

Albuquerque Police Department



Use of Force Report For The Years 2016-2017

**Compliance Bureau
Internal Affairs-Force Division
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Introduction

What Is In This Report?

This report examines the use of force by the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) over a two-year time period between January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017. This time period was selected for a number of reasons. First and foremost, APD has not published a Use of Force Annual Report since 2015. It makes little sense to publish separate reports for 2016 and 2017 when the larger data set can provide more important insights on trends over time.

Second, because the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and City of Albuquerque Court Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA) specifies exactly what information should be included in APD's Use of Force Annual Reports, the use of multi-year data set provides a better basis for defining these use of force measures, variables and analytic processes.

The third reason for taking this approach is that the quality of the use of force data gathered by APD over the years has been poor at best. One of the biggest challenges faced by the new APD administration is ensuring that all Use of Force data is complete, accurate, timely and useful. Over the last year, APD sworn and civilian staff have worked to ensure that the use of force data produced since 2015 have been reviewed and corrected for accuracy and completeness. In addition, policies and practices are now in place to ensure that the data collected from now on meets high standards of quality.

The multi-year data set in this report can be of genuine value to APD in learning more about the limitations of how the data were gathered and examined in the past. These lessons will provide an essential benchmark in the continued improvement of APD's policies, training and processes.

Using a data set from a longer timeframe as the basis for an inaugural report is also a best practice used by other police departments and it makes sense for APD to use this approach as it implements the transformations outlined in the CASA. APD will publish Use of Force Annual Reports on a timely basis starting with the 2018 Annual Report which will be published in 2019 and those future reports can use the data presented here as a reasonable baseline.

We use the term "individual" to identify the persons involved in use of force incidents with officers. Both APD Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) and the CASA use the term "subject" and so that language is used when SOP's or the CASA are cited in this report.

In summary, this report presents aggregated statistics regarding use of force by type of force, call types, individual demographics, area commands and other important measures. Key among the findings is that use of force was low across 2016 and 2017. APD officers were dispatched to about 450,000 calls to provide service in 2016 and that number increased to 480,330 in 2017. Individuals involved in uses of force represented less than one tenth of one percent (0.09%) of those dispatched calls. Clearly, each use of force is important and each use is reviewed, but it is important to state that the use of force by APD officers is an empirically rare event.

The CASA And The Use Of Force Annual Report

APD is committed to valuing and preserving human life while exercising the lawful authority to use force. The importance of this commitment and the need to ensure that it translates into practice by officers was underscored in April of 2014 when the DOJ issued a letter to the City of Albuquerque stating that reasonable cause existed to believe that APD engaged in a pattern or practice of use of excessive force. The DOJ determined that although most force used by APD officers was reasonable, a significant amount of deadly and less lethal force was excessive and constituted an ongoing risk to the public. In November, 2014, the DOJ and the City of Albuquerque entered into the Court-Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA) which was designed to strengthen APD's ability to provide officer safety and accountability; constitutional, effective policing; and high-quality police services. The CASA has a number of paragraphs that are relevant to the APD Use of Force Annual Reports. The overarching directive is CASA Paragraph 79 which states: *"At least annually, APD shall publish a Use of Force Annual Report. At a minimum, the following information should be included in the Annual Use of Force Report:*

- a) number of calls for service;*
- b) number of officer-initiated actions;*
- c) number of aggregate uses of force, and uses of force by Level;*
- d) number of arrests;*
- e) number of custodial arrests that involved use of force;*
- f) number of SWAT deployments by type of call out;*
- g) number of incidents involving officers shooting at or from moving vehicles;*
- h) number of individuals armed with weapons;*
- i) number of individuals unarmed;*
- j) number of individuals injured during arrest, including APD and other law enforcement personnel;*
- k) number of individuals requiring hospitalization, including APD and other law enforcement personnel;*
- l) demographic category; and*
- m) geographic data, including street, location, or Area Command."*

A number of other CASA paragraphs identify additional information that must be included in the Use Of Force Annual Reports:

- Paragraph 23: Requires reporting on critical firearms discharges;
- Paragraph 38: Requires data collection and reporting on concerns such as the number of Electronic Control Weapons (ECWs) in operation and assigned to officers; the number of ECW uses; whether the use of ECW results in an increase in the use of force; and the tracking of ECW laser painting and arcing and the impact on compliance rates of individuals;
- Paragraph 104: Requires the inclusion of canine deployment and bite ratio data and analysis.

How This Report Is Organized

Section I of this report provides a description of the three kinds of measures used with use of force data: the case level, the individual level and the force type level. These distinctions are important because the information required in the CASA requires different measures to answer different key questions. For example, if one wants to know the location of use of force incidents or the number of SWAT deployments, then the appropriate measure to use is the case level. If one is interested in the demographics of individuals involved in use of force incidents, then the appropriate measure to use is the individual level. If one is interested in the number of aggregate uses of force, the type of critical firearm discharge, or the impact of electronic control weapons (ECWs), then the force type level is the appropriate measure to use.

Section II is an overview of APD's use of force policies which provide the legal guidelines for how officers are to use force to accomplish lawful objectives. More importantly, for the report, Section II outlines some of the changes in policies that took place in 2016 and 2017. These changes include how uses of force were defined, reported and analyzed. It is likely that many of the changes between the years covered in this report are the result of more accurate reporting and improvement in process rather than actual increases in the use of force.

Sections III to Section VIII contain the specific use of force information required in the CASA. Since the information required by the CASA is in a list form and across several different paragraphs, we have organized these sections in a logical order following a more readable narrative organization similar to the organization found in best practice use of force annual reports published by other police agencies. Table 1 provides a guide to where the required CASA information can be found in this report.

Table 1: APD Use of Force Annual Report Sections And The CASA Required Information

APD Use Of Force Annual Report Sections	Required CASA Information
Section III: Calls For Service, Arrests, And The Use Of Force	CASA Paragraph 79: a) number of calls for service
Section III: Calls For Service, Arrests, And The Use Of Force	CASA Paragraph 79: b) number of officer-initiated actions
Section III: Calls For Service, Arrests, And The Use Of Force	CASA Paragraph 79: d) number of arrests
Section III: Calls For Service, Arrests, And The Use Of Force	CASA Paragraph 79: e) number of custodial arrests that involved use of force
Section IV: Use Of Force By Force Type	CASA Paragraph 79: c) number of aggregate uses of force, and uses of force by Level
Section IV: Use Of Force By Force Type	CASA Paragraph 79: f) number of SWAT deployments by type of call out
Section IV: Use Of Force By Force Type	CASA Paragraph 79: g) number of incidents involving officers shooting at or from moving vehicles
Section IV: Use Of Force By Force Type	CASA Paragraph 23: Requires reporting on critical firearms discharges
Section IV: Use Of Force By Force Type	CASA Paragraph 38: Requires data collection and reporting on Electronic Control Weapons (ECWs)
Section IV: Use Of Force By Force Type	CASA Paragraph 104: Requires the inclusion of canine deployment and bite ratio data and analysis
Section V: Use Of Force By Individual Demographics	CASA Paragraph 79: l) demographic category
Section VI: Context And The Use Of Force	CASA Paragraph 79: h) number of individuals armed with weapons
Section VI: Context And The Use Of Force	CASA Paragraph 79: i) number of individuals unarmed
Section VII: Use Of Force And Individuals & Officers Injured	CASA Paragraph 79: j) number of individuals injured during arrest, including APD and other law enforcement personnel
Section VII: Use Of Force And Individuals & Officers Injured	CASA Paragraph 79: k) number of individuals requiring hospitalization, including APD and other law enforcement personnel
Section VIII: Geography And The Use Of Force	CASA Paragraph 79: m) geographic data, including street, location, or Area Command

Section I: Understanding APD's Use Of Force Data

The ways in which APD collects use of force data changed often from 2016 and 2017. One of the critical changes the new APD administration is making is the development of consistent policies and practices on how use of force data is defined, gathered, stored, verified, categorized and analyzed. It is likely that many of the changes between the years covered in this report are the result of more accurate reporting and improvement in process rather than actual increases in the use of force.

The following definitions and charts may be helpful for understanding the data presented in this report:

- A **Use Of Force Case** involves an incident with one or more individuals, one or more police officers, and one or more uses of force.
- A **Show Of Force Case** involves one or more individuals, one or more police officers, and one or more displays of weapons, but no actual use of force during that incident.
- A **Use Of Force Type Or Show Of Force Type** is the specific application of a force type or types in a Use of Force or Show Of Force incident. For example, one police officer may display or use several kinds of force (e.g., display handgun, or empty hand techniques and ECW) with one individual during one encounter. Thus the number of Use Of Force Types Or Show Of Force Types will be higher than the number of individuals involved in Use Of Force or Show Of Force Cases.

Please note that police officers may display weapons (show of force) as part of an incident which includes an actual use of force. Those cases are categorized as a Use Of Force Case.

The data sets used in this report were drawn from IAPro, which is the software program APD has used to track Use of Force and Show of Force data since 2015. The data sets include the following numbers of cases, individuals and force types.

Chart 1: The Number Of Cases Classified As Use Of Force Or Show Of Force From 2016 To 2017

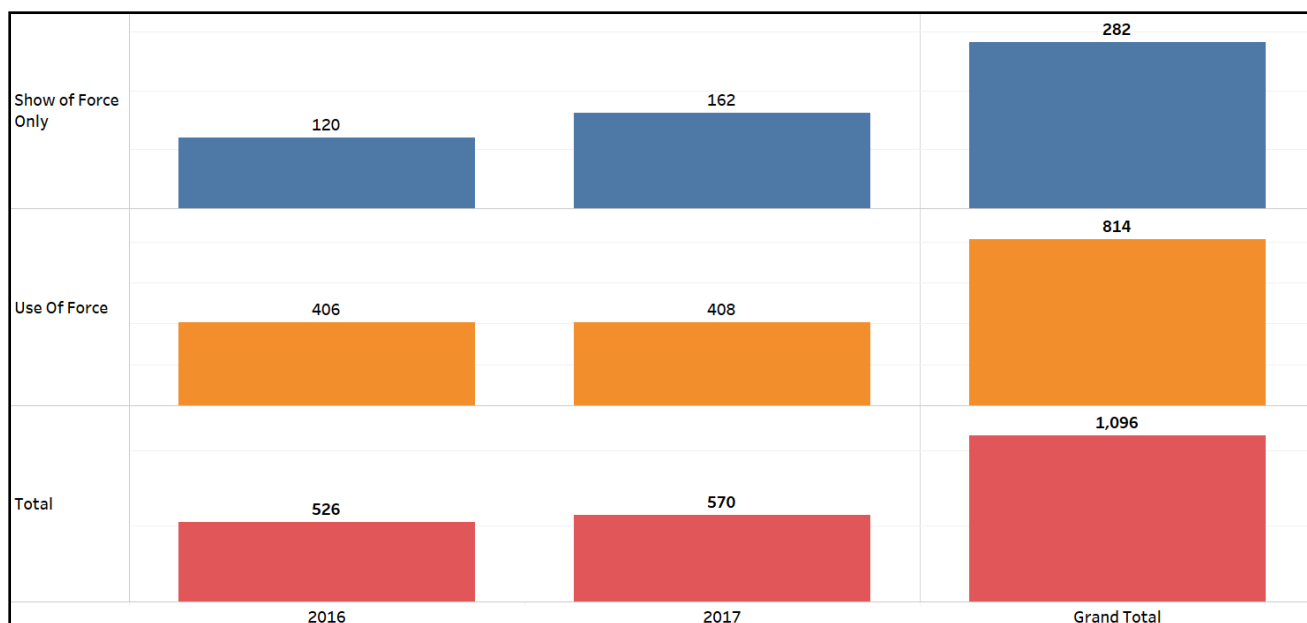


Chart 2: The Number Of Individuals Involved In Use Of Force Or Show Of Force Cases From 2016 To 2017

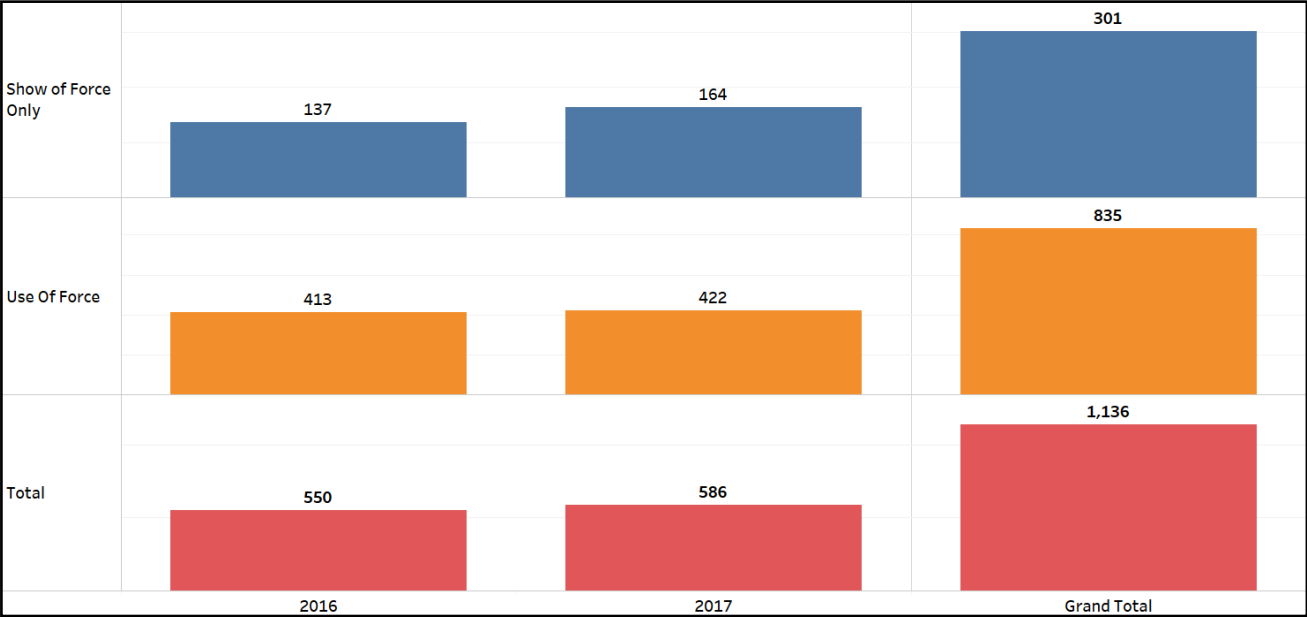
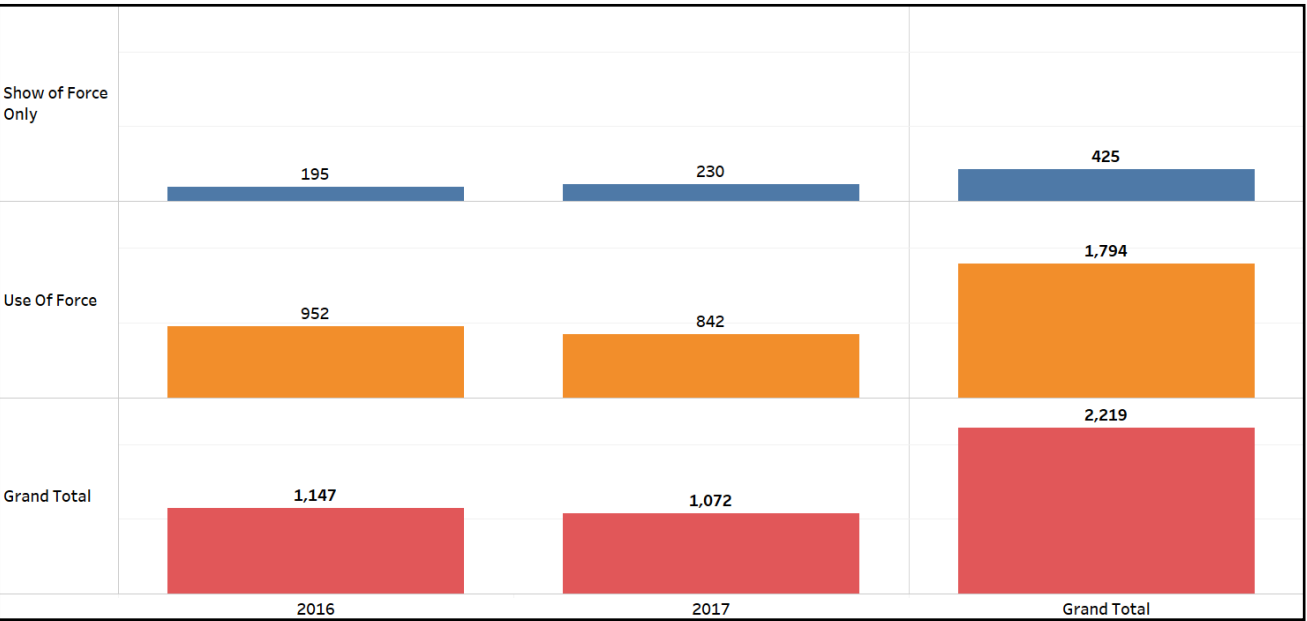


Chart 3: The Number Of Force Types In Use Of Force Or Show Of Force Cases From 2016 To 2017



The charts and tables contained in this report use Case, Individual, Or Force Types as the unit of analysis as appropriate. For example, the demographic section uses Individuals as the unit of analysis because we want to know about the characteristics of the people involved in Use of Force incidents. The types of force section uses Force Types as the unit of analysis because several different types of force may be used in one Use of Force Case.

Section II: APD's Use Of Force Policies

APD's Use of Force policies are published Procedural Orders 2-52 through 2-56 of the APD Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Table 1 provides an overview of these policies, their purposes, and the version in place in 2016 and 2017.

Table 2: APD Use of Force Policies, Related Policies From 2016 To 2017

APD's Use Of Force Policy Suite, Related Policies, And Special Orders		
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)	Purpose	Version In Place In 2016-2017
Procedural Orders		
Procedural Order 2-52: Use of Force	The purpose of this policy is to describe the procedures, requirements, and expectations surrounding the use of force by sworn personnel.	1/21/2016; 6/12/2017
Procedural Order 2-53: Electronic Control Weapons	This policy is intended to supplement the Use of Force policy regarding the use of electronic control weapons (ECWs).	2/12/2016; 6/12/2017
Procedural Order 2-54: Use of Force Reporting and Supervisory Force Investigations	This policy is intended to supplement SOP 2-52 – Use of Force by expanding on the expectations regarding use of force reporting and supervisory force investigations.	6/12/2017
Procedural Order 2-55: Use of Force Appendix	This appendix is intended to supplement SOP 2-52 - Use of Force, SOP 2-53 - Electronic Control Weapon , and SOP 2-54 - Use of Force Reporting and Supervisory Force Investigation by clarifying and outlining all definitions related to the use of force policy suite.	2/12/2016; 6/12/2017
Procedural Order 2-56 Force Review Board	The purpose of this policy is to define the role of the Force Review Board in reviewing use of force investigations, tactical deployments, and use of force statistics and trends.	4/25/2016
Special Services Bureau Orders		
Special Services Bureau Order 4-12: K-9 Unit	The purpose of this policy was to provide guidance for how police service dogs will be used and includes how bite ratios will be calculated and evaluated. SOP 4-12 was changed to SOP 6-9 K-9 Unit.	SOP 6-9 9/8/18
Professional Accountability Bureau Orders		
Professional Accountability Bureau Orders 7-1: Internal Affairs Section	The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance how the Internal Affairs Section will investigate all complaints against law enforcement officers including those relating to use of force. In addition, IAS will review all CIRT investigations to determine dispositions for SOP violations identified.	6/7/2016
Professional Accountability Bureau Orders 7-2: Critical Incident Review Team	The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on how all uses of serious force will be investigated by the Department's Critical Incident Review Team (CIRT).	6/7/2016
Professional Accountability Bureau Order 7-3: Force Investigation Team	This policy provides guidance on how the Investigative Response Team assumes investigative responsibility in serious use of force cases including officer-involved shootings, serious use of force and in-custody deaths.	6/7/2016

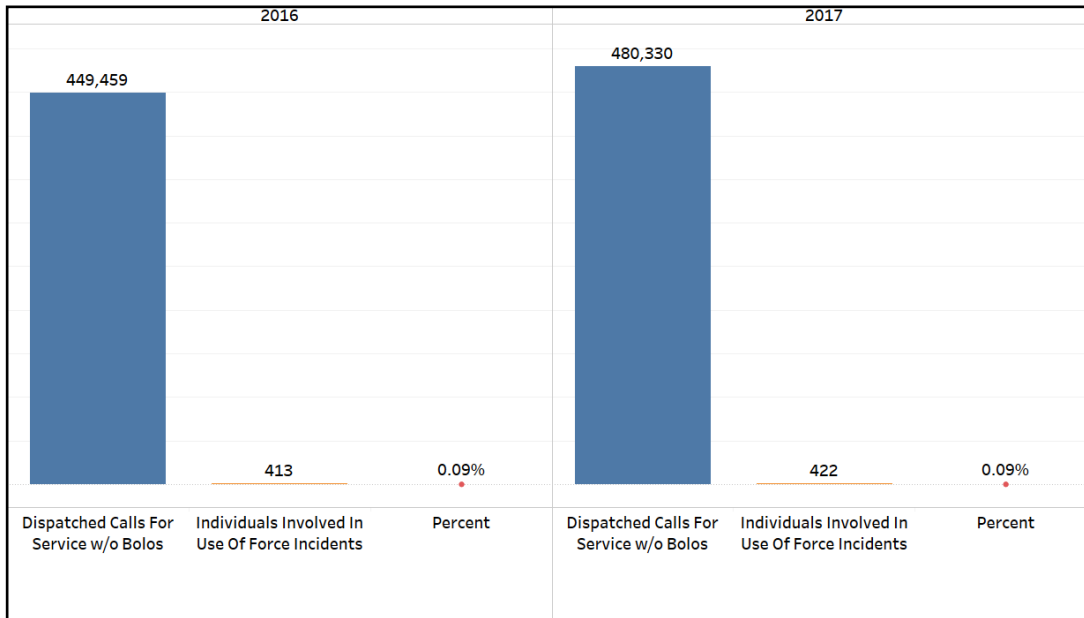
Officers may use force consistent with these policies to accomplish lawful objectives. Those lawful objectives that affect this report are: 1. to effect a lawful arrest or detention of a person; 2. to gain control of a combative subject; 3. to prevent and or terminate the commission of a crime; 4. to intervene in a suicide or self-inflicted injury; 5. to defend an officer or person from the physical acts of another; or 6. to conduct a lawful search.

Over the past two years these SOPs have been subject to revision. Some of these revisions may have had an impact upon the data produced by the Department around incidents of use of force, show of force and canine bites. The following revisions to policy have had an impact upon the number of use of force and show of force incidents depicted in this Report:

- The Department added distraction techniques as a reportable use of force in SOP 2-52 in June 2017. Before this point in time Department personnel were not required to report their use of distraction techniques as an application of force. Importantly, the term “distraction technique” was not defined in Department policy in June 2017 or at any time prior.
- The Department changed the definition of show of force in June 2017 to remove the requirement that an officer had to “acquire a target” for the officer’s use of a firearm or electronic control weapon (ECW) to be considered a reportable show of force. Prior to this change Department personnel were only reporting show of force incidents when they took the specific action of acquiring a visual sight picture of an individual with their firearm or ECW. In addition to removing the “acquire a target” requirement of the show of force definition, the definition of show of force was expanded to include circumstances when an officer arced and ECW or painted an individual with an ECW.
- The Department changed the formula for bite ratios in 2017 to a calculation based on the number of apprehensions involving police service dogs (PSD) bites divided by the total number of deployments of PSDs for a given time period.

Section III: Calls For Service, Arrests And The Use Of Force

Chart 4: Calls For Service And Individuals Involved In Use Of Force Incidents From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 4 indicate that police officers were dispatched on about 450,000 calls for service in 2016 and that number increased to 480,330 in 2017. The number of individuals involved in use of force incidents during this same time period indicate that a use of force occurs on a small percentage of those calls.

Chart 5: The Total Number Of Arrests Made By APD And The Number of Uses Of Force That Resulted in Arrests From 2016 To 2017

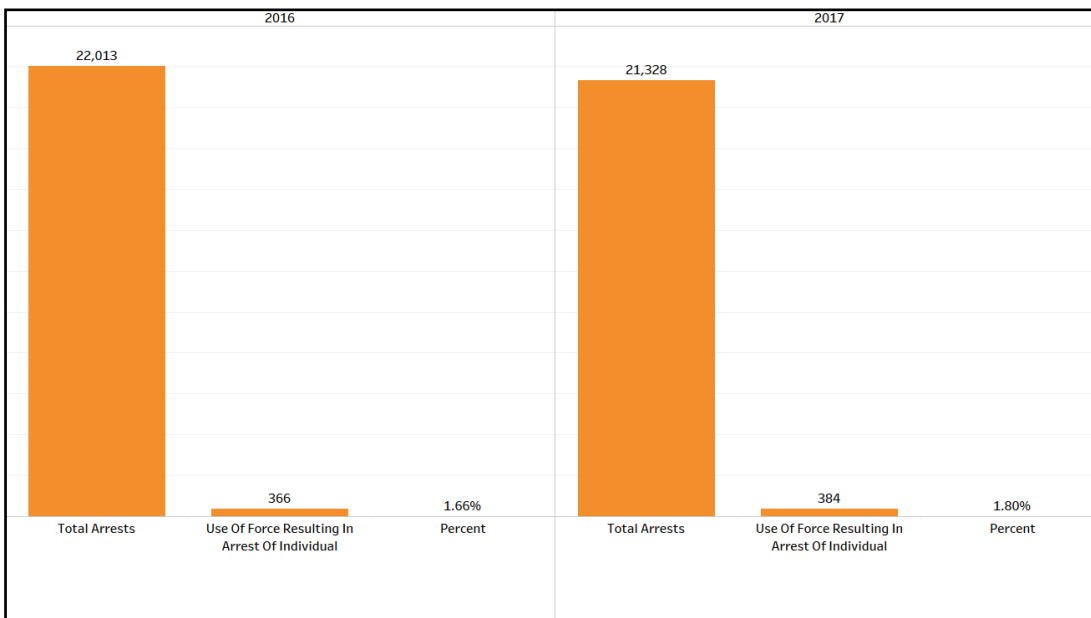
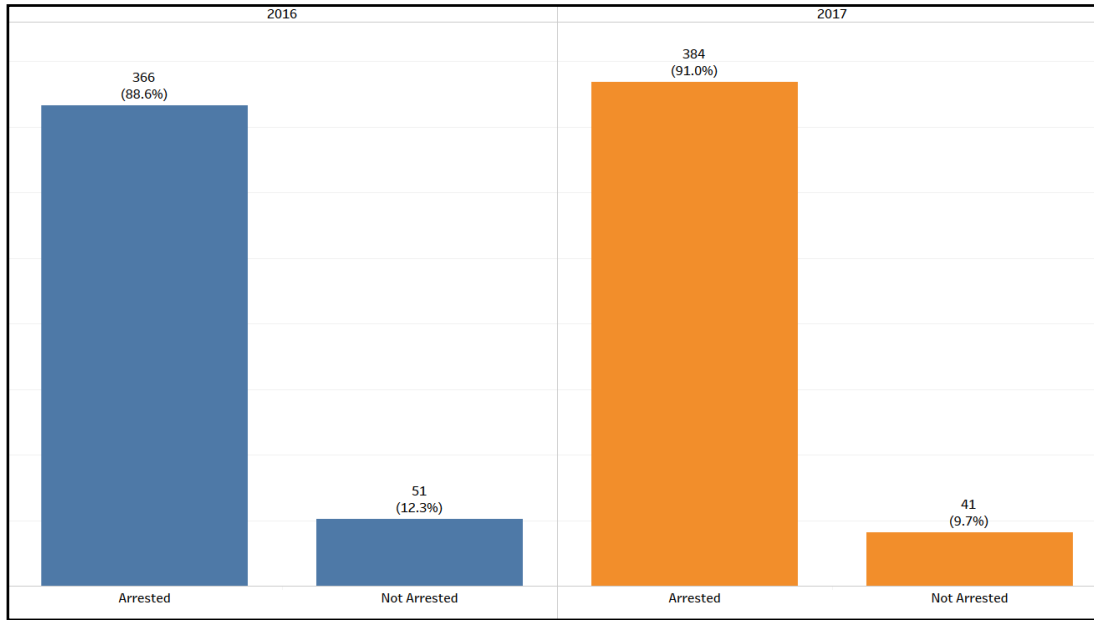


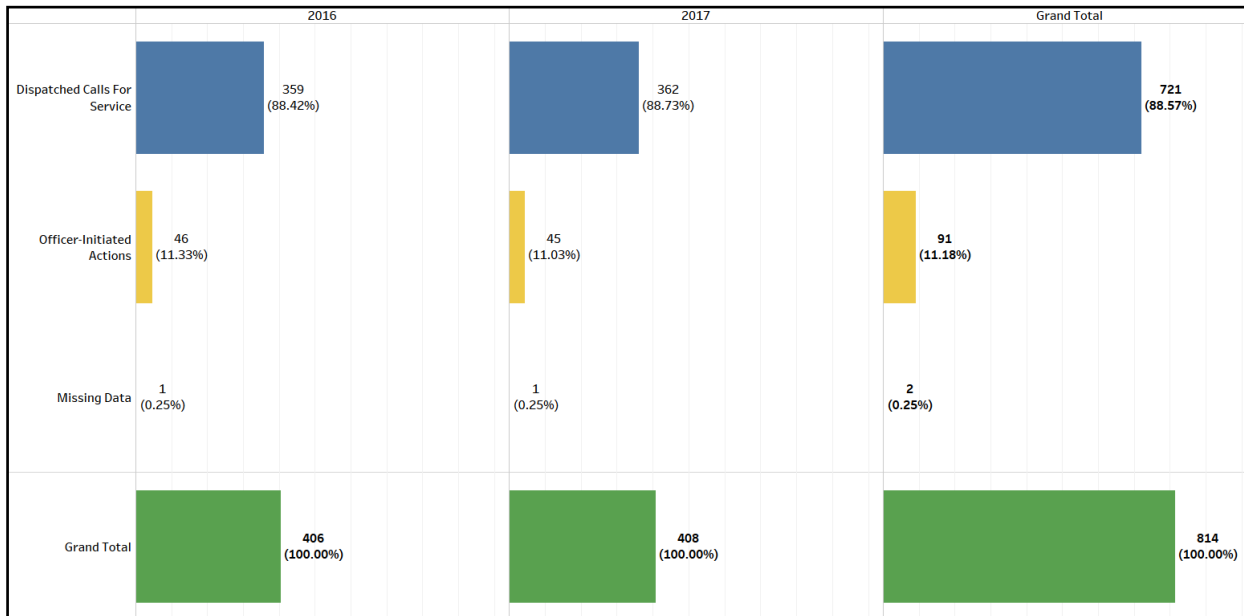
Chart 5 displays the total number of arrests made by APD in 2016 and 2017. These arrests include both adult and juvenile arrests for both FBI Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) Part 1 and Part 2 crimes. In 2016 and 2017, the percentage of use of force incidents with arrests to the total number of arrests were 1.66% and 1.80%, respectively. Those changes may be due, in part, to the change in how uses of force were defined and reported.

Chart 6 : The Number And Percent Of Uses Of Force That Resulted In The Arrest Of The Individual



The data in Chart 6 that 88.6% of use of force incidents resulted in the arrest of the individual in 2016 and 91% of the use of force incidents resulted in the arrest of the individual in 2017.

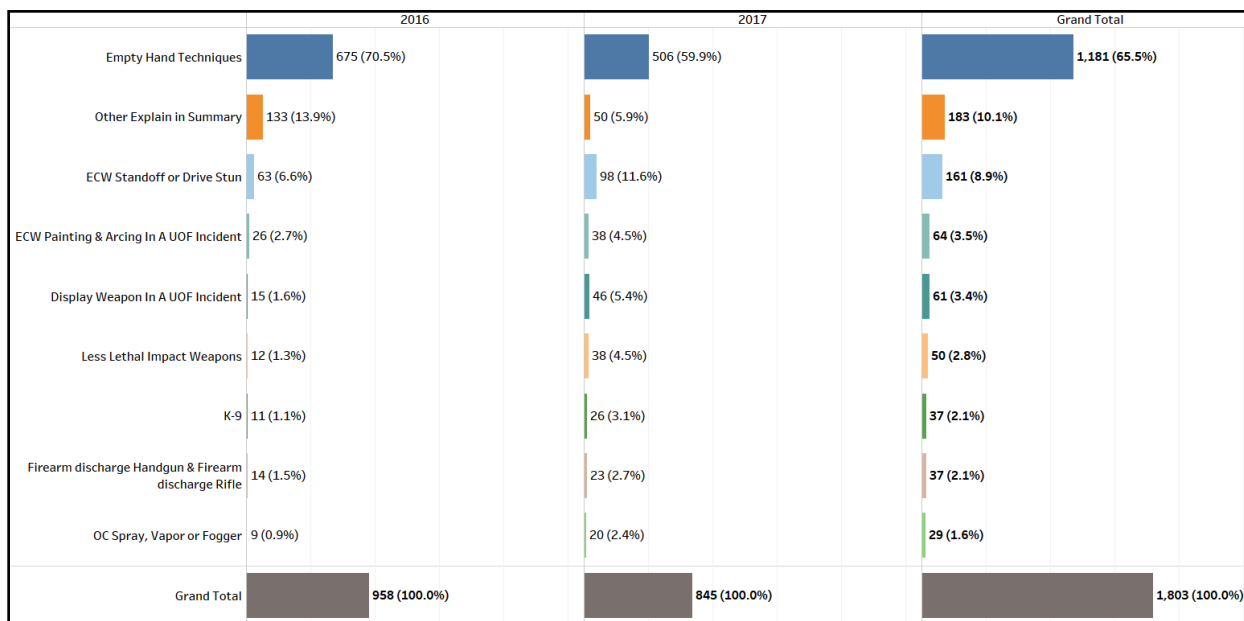
Chart 7 : The Number And Percent Of Uses Of Force Cases By Officer-Initiated Actions Compared To Dispatched Calls For Service 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 7 indicate CADs where officers were dispatched to provide service accounted for 88% of the CADs resulting in a use of force. CADs which were categorized as officer-initiated actions accounted for 11% for the use of force incidents. These CADs included Onsite Traffic (24S), Onsite Disturbance (39S), Traffic Stop (54), Onsite Suspicious Person (31S), Onsite Auto Theft (7S) and Tac Plan (74).

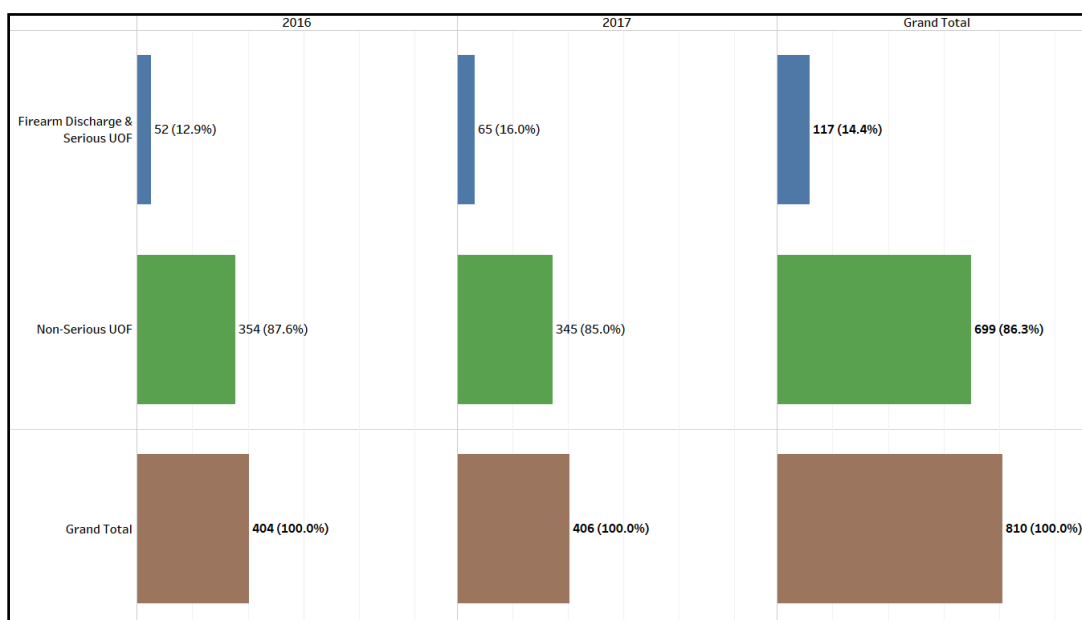
Section IV: Use Of Force By Force Type

Chart 8: Number And Percent Of Uses Of Force By Force Type From 2016 to 2017



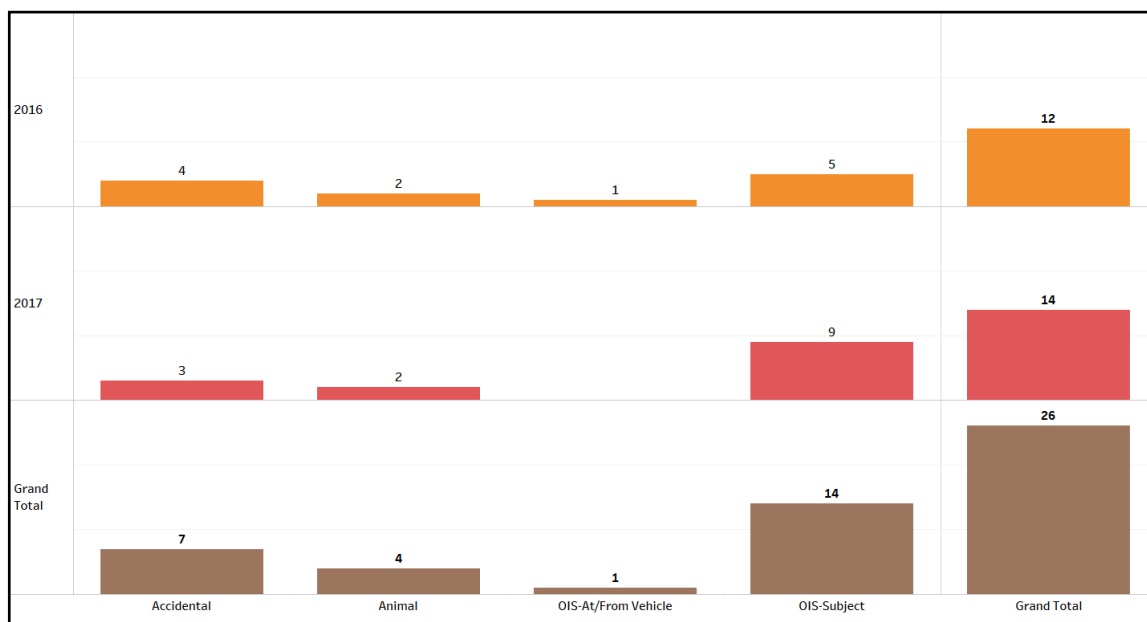
The data in Chart 8 indicate that the total use of force types by officers during an incident declined from 958 in 2016 to 845 in 2017. Empty Hand Techniques which are defined as strikes, grabs, kicks, takedowns, distraction techniques and proper arrest techniques to control an actively resistant subject. The use of force reporting form provides officers with an option labeled “*Other Explain In Summary.*” This provides officers with the flexibility to explain uses of force that take place in dynamic incidents. A detailed analysis of these answers indicated most of these uses of force were Empty Hand Techniques. Please note that the Firearms Discharge data include firearms discharges that are not characterized as a use of force. These Discharges are presented in more detail in Chart 9.

Chart 9: Number And Percent Of Uses Of Force Cases By Level Of Seriousness From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 9 show use of force cases by level of seriousness. 2016 and 2017. APD policy categorizes the following uses of force as a Serious Use of Force : (1) all uses of lethal force by an APD officer; (2) all critical firearm discharges by an APD officer; (3) all uses of force by an APD officer resulting in serious physical injury or requiring hospitalization; (4) all head, neck, and throat strikes with an object or neck holds; (5) all uses of force by an APD officer resulting in a loss of consciousness; (6) all canine bites; (7) more than two applications of an ECW on an individual during a single interaction, regardless of the mode or duration of the application, and regardless of whether the applications are by the same or different officers, or an ECW application for longer than 15 seconds, whether continuous or consecutive; (8) any strike, blow, kick, ECW application, or similar use of force against a handcuffed subject; and (9) more than three strikes with a baton.

Chart 10: Critical Firearms Discharges By Type From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 10 show Critical Firearm Discharges for by Use Of Force Case for 2016 and 2017. Please note that Accidental Firearm Discharges and Firearm Discharges are not categorized as Use Of Force types but are tracked by APD.

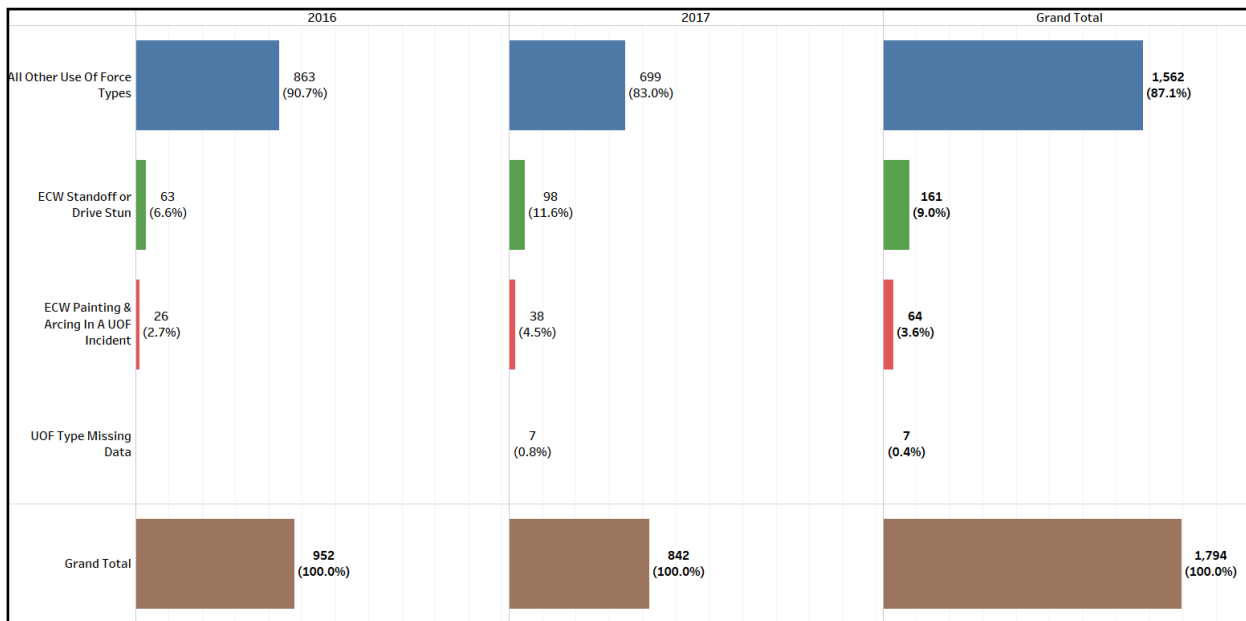
Electronic Control Weapons Used In Use of Force Incidents in From 2016 To 2017

Table 3: Number Of ECWs In Operation And Used In Force Incidents From 2016 To 2017

Year	Number Of ECWs In Operation And Assigned To Officers	# Of ECWs Used In Use of Force Incidents	% Of ECWs Used In Use Of Force Incidents
2016	713	89	12.5%
2017	797	136	17.1%

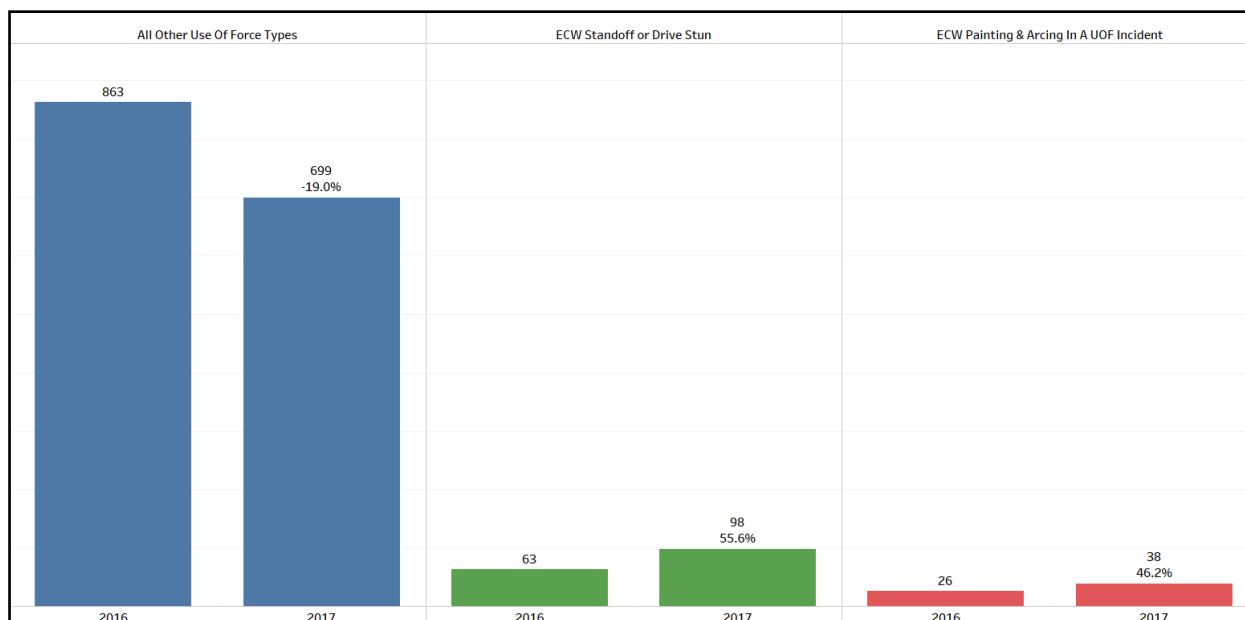
The data in Table 3 displays the number of Electronic Control Weapons (ECWs) that are assigned to both officers and civilian staff (e.g., Crime Scene Specialists) within APD. The numbers of assigned ECWs increased because of an increase in hiring of officers. Use of force incidents involving ECWs was 12.5% for 2016 and increased to 17.1% in 2017.

Chart 11: The Number And Percent Of ECW Uses Compared To All Other Use Of Force Types From 2016 To 2017



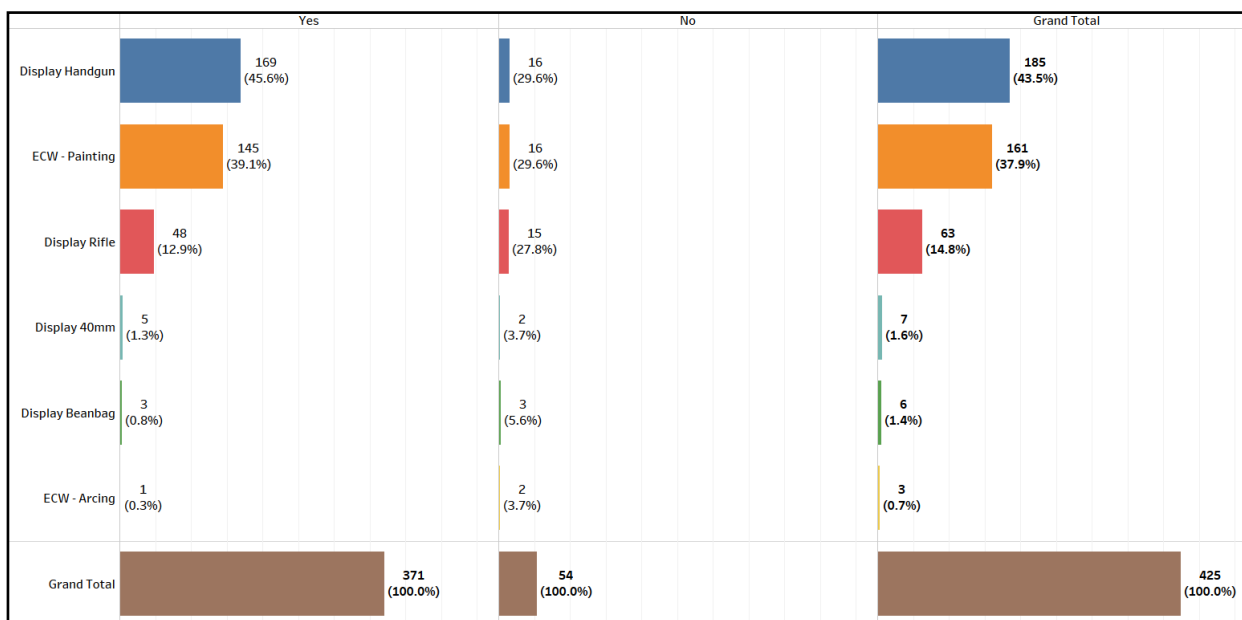
The data in Chart 11 show a 5% increase in ECW use from 2016 to 2017. This could be accounted for by the major revisions in the Use of Force, Use of Force reporting and Electronic Control Weapon policies that occurred in 2016 and 2017, which primarily increased the requirements for reporting a use of force and show of force. We anticipate that the 2019 revision to these policies will stabilize the reporting requirements and provide more detailed data for future analysis.

Chart 12: The Number And Percent Of ECW Uses Compared To The Previous Year From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 12 show a steady increase in the use of ECW either standoff mode, drive stun mode, painting and arcing from 2016 to 2017, while there was a drop in other types of force the same period of time. In 2016 there were significant changes to the use of force reporting policies that affected the number of ECW paintings reported; specifically, the requirement to report ECW painting as a show of force.

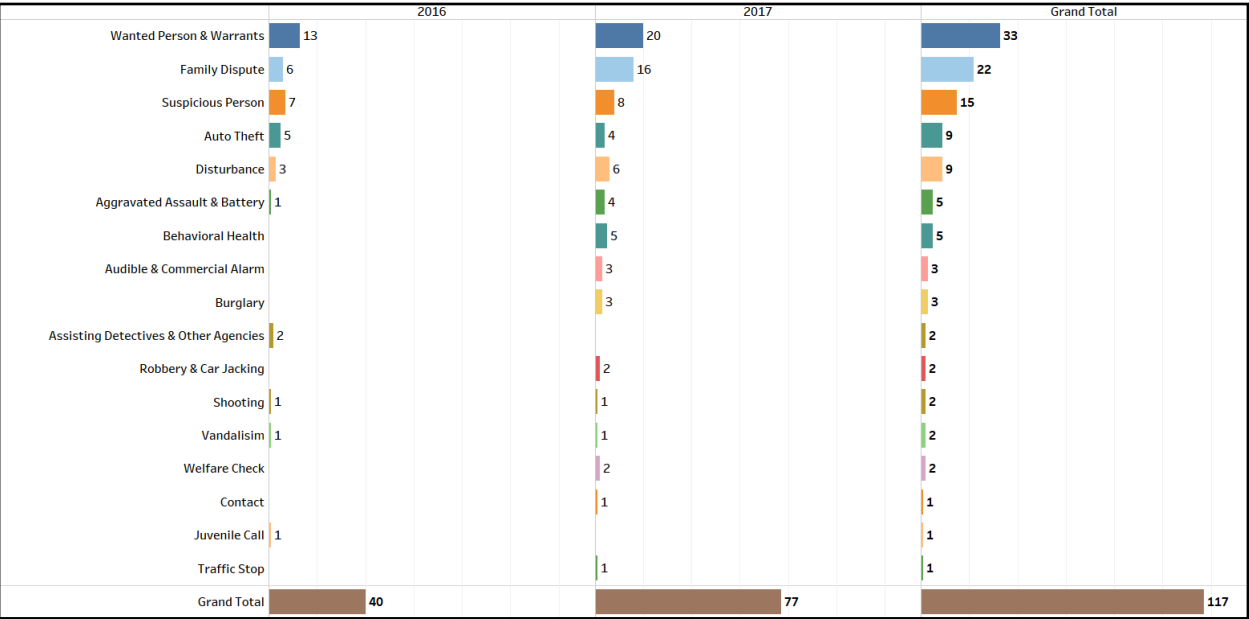
Chart 13: The Number And Percent Of Show Of Force Types By Level Of Officers' Judgment Of Effectiveness Across 2016 and 2017



CASA Paragraph 38 requires that APD track all ECW laser paintings and arcing along with the effect such actions have upon an individuals' compliance. This analysis compares ECW laser painting and arcing to other weapon displays in incidents where an officer only engages in a show of force. These data indicate that APD officers characterized the display of their handgun as effective in 45.6% of show of force only incidents and ECW painting as effective in 39.1% of show of force only incidents. The display of other weapons had a lower rate of effectiveness in gaining an individual's compliance.

SWAT Use of Force Incidents From 2016 To 2017

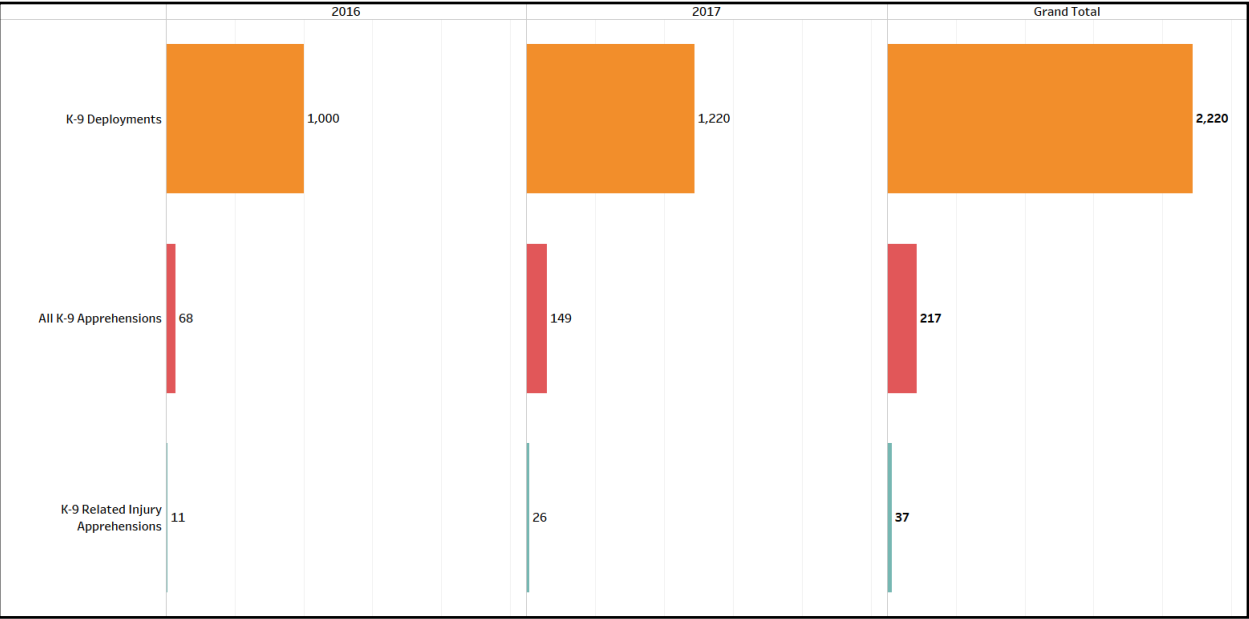
Chart 14: The Number of SWAT Deployments By Type of Call Out From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 14 indicate SWAT deployments increased to 77 in 2017 from 40 in 2016. The majority of these deployments were for similar types of calls across both years: Wanted Persons & Warrants, Family Disputes, Suspicious Person, and Auto Theft.

K-9 Deployments And The Use of Force

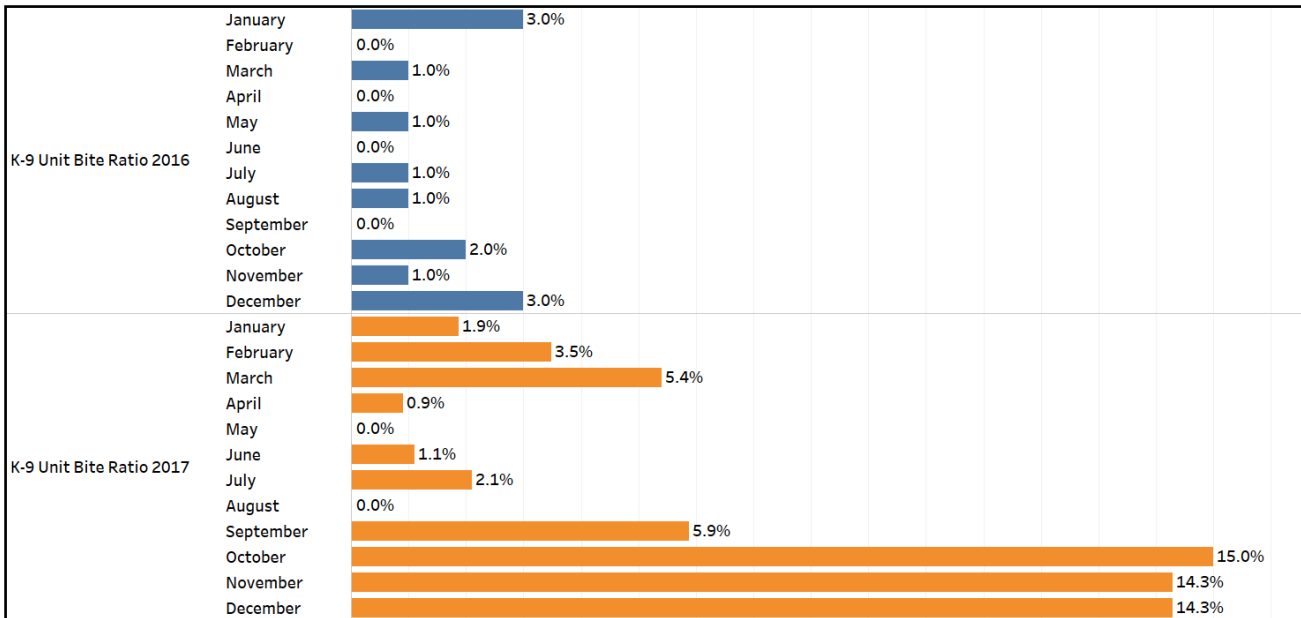
Chart 15: The Number Of K-9 Deployments, K-9 Apprehensions And K-9 Apprehension Injuries Involving K-9 From 2016 To 2017



The data displayed in Chart 15 show that the number of K-9 deployments, K-9 apprehensions and K-9 related injuries increased from 2016 to 2017.

K-9 Bite Ratios

Chart 16: K-9 Bite Ratios From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 16 display K-9 Bite Ratios for the K-9 Unit for each month in 2016 and 2017. The bite ratio is calculated on a monthly basis for both the individual K-9 teams and the K-9 Unit as a whole. Should any of the individual K-9 teams or the K-9 Unit as a whole bite ratio exceeds a threshold of 20%, a review will take place to determine and document why that threshold was exceeded.

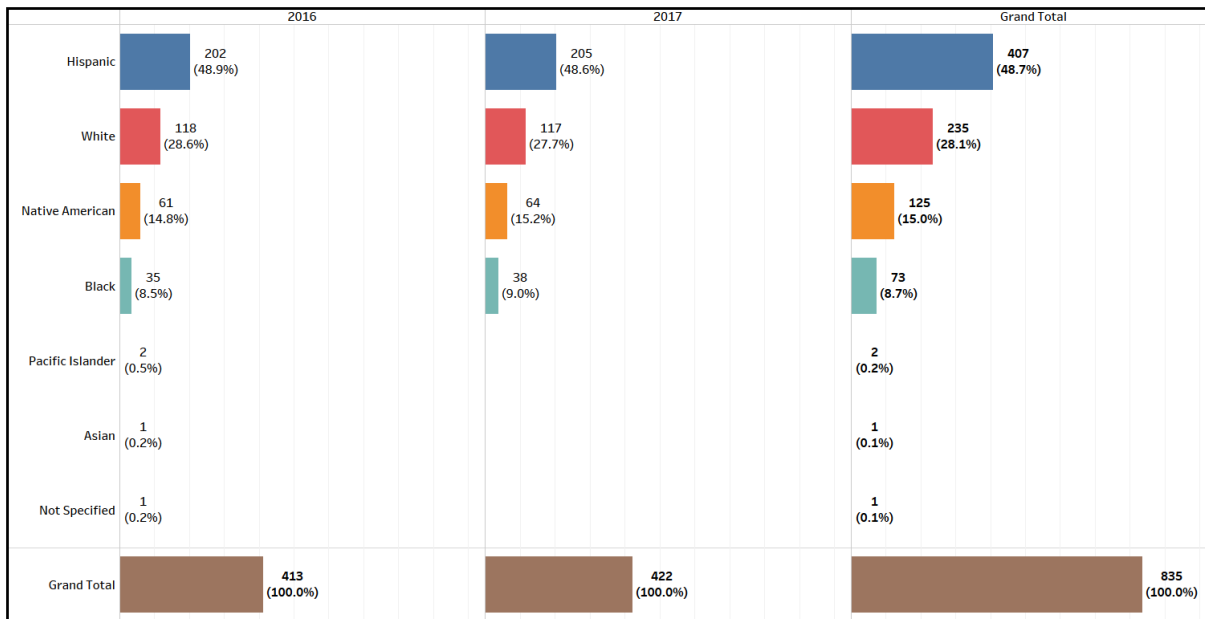
The formula for calculating bite ratios was changed in August of 2017 to a calculation based on the number of apprehensions involving PSD bites divided by the total number of deployments of PSDs for a given time period. The formula created in 2017 is still being utilized to calculate bite ratios. Because the formula considers the preceding six months, K-9 did not have six months of data until January of 2018. Therefore, the bite ratios for August through December of 2017 were reported for the previous one, two, three, four, and five months, respectively.

Section V: Use Of Force By Individual Demographics

The analyses in this section of the Annual Use of Force Report examine the demographic distribution of subjects in use of force incidents. The cause of racial, ethnic and gender disparities in every field including education, employment, healthcare and law enforcement is a national and ongoing concern. The debate over what causes these disparities, and how they can be resolved are crucial to our democracy, now and in the future. Unfortunately, the present state of sociology and criminal justice research does not provide us with a proven, reliable methodology for accounting for all of the factors that contribute to the demographic disparities in how individuals come into contact with police or are involved in use of force incidents. While the data can reveal disparities, they cannot alone explain why disparities come about. These data represent the starting point for further discussion about how we address inequities that affect which individuals come into contact with police and are more likely to be involved in use of force incidents.

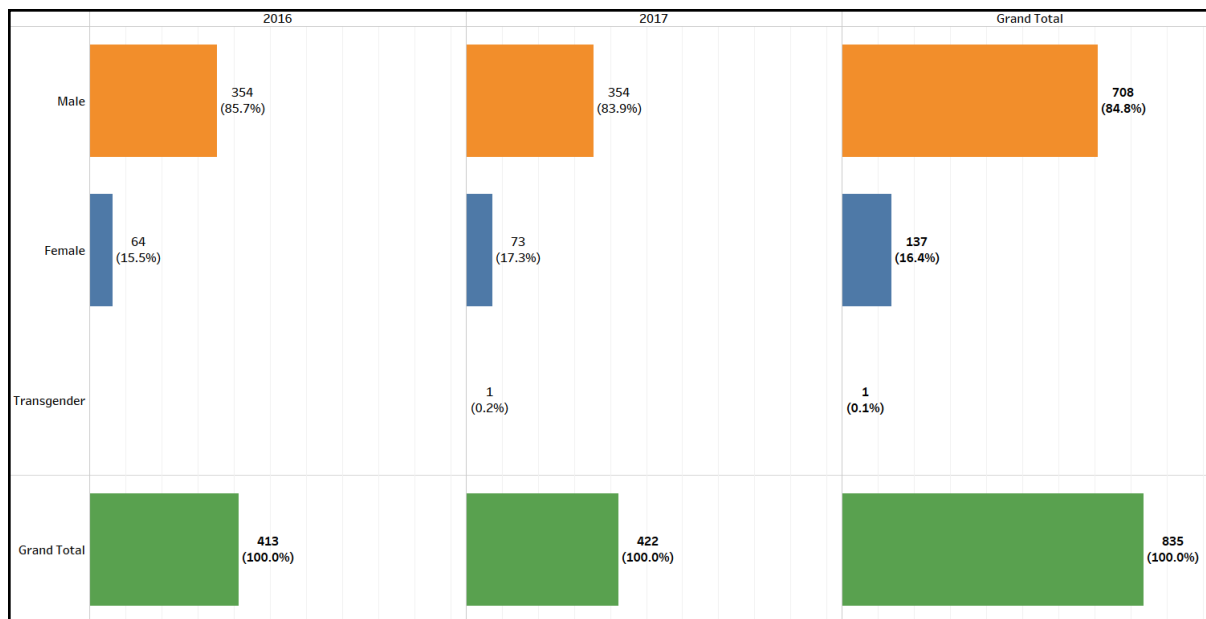
APD is proud to serve the people of one of the most culturally diverse cities in the country. APD is committed to building a police force that is reflective of our diverse city. APD is equally committed to serving each and every individual fairly and without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic status. APD is committed to reviewing each use of force incident and to evaluating overarching trends to develop a comprehensive understanding and plan to address disparities.

Chart 17: The Race/Ethnicity Of Individuals Involved In Use of Force Incidents From 2016 To 2017



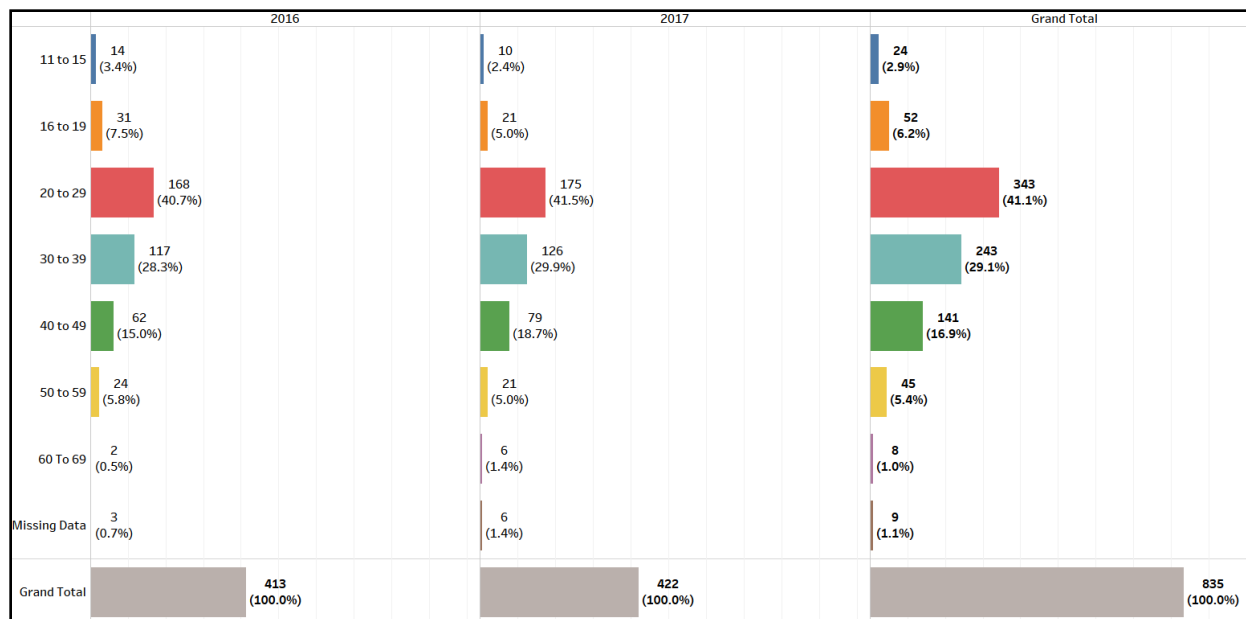
The data in Chart 17 display the race/ethnicity of individuals who were involved in use of force incidents from 2016 to 2017. The proportion of individuals of Hispanic decent accounted for approximately 48% of all individuals involved in use of force incidents across both years. The percentage of individuals classified as White involved in use of force incidents declined over the two years. The percentages of individuals classified as Black and the individuals classified as Native Americans involved in use of force incidents rose from 2016 to 2017.

Chart 18: The Gender Of Individuals Involved In Use of Force Incidents From 2016 to 2017



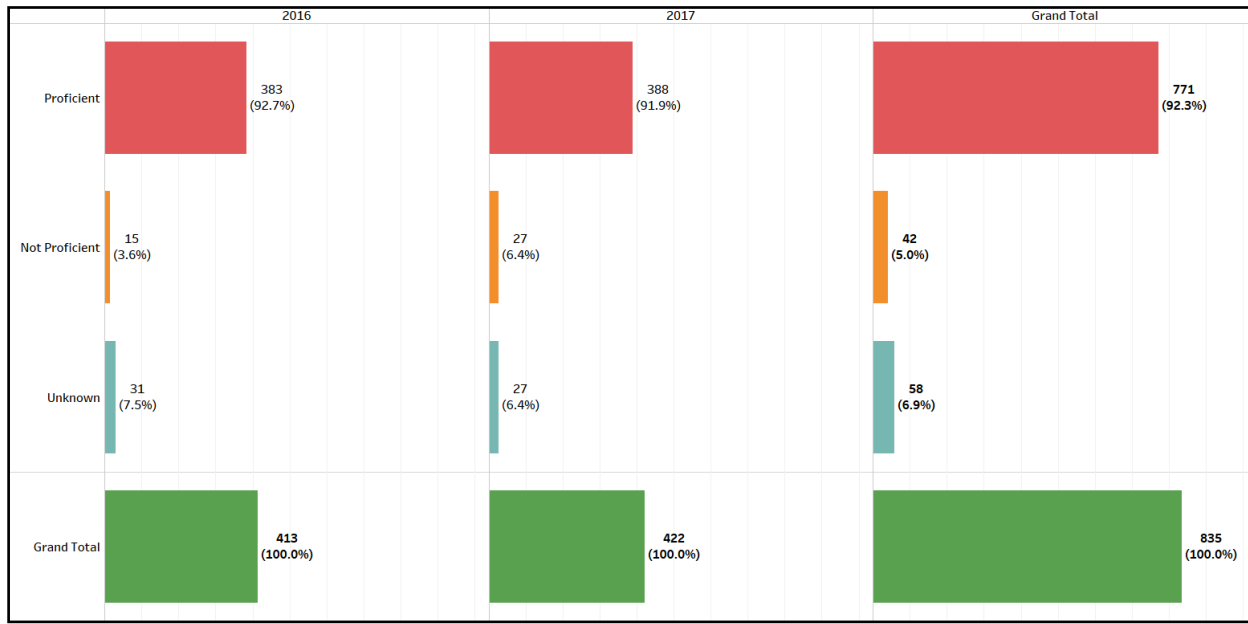
The data in Chart 18 show that individuals involved in use of force incidents are predominately male. It is important to note, however, that the percentage of female involved in use of force incidents increased from 15.5% in 2016 to 17.3% in 2017.

Chart 19: The Age Of Individuals Involved In Use of Force Incidents From 2015 To 2017



The data in Chart 19 indicate that individuals between the ages of 20 and 49 years of age comprise the majority of individuals in use of force incidents. Individuals between 20 and 49 years of age increased from 2016 to 2017.

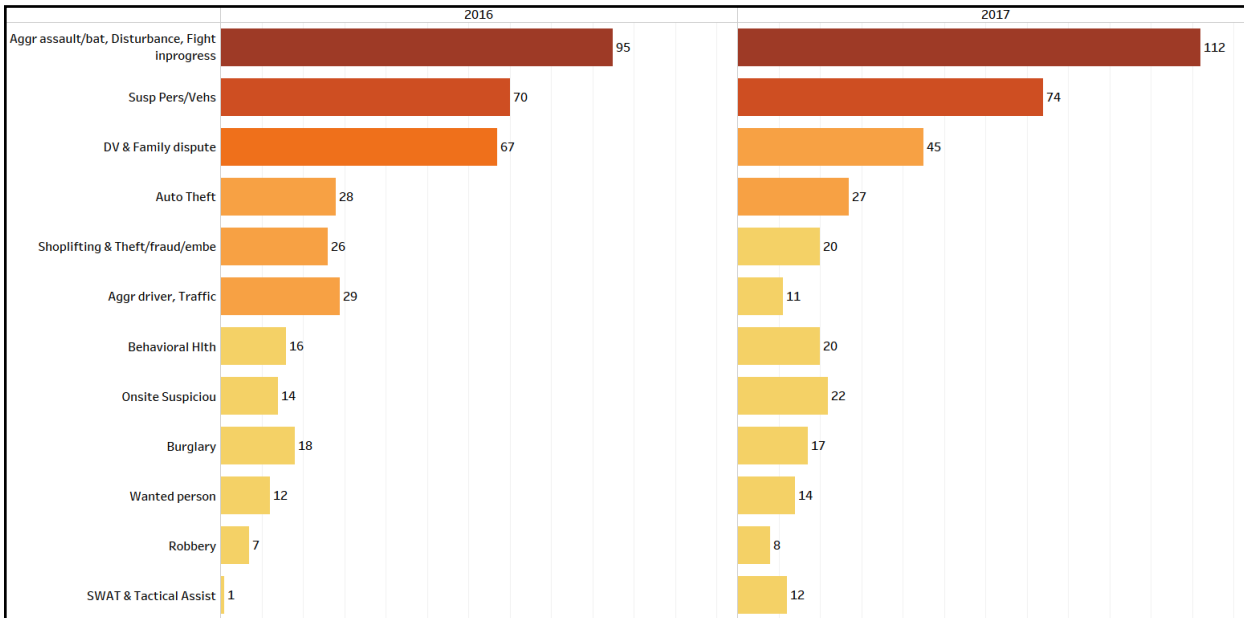
Chart 20: The English Proficiency Of Individuals Involved In Use of Force Incidents From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 20 show the number of individuals who were not proficient in English rose to 6.4% in 2017 from 3.6% in 2016. APD is evaluating the process that officers use to determine and record English proficiency.

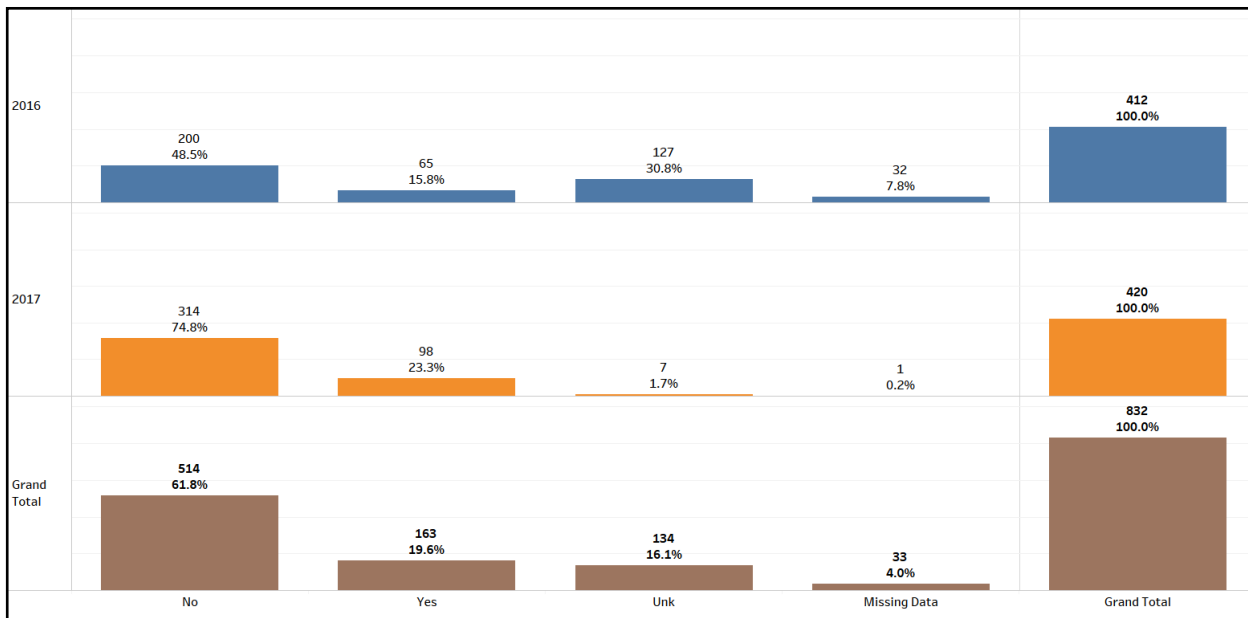
Section VI: Context And The Use Of Force

Chart 21: The Number of Use of Force Cases By Final CAD Call Description From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 21 show the number of use of force cases by the most common CAD final call type. Disturbances and fights were the highest category in both 2016 and 2017. Please note that CAD calls with less than 10 use of force incidents were omitted from this chart .

Chart 22: How Many Individuals Were Armed During Use of Force Cases From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 22 indicate that the number and percentage of individuals who were unarmed rose from 49% in 2016 to 75% in 2017. The number and percent of Use Of Force incidents with unknown or missing data declined from 2016 to 2017. Individuals were considered armed if they are carrying a firearm or edged weapon, or if they had an instrument or object in their hands and threatened or used it against an officer as a means of defense or attack.

Section VII: Use Of Force And Individuals Injured

Chart 23: The Number And Percentage of Cases With Individuals Injured During Use Of Force Cases From 2016 To 2017

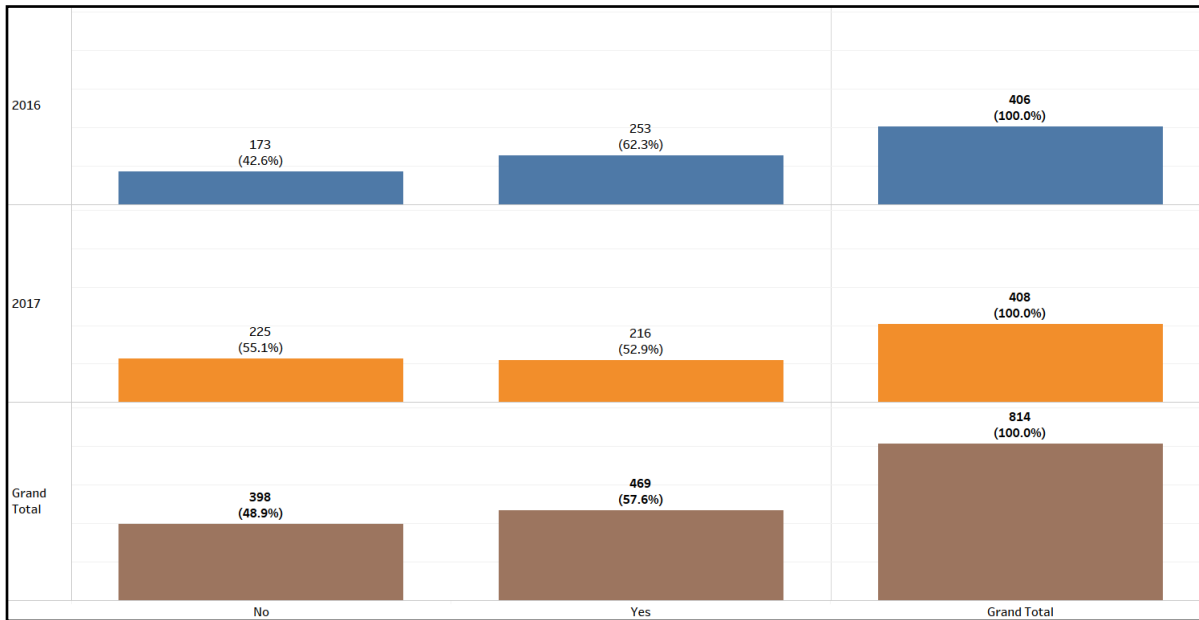


Chart 24: The Number And Percentage of Cases With Officers Injured During Use Of Force Cases From 2016 To 2017

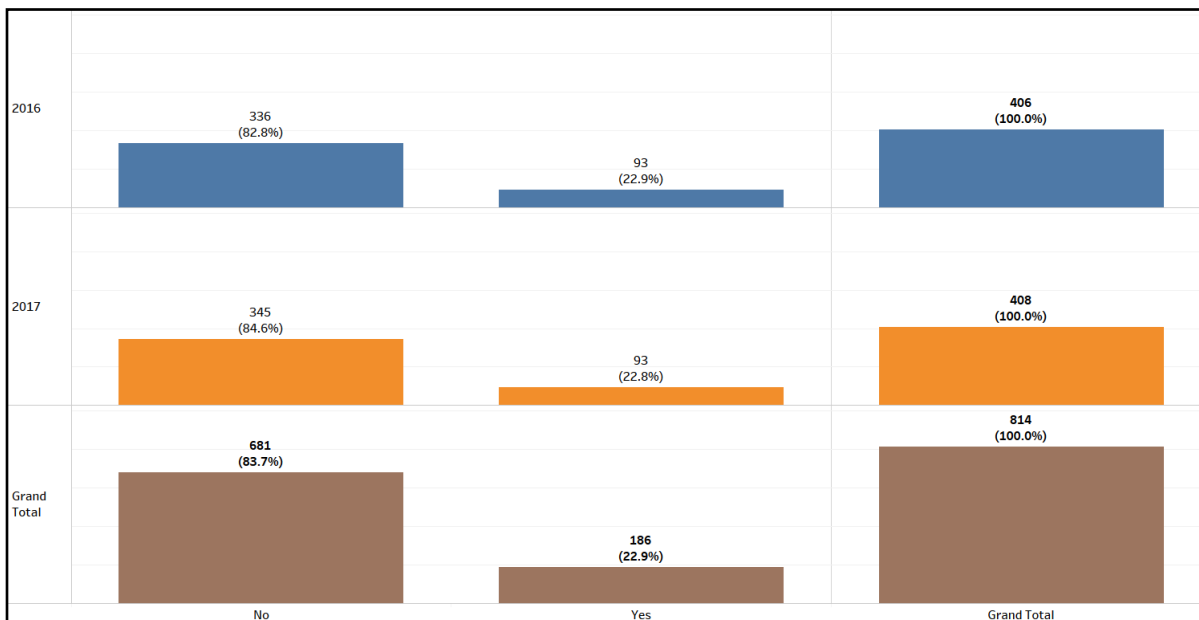


Chart 23 shows the number and percent of Use of Force cases in which an individual was injured decreased from 62.3% in 2016 to 52.9% in 2017. Chart 24 shows the number and percent of Use of Force Cases in which an officer was injured remained consistent at 23% for both years.

Chart 25: The Number And Percentage of Cases With Individuals Hospitalized During Use Of Force Cases From 2016 To 2017

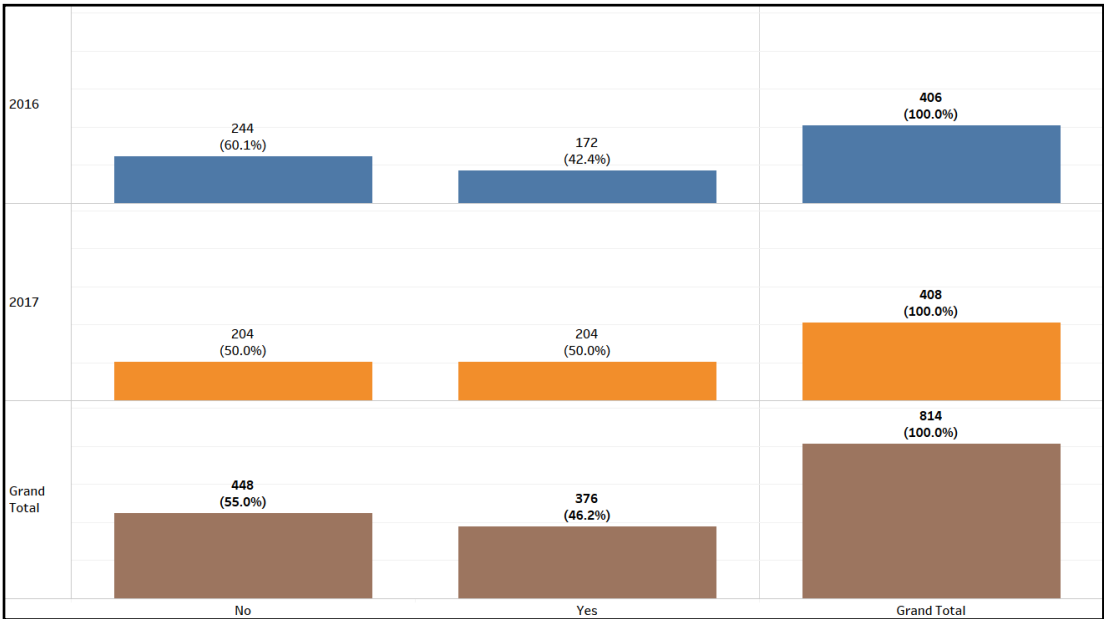


Chart 26: The Number And Percentage of Cases With Officers Hospitalized During Use Of Force Cases From 2016 To 2017

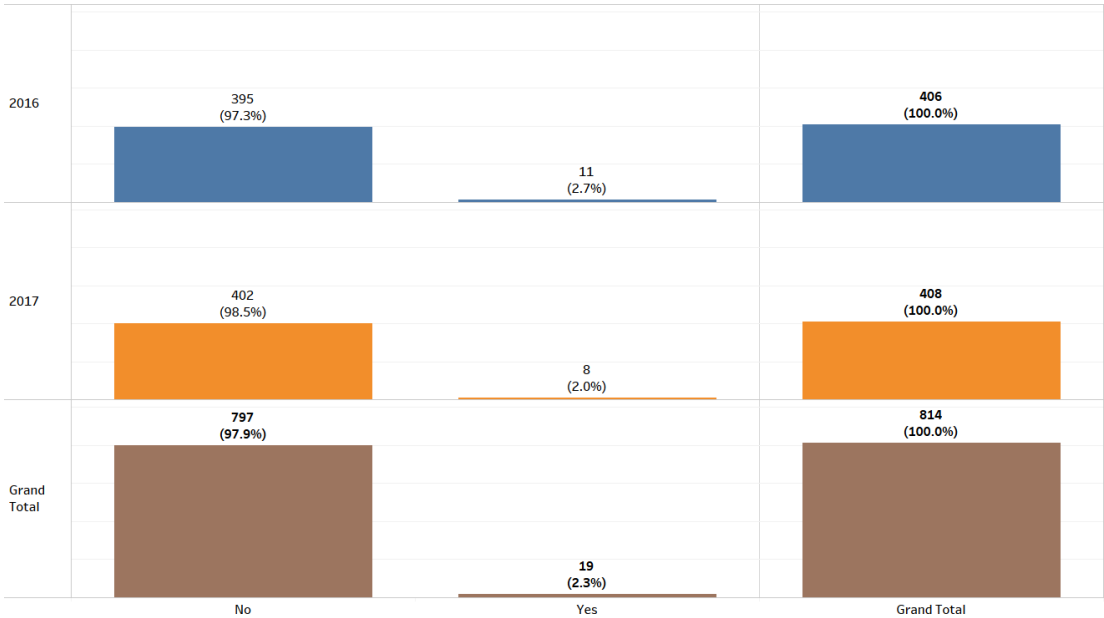


Chart 25 shows the number and percent of Use of Force cases in which an individual was hospitalized increased from 42.4% in 2016 to 50% in 2017. Chart 26 shows the number and percent of Use of Force Cases in which an officer was hospitalized decreased slightly from 2.7% in 2016 to 2% in 2017.

Individuals Injured During Use Of Force Incidents

Chart 27: The Number And Percentage of Cases With Officers Injured By Type of Force From 2016 To 2017

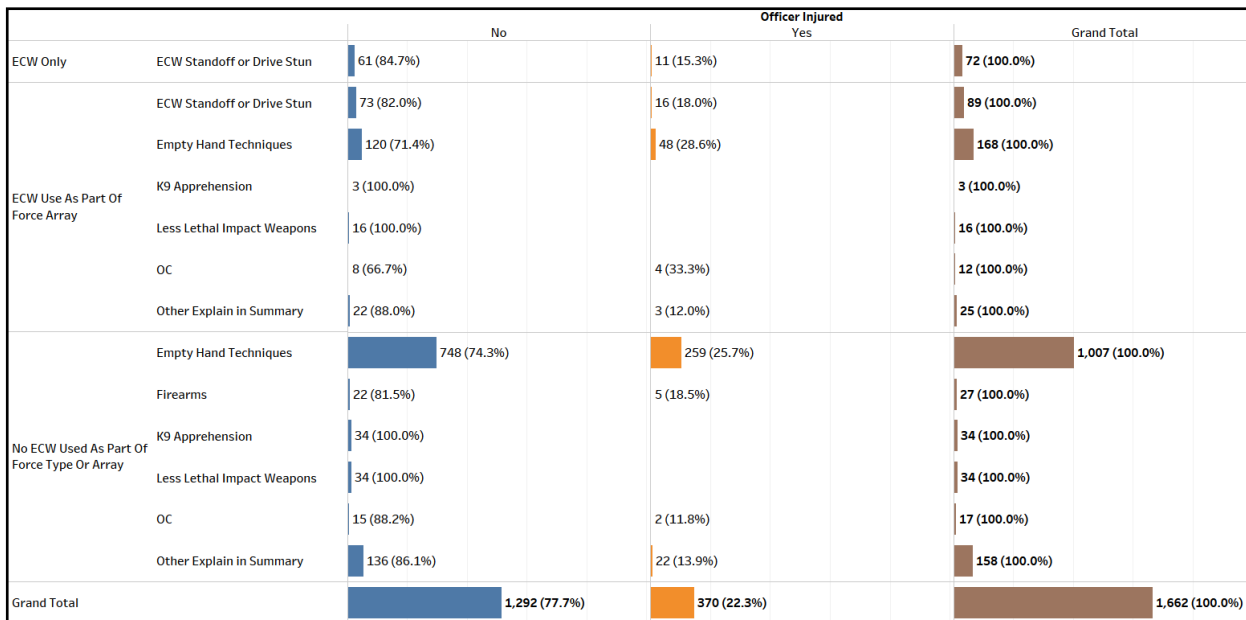
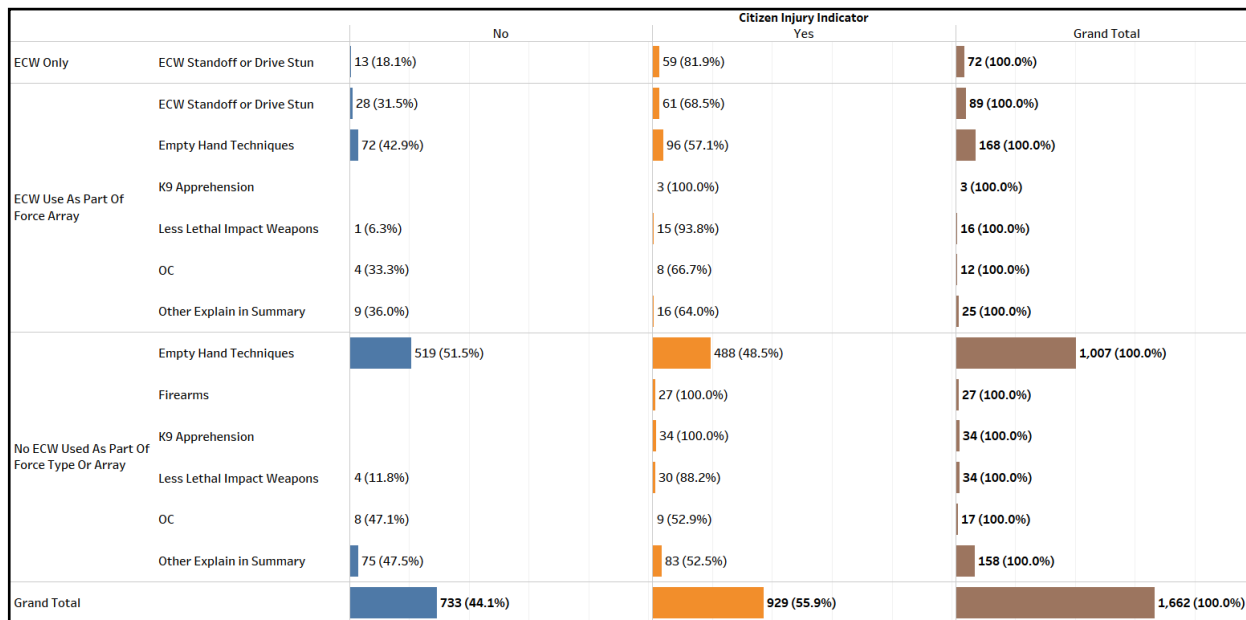


Chart 28: The Number And Percentage of Cases With Individuals Injured By Type of Force From 2016 To 2017



Officers Injured During Use Of Force Incidents

The data displayed in Chart 27 and Chart 28 relate to CASA Paragraph 38 which requires that APD track whether officer and subject injuries are affected by the rate of ECW use.

One way to conduct this analysis is by comparing officer and individual injuries by type of weapon used. For this analysis APD classified use of force incidents into three type of categories. The first category included use of force incidents in which only ECW's were used. The second category included use of force incidents in which ECW was one of the types deployed as part of the force array. The third category included use of force incidents which had no ECW use, either alone or as part of a force array.

The data in Chart 27 indicate that officers were injured in 15% of the Use of Force Cases in which ECW was the only type of force used. Officers were injured in 18% of the Use of Force cases when ECW was part of the force array. The data indicate that officer injuries accounted for a higher percentage in cases where Empty Hand Techniques and OC were used.

The data in Chart 28 indicate that individuals were injured in 81% of the Use Of Force Cases in which ECW was the only type of force used. Individuals were injured in 68% of the Use of Force Cases when ECW was part of the force array. The data indicate that a higher percentage of individuals were injured when K-9 apprehension bites occurred, or when less lethal impact weapons or firearms were used.

Section VIII: Geography And The Use Of Force

Map 1: The Location Of Use of Force Incidents From 2016 To 2017

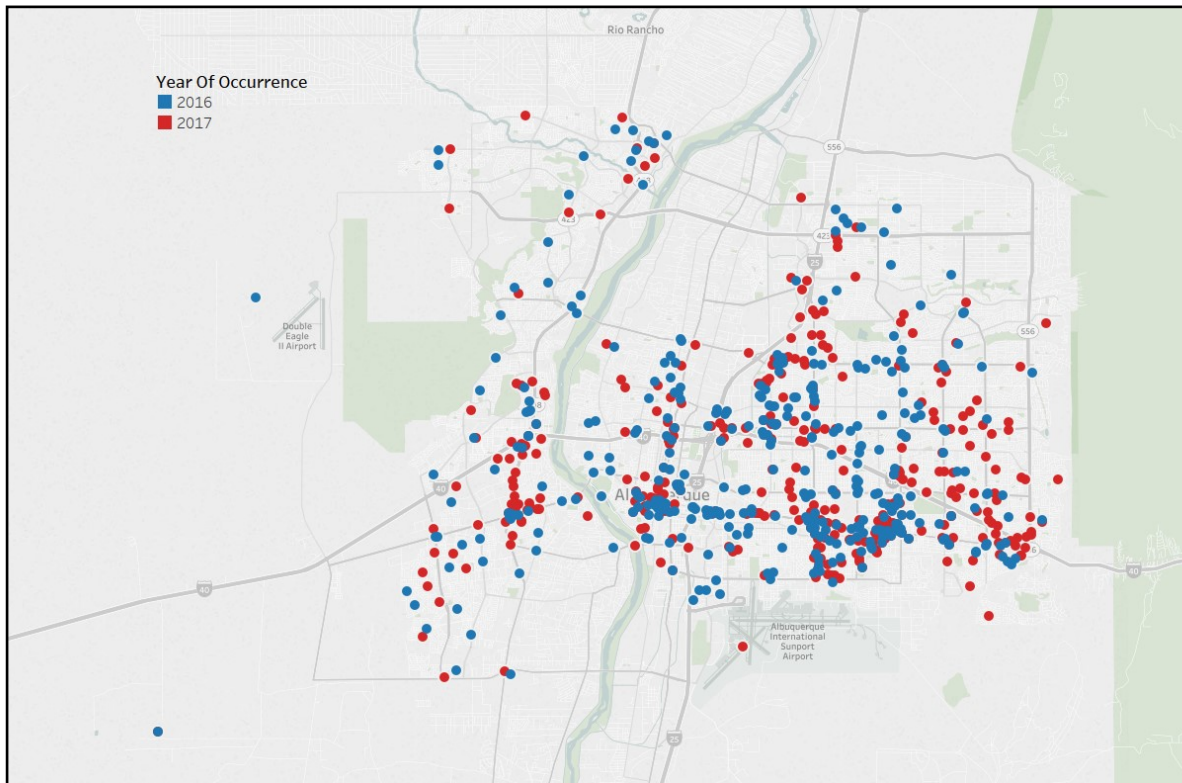
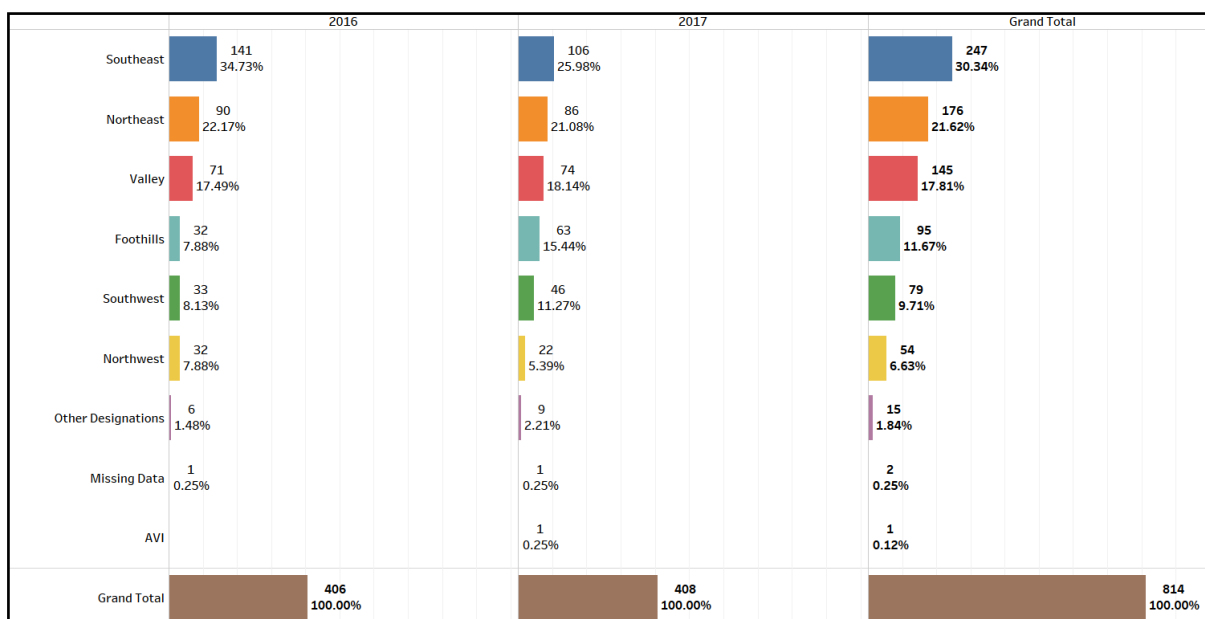
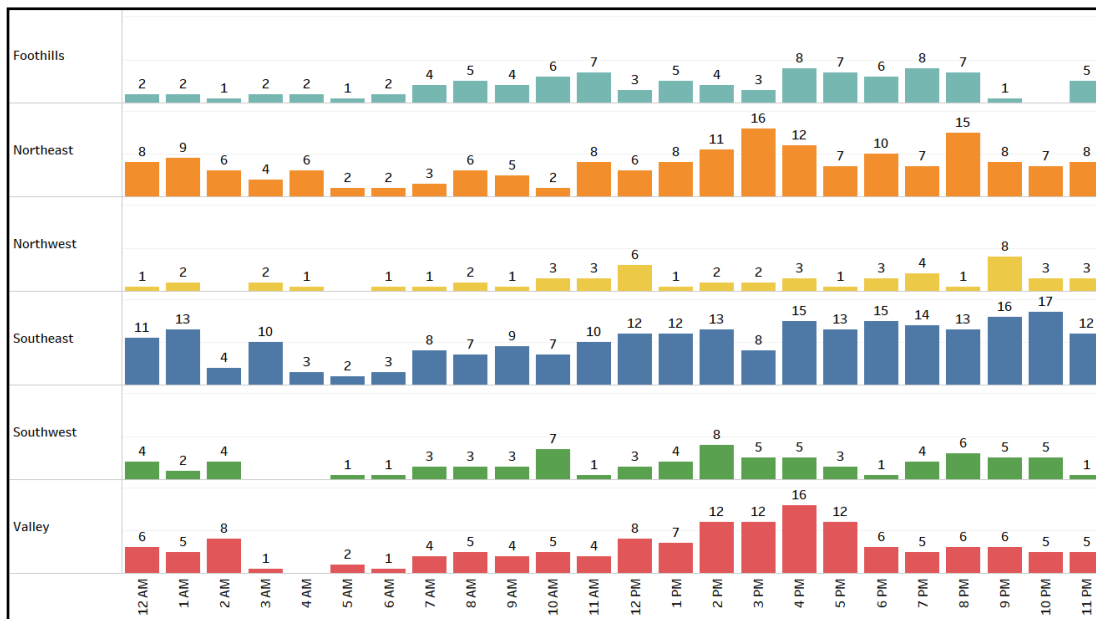


Chart 29: The Location Of Use of Force Incidents By Area Commands From 2016 To 2017



The data in Map 1 and Chart 29 provide two visualizations of where uses of force occur in Albuquerque. The map provides a geospatial display of each use of force case by year using the latitude and longitude associated with that case. These data indicate that use of force cases are concentrated in the southeast quadrant of the City and along the length of Central Avenue. The Southeast Area Command has consistently had the highest percentage of use of force cases with 35% in 2016 and 26% in 2017. Although the Southeast Area Command continued to have the higher percentage in 2017, four of the other Area Commands (Northeast, Valley, Foothills, and Southwest) have shown a steady increase in use of force cases from 2016 to 2017. The Northwest Area Command, in contrast, has shown a decline in use of force cases from almost 8% of the cases in 2016 to a little more than 5% of the cases in 2017.

Chart 30: The Time Of Use of Force Incidents By Area Commands From 2016 To 2017



The data in Chart 30 displays when Use of Force cases occur by time of day in the six Area Commands. Use of force cases start to increase around 11:00 AM and continue to rise into the afternoon, evening and early morning. 3:00 PM, 4:00 PM, 10:00 PM, and 1:00 AM seem to be peak times depending on the Area Command.

Section IX: Key Definitions

40 MM – Tactical launcher used for less lethal ammunition by trained department personnel.

Accidental Firearm Discharge – An unintended discharge, on-duty or off-duty, of any firearm by APD personnel outside of a training environment or legal recreational activity.

Animal - This is when a police officer discharges a firearm in the line of duty and an animal is struck as a result.

Area Command - Shall refer to police service areas of APD located throughout Albuquerque that are led through the chain of command by an Area Commander.

Armed - Individuals are considered armed if they are carrying a firearm or edged weapon, or if they had an instrument or object in their hands and threatened or used it against an officer as a means of defense or attack.

Arrest - Is the taking of one person into custody by another. To constitute arrest there must be an actual restraint of the person. The restraint may be imposed by force or may result from the submission of the person arrested to the custody of the one arresting the person. An arrest is a restraint of greater scope or duration than an investigatory stop or detention. An arrest is lawful when supported by probable cause.

Beanbag – Consists of a small fabric pillow which is filled with lead pellets and fired from a regular 12 gauge shotgun.

Bite Ratio - Calculation of the number of bite apprehensions divided by the total number of apprehensions for a given time period. For the purpose of this calculation, PSD bites will not include accidental or directed bites.

CADs – Computer Aided Dispatch. This is the incident number generated when an individual calls the non-emergency or emergency number for response from emergency services personnel.

Critical Firearm Discharge - Means a discharge of a firearm by an APD officer, including accidental discharges and discharges where no person is struck. Range and training firings, destruction of animals, and off-duty hunting discharges where no person is struck are not critical firearms discharges.

Cycle – The period during which electrical impulses are emitted from the ECW following activation. In most models, a standard cycle is 5 seconds for each activation. The duration of a cycle may be shortened by turning the ECW off but may be extended in certain models by continuing to pull the trigger.

Demographic Category - Means race, ethnicity, age, sex, gender expression or gender identity, sexual orientation, and limited English proficiency.

Display Handgun – Drawing and exhibiting a firearm as part of a warning tactic, typically accompanied by appropriate verbalization.

Display of Weapon - Drawing and exhibiting a weapon, to include firearm and ECW as part of a warning tactic, typically accompanied by appropriate verbalization.

ECW – Electronic Control Weapon, a weapon, including those manufactured by TASER International, designed primarily to discharge electrical charges into a subject that will cause involuntary muscle contractions and override the subject's voluntary motor responses.

ECW Arcing - Pulling the trigger to activate an ECW without discharging the probes. This may be done as a warning to the subject or to test the ECW prior to deployment (sometimes referred to as a spark test).

ECW Painting – The act of unholstering and pointing an ECW at a subject and activating the ECW's laser dot to show that the weapon is aimed at the subject.

ECW Drive Stun Mode – This action requires pulling the trigger and placing the ECW in direct contact with the subject, causing the electric energy to enter the subject directly. This mode is available with or without a cartridge in the device and with or without the probes being deployed.

ECW Standoff Mode - Deploying the probes by energizing the ECW with a live cartridge on the device that propels the probes towards the target and, upon effective contact, is intended to cause incapacitation.

EIS – The Early Intervention System is a management tool used to promote supervisory awareness and to proactively identify both potentially problematic and commendable behavior among officers.

Empty Hand Technique - Strikes, grabs, kicks, takedowns, distraction techniques and proper arrest techniques to control an actively resistant subject.

English Proficiency - Ability to use the English language to communicate meaning verbally and in writing.

Firearm - means a pistol, revolver, shotgun, carbine, or rifle, as well as any instrument capable of discharging a bullet or shot.

Firearm Discharge – When the trigger is pulled on a firearm and releases a projectile.

Force- Any application of physical techniques or use of tools listed, or any other means used to defend, restrain, overcome, or otherwise gain physical control of a person.

Force Array – Any physical means used to defend the officer or others, restrain, overcome resistance, or otherwise gain physical control of an individual.

Gender - Refers to the attitudes, feelings, and behaviors that a given culture associates with a person's biological sex. Behaviors that are viewed as incompatible with these cultural associations may be considered gender non-conformity. For purposes of entering information in a database, a subject's gender is determined based on an officer's perception and observations, which may or may not be verified with information displayed on the subject's government, Non-Governmental Organization or company identification card or through self-identification. In this context, subjects may be categorized as either male or female.

Gender Expression –The way in which a person expresses their gender identity, typically through their appearance, dress, and behavior.

Hand/Feet Impact – An action taken by an officer as part of an empty hand distraction technique in order to control a subject.

Impact Weapon – Tools or munitions that are specifically designed to incapacitate an individual but are less likely to cause death or serious physical injury than other conventional lethal options.

Less Lethal force - Means a force application not intended or expected to cause death or serious injury and which is commonly understood to have less potential for causing death or serious injury than conventional, more lethal police tactics. Use of less lethal force can nonetheless result in death or serious injury.

Lethal Force - Means any use of force likely to cause death or serious physical injury, including the use of a firearm, neck hold, or strike to the head, neck, or throat with a hard object.

NFDD – Noise Flash Diversion Device often commonly known as a flash-bang or stun grenade used to temporarily disorient individuals.

OC - Oleoresin Capsicum is an inflammatory agent. With proper use, it is meant to assist officers in the control of actively resistant subjects.

OC Fogger - Non-lethal pepper spray fog that evaporates instead of leaving a residue behind. It is optimized for riot control in confined areas.

OC Spray - A temporarily disabling aerosol that is composed partly of capsicum oleoresin and causes irritation and blinding of the eyes and inflammation of the nose, throat, and skin.

OC Vapor - Non-flammable vapor is designed to primarily affect a person's respiratory system. Ideal for cell extractions or barricade situations where the use of pyrotechnic, powder or liquid devices is not practical or desired.

Officer - Means any law enforcement agent employed by or volunteering for APD, including supervisors and reserve officers.

Open Hand Technique— An empty-hand technique used by an officer utilizing a reduced level of power with the specific intent to separate the attacker's mind from body and break their focus. When effective, this technique creates time for the officer to react and allow them to transition to another tool or technique in order to gain control or disengage and create distance. Examples include, but are not limited to, open hand strikes, elbow strikes, knee strikes, and kicks.

Out of Area – Any area outside the normal APD response area.

PSD – Police Service Dog (Also known as K-9/Canine).

Probe Deployment - Pulling the trigger to release the probes from the cartridge to make contact with the subject and achieve neuromuscular incapacitation.

Race/Ethnicity - Race and ethnicity are combined into one category for purposes of entering information into a database. A individual's race/ethnicity is determined based on an officer's initial perception and observations, which may or may not be verified with information displayed on the individual's identification cards or through self-identification.

Serious Use of Force - Means: (1) all uses of lethal force by an APD officer; (2) all critical firearm discharges by an APD officer; (3) all uses of force by an APD officer resulting in serious physical injury or requiring hospitalization; (4) all head, neck, and throat strikes with an object or neck holds; (5) all uses of force by an APD officer resulting in a loss of consciousness; (6) all canine bites; (7) more than two applications of an ECW on an individual during a single interaction, regardless of the mode or duration of the application, and regardless of whether the applications are by the same or different officers, or an ECW application for longer than 15 seconds, whether continuous or consecutive; (8) any strike, blow, kick, ECW application, or similar use of force against a handcuffed subject; and (9) more than three strikes with a baton.

Show of Force - Means pointing a firearm, beanbag shotgun, or 40 millimeter launcher at a subject or using an ECW to "paint" a subject with the laser sight.

SWAT – Special Weapons and Tactics considered to be a Specialized Tactical Unit within the department.

Tactical Deployment – Specialized Tactical Units involved in a threat to public safety or high risk situations are brought into effective action.

Takedowns – Solo – The act of a single officer bringing a subject to the ground by utilizing a hands on approach in order to gain control of the subject.

Takedowns – Team – The act of more than one officer bringing a subject to the ground by utilizing a hands on approach in order to gain control of the subject.

Taser – A brand of an electronic control weapon used by APD officers.

Uniform Crime Reports – Part I - In Part I, the UCR indexes reported incidents of index crimes which are broken into two categories: violent and property crimes. Aggravated assault, forcible rape, murder, and robbery are classified as violent while arson, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft are classified as property crimes.

Uniform Crime Reports – Part II - In Part II, the following categories are tracked: simple assault, curfew offenses and loitering, embezzlement, forgery and counterfeiting, disorderly conduct, driving under the influence, drug offenses, fraud, gambling, liquor offenses, offenses against the family, prostitution, public drunkenness, runaways, sex offenses, stolen property, vandalism, vagrancy, and weapons offenses.

Use of Force - Means physical effort to compel compliance by an unwilling subject above unresisted handcuffing, including pointing a firearm at a person.