and trends



Continuing Efforts - 2026

➤ Upcoming 2026 Engagements

- May 19: Youth Conversation (Lawrence Hall, 7pm – 8pm)
- May 21 Community Conversation (DePaul University, 5pm – 7pm)
- May 29: BUILD Chicago Restorative Justice Conference 2026
- June 16: Community Conversation (Hyde Park Art Center, 5pm – 7pm)
- June 16: Youth Conversation (Lawrence Hall, 7pm – 8pm)
- June 17: Civic Engagement at BUILD Chicago

The screenshot shows the Chicago Police Department website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CPD logo, a search bar, and buttons for 'Transform' and 'Join CPD'. Below the navigation bar, there are links for 'News & Media', 'Get Service', 'Community Policing', 'Inside CPD', and 'Explore CPD'. The main heading of the page is 'De-escalation, Response to Resistance, and Use of Force Policy Reform'. Below this, there is a sub-heading 'Use of Force Policy Reform • Home'. The page features an 'Overview' section with a brief description of the department's policies. To the right of the overview, there are three blue buttons: 'Use of Force Reform Timeline', 'Use of Force Directives', and 'Comment on Use of Force Policy'. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a QR code and a text box providing further information.

Further information on engagements and policy review will be posted on CPD's Use of Force Webpage

<https://www.chicagopolice.org/equity/use-of-force/>

