



The Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board

Public Board Meeting
March 27, 2024
For Information

Report of the Chief of Police

2023 Use of Force Annual Report

1. Recommendation

That the Board receive this report pursuant to Use of Force Board Policy No. 01/14.

2. Purpose

As per the Board's Use of Force Policy No. 01/14, the 2023 annual use of force statistics are contained within this report and provided to the Board for their information.

3. Background

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW OF USE OF FORCE

In Ontario, police officers are authorized by the *Criminal Code of Canada (Code)* to use reasonable force as necessary while carrying out their lawful duties. Section 25 of the *Code* grants officers the authority to use force based on reasonable grounds. Additionally, Regulation 926 of the *Police Services Act* outlines the types of firearms and weapons officers are permitted to carry; alongside mandatory training requirements for the use of force and firearms. These regulations also mandate when officers shall report use of force.

Commencing on January 1, 2020, the *Anti-Racism Act* mandated police services to collect data on the perceived race of individuals involved in use of force incidents. To comply with this requirement, all Ontario Police Agencies are obligated to electronically submit standardized Use of Force Reports for centralized collection by the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

On July 7, 2023, the Ministry of the Solicitor General's Public Safety Division notified all Ontario Police Agencies of the approved Ontario Public-Police Interactions Training Aid to replace the 2004 Ontario Use of Force Model. This training aid prioritizes cooperative police-public interactions grounded in de-escalation strategies and procedural justice principles. The York Regional Police Training and Education Bureau's Practical Skills Unit immediately adopted this procedure, providing support to members through the transition. Support included access to various training resources such as:

The Ministry's Ontario Public-Police Interactions Training Aid graphic and framework document, in-class familiarization sessions, updates to the York Regional Police Use of Force Procedure AI 012/AI 014, and the replacement of all 2004 Ontario Use of Force Model graphics and reference materials to align with the new Training Aid graphic.

MANDATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

When an officer has displayed or applied force that meets mandatory reporting regulations in Ontario, they are required to complete and submit an electronic Use of Force Report. When multiple officers are involved in the same incident and have utilized reportable force, each officer must submit individual reports. A single incident involving multiple officers may result in several Use of Force reports being submitted for the same incident.

Under the Ministry submission guideline, Emergency Response Units and Public Order Units have the option to submit a single electronic Use of Force Report, documenting the collective use of force by their respective teams.

A member shall submit a Use of Force Report when:

- (a) a handgun is drawn in the presence of a member of the public, excluding a member of the police force who is on duty, points a firearm at a person or discharges a firearm. A member of the public includes a suspect or arrested person;
- (b) a member uses a weapon that is not a firearm on another person;
- (c) a member uses physical force on another person, not in relation to training conducted by the Training and Education Bureau, that results in an injury requiring medical attention; and
- (d) a member deploys a Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) on a person or an animal or displays the CEW in the Demonstrated Force Presence Mode.

Upon completion of the electronic Use of Force Report by an officer, their direct supervisor is responsible for reviewing the report to ensure accuracy. Subsequently, the supervisor forwards the electronic report to their respective District or Bureau Commander and the Practical Skills Unit Training Analyst. The Training Analyst conducts a thorough review of the report and ensures the timely submission to the Ministry of the Solicitor General, maintaining the highest data accuracy and integrity standards.

Data from all Use of Force reports is then reviewed by the Use of Force Review Committee. The committee is chaired by the Officer in Charge of the Training and Education Bureau, and

is comprised of essential personnel including a Staff Sergeant, Sergeant, and Training Analyst from the Practical Skills Unit, a member of the Real-Time Operations Centre, a Sergeant from the Risk Management Unit, and a Patrol Sergeant. The Use of Force Review Committee convenes quarterly, critically reviewing the information gathered from all Use of Force reports to monitor and address potential biases, trends, or training needs, while upholding the privacy and protection of individuals involved.

VALIDATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

In 2023 York Regional Police began working collaboratively with the Ontario Police College and the Ministry of the Solicitor General to improve on data validation procedures and transparency with respect to our organization's application of force.

This partnership is the first of its kind, placing York Regional Police in the unique position of accessing the organization's use of force data directly from the Ministry of the Solicitor General after it has been reviewed and verified by Ministry personnel.

Once received, the data is again reviewed and analyzed by members of York Regional Police Business Intelligence Unit and by members of the Training and Education Bureau to collaborate, compile, and retain the data for all service-wide Use of Force Reports. Those members then conduct a joint validation process before the data is presented to Bureau Commanders and other internal stakeholders.

It is only after this robust validation and review process, that our use of force data set provided by the Ministry of the Solicitor General is utilized to produce this report. York Regional Police takes pride in the additional steps taken to ensure accuracy and transparency in recording methodologies used to submit and report on the organization's application of force. York Regional Police is a leader in collaboration efforts with the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

The Training and Education Bureau compiles and retains data collected from all service-wide Use of Force Reports. As of January 1, 2020, the information has also been used to identify, monitor and address potential racial bias or profiling; while maintaining the privacy and protection of any individuals included. This report focuses on mandatory use of force reporting and its associated data. In accordance with the *Anti-Racism Act*, this report also examines the intersectionality of the application of force and race.

TRAINING

De-escalation & Critical Decision-making

York Regional Police members are provided with use of force training, beginning during the Cadet-in-Training Program. During this time, members are introduced to the Public-Police Interactions Training Aid, use of force options and de-escalation training. Cadets receive further training at the Ontario Police College, also with an emphasis on communication and de-escalation. Upon completing Basic Constable Training at the Ontario Police College, York Regional Police members receive ongoing use of force training through the Re-Classification

Training Program and annual in-service training. This training is mandatory for all members, with themes of critical decision-making, de-escalation and communication as the foundation for the curriculum. Re-Classification training provides members with crisis intervention skills, focusing on de-escalation of persons-in-crisis, including effective communication, barriers to communication and implicit bias training. Members also receive information in relation to police inquests and lessons learned in the application of force.

All York Regional Police members are provided with a decision-making model, which they receive as part of the Incident Command Training Program. This training provides members with the ability to process decisions based on current situations, risk effectiveness and acceptability with respect to legal authorities, civil liability and moral acceptability. The priority of life in any situation or citizen encounter is always the number one goal in mind. This model ensures members have a consistent decision-making process to accompany them during all duties, including use of force incidents.

Anti-racism training

In 2023, York Regional Police continued to provide members with ongoing anti-racism training. York Regional Police has developed a multi-year anti-racism strategy, first implemented in 2020. This multi-year program focuses on several areas.

Phase one concentrates on the Ontario Human Rights Commission's "Call it out" racial discrimination and human rights course. Phase two focuses on anti-racism in York Region with the theme of "Our People & Our Community". York Regional Police partnered with Dr. Lorne Foster and associates to develop a customized anti-racism program to develop phase three, which focuses on in-class sessions with a strong emphasis on community collaboration in the design and delivery of training. The in-class pilot began in 2024 and will continue to be delivered to all members of York Regional Police.

In 2022, York Regional Police established an Indigenous Training Working Group to design and develop mandatory Indigenous Awareness Training for all York Regional Police members. This training framework aligns with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action – Professional Development and Training for Public Servants. In addition to formal training, York Regional Police regularly calls upon speakers and community leaders to deliver content to members on the topics of equity, diversity and inclusion.

Community Engagement & Consultation

In 2022, York Regional Police engaged community members to develop a way to enhance transparency and accountability in reporting Use of Force Annual Reports. York Regional Police formed a community liaison committee dedicated to reviewing and providing feedback in the areas of training, use of force reporting and recruitment practices. The committee is comprised of racialized community members, indigenous peoples, members of the LGBTQ2s+ community and leaders from organizations that support vulnerable community members. Committee members were provided with education in the area of use of force training and guidelines on use of force reporting.

4. Analysis

USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS VS. TOTAL INTERACTIONS

In 2023, members of York Regional Police engaged in 429,844 interactions with the public, marking an increase from the 401,400 interactions recorded in 2022. These interactions included call types such as, traffic stops, citizen-generated calls for service, and officer-initiated calls. Out of total interactions with the public, 265 individual incidents led to use of force by police accounting for 0.0616% of all police interactions requiring a mandatory use of force report. A slight increase from 2022, which stood at 0.050%.

While 265 incidents resulted in police using force, 421 Use of Force reports were generated by police officers. It is important to note that a use of force incident refers to any occurrence, event, or interaction with the public that generates mandatory use of force reporting. A single incident involving one subject could generate two or more reports if multiple officers applied force during the same incident. Similarly, an incident involving multiple subjects could also generate multiple Use of Force Reports.

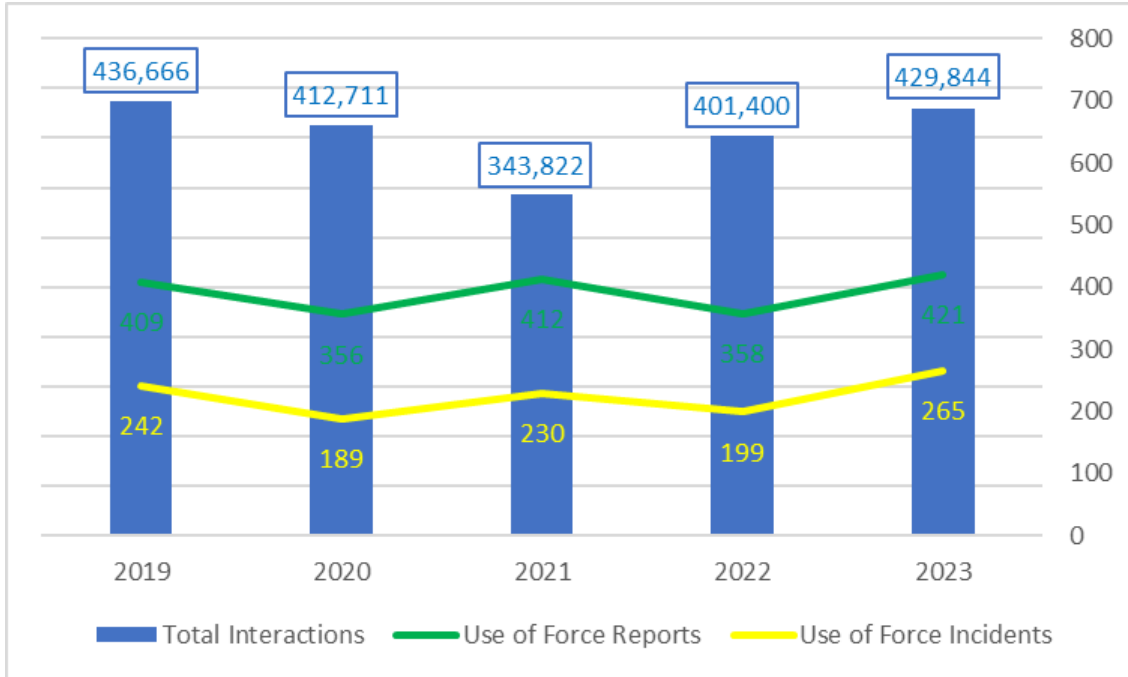
In 2023, York Regional Police observed a notable 33.17% increase in use of force incidents. This increase can be attributed to several factors. The first possible factor was an increase of 28,087 police interactions, representing a 7% increase from 2022. Additionally, there was an increase in the types of calls that officers responded to that necessitated the application of reportable force. These included, search warrant execution, weapons-related calls, domestic disputes, robberies, and suicide attempts. Finally, there was a significant increase to the number of use of force incidents where officers encountered armed subjects. These incidents increased from 82 in 2022 to 151 in 2023, representing an 84.15% increase.

In 2022, 401,400 police interactions resulted in 199 individual use of force incidents, meaning 0.050% of all police interactions involved mandatory use of force reporting. Three hundred and fifty-eight Use of Force Reports were generated by police officers.

Use of force incidents have notably increased, by 33.17% in 2023; however, Use of Force Reports increased marginally by 15.10%. The total number of use of force incidents in 2023 sits above the five-year average of 225 use of force incidents per year.

A five-year comparison of the total number of incidents where Use of Force Reports were submitted is illustrated in Figure #1.

Figure #1
USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS VS. TOTAL INTERACTIONS



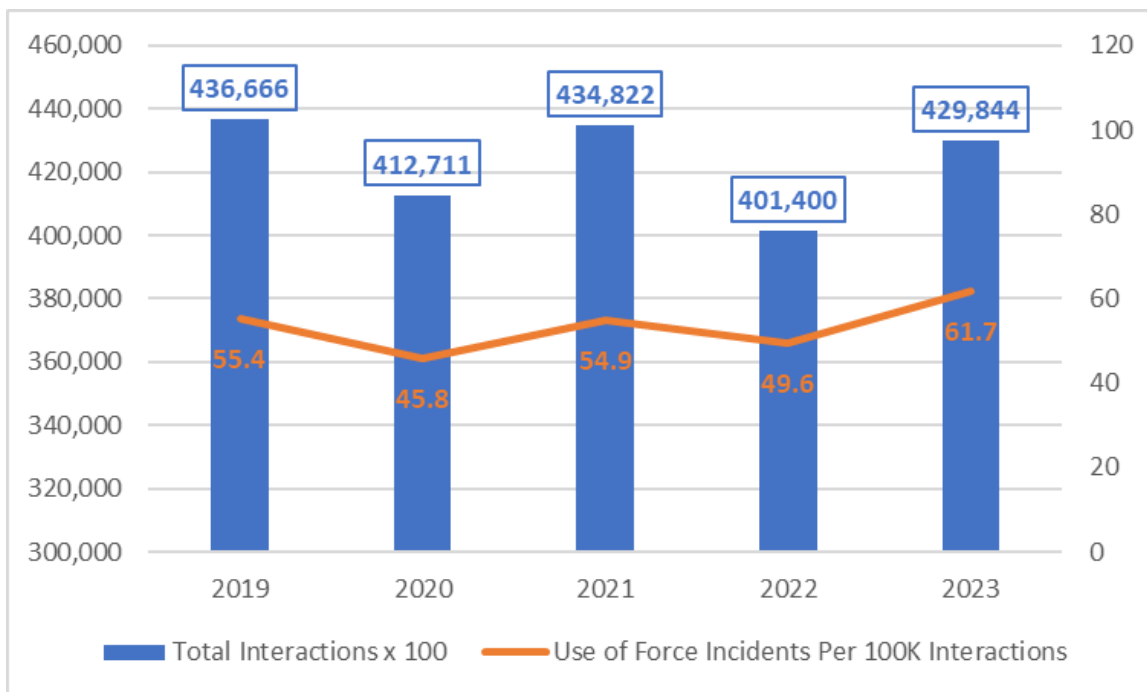
USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS PER 100,000 INTERACTIONS

In 2023, there were 61.7 use of force incidents per 100,000 interactions, demonstrating a significant increase from 2022, with 49.6 incidents per 100,000 interactions. This signifies a notable rise in the frequency of police interactions and the prevalence of encountering subjects who were armed with weapons, resulting in the use of police force.

Compared to trends over the past five years, incident rates in 2023 remains within a comparable range. The detailed trend analysis depicted in Figure #2 illustrates the fluctuations in the use of force incidents per 100,000 interactions over the specified period. Despite the increase in 2023, the overall trend indicates that the incident rate per 100,000 interactions remains consistent with the five-year average of 51.62 incidents per 100,000.

Figure #2

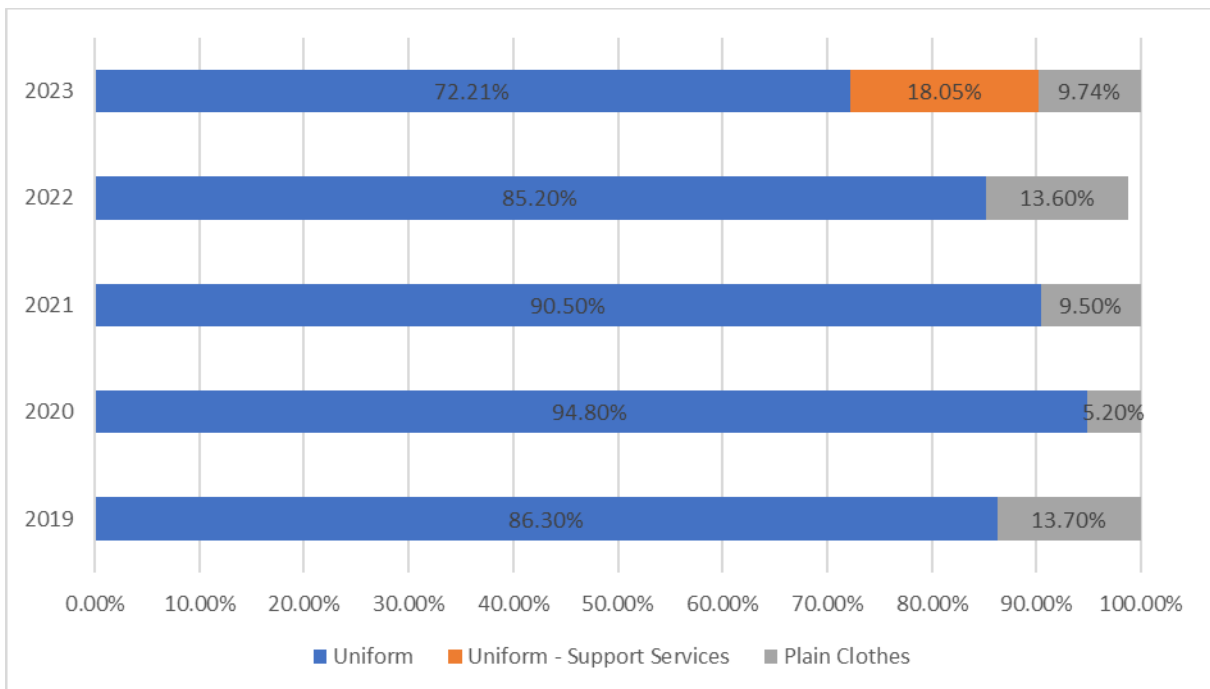
USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS PER 100,000 INTERACTIONS



UNIFORM OFFICER VS. PLAIN CLOTHES OFFICERS

In 2023, York Regional Police further sub-divided frontline uniform officers assigned to Support Services, to include members of the Emergency Response Unit, Public Order Unit, and non-uniformed officers assigned to specialized units, to enhance the transparency reflected by the Ministry's modernized Use of Force Report. In 2023, 72.21% of all Use of Force Reports were submitted by uniform officers, followed by 18.05% submitted by officers in Support Services. The remaining 9.74% use of force reports were submitted by officers assigned to Investigative Services as plain clothes officers.

Figure #3
UNIFORM OFFICER, UNIFORM SUPPORT SERVICES, PLAIN CLOTHES OFFICERS

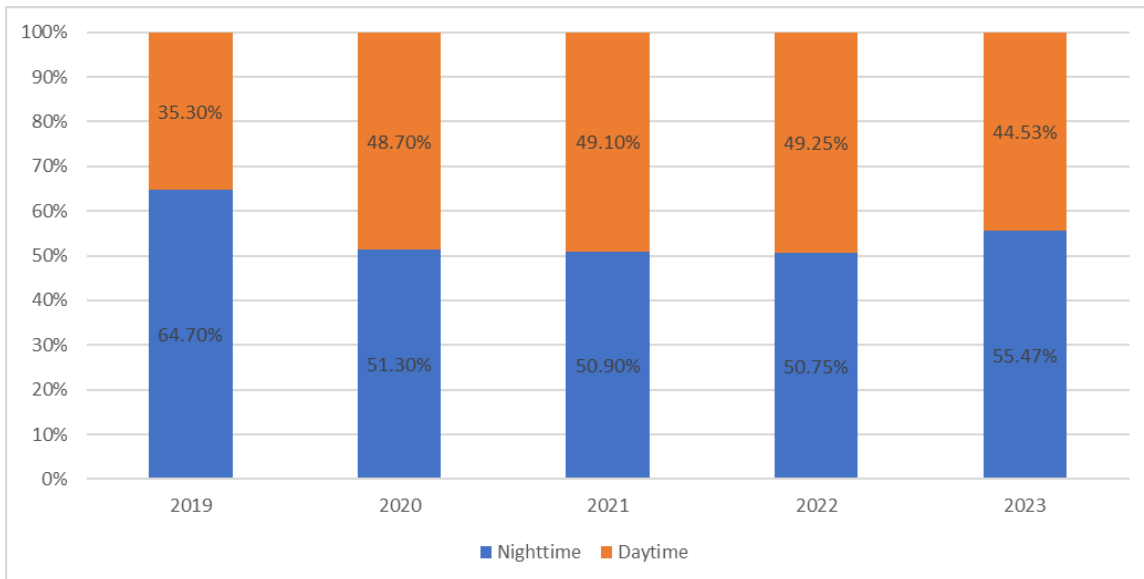


NIGHTTIME VS. DAYTIME

This data remained consistent with the five-year trend. Police use of force is evenly distributed between Nighttime and Daytime. In 2023, 55.47% of the use of-force incidents occurred during nighttime hours, and 44.53% occurred during daytime hours.

Figure #4

NIGHTTIME VS. DAYTIME



CALL TYPES

Consistent with previous years, there were a wide range of call types resulting in use of force incidents in 2023. Notably, citizen-generated calls for service represented the majority of call types, accounting for 92.83% of incidents. These calls, were initiated by a member of the public, requesting an officer's attendance. This highlights the role played by citizen interactions that shape police attendance. In addition, information relayed to police dispatchers by citizens can significantly influence the level of response. Citizen reports of ongoing robberies or assaults signal potential threats posed by subjects, including the use of weapons or other behaviour which poses a significant risk to the safety of the public and officers.

Community feedback emphasized the importance of a comprehensive catalogue of all call types that resulted in the submission of a Use of Force Report. This is illustrated in Table #1, as well as in a more comprehensive list attached in Appendix A. This exhaustive list facilitates a greater understanding of the varied contexts causing use of force incidents. While calls involving weapons remained a primary catalyst for such incidents, a decline in reports linked to domestic disputes and person-in-crisis call types may suggest the efficacy of on-going training initiatives focused on crisis intervention, communication and de-escalation techniques, and critical decision-making skills among officers. Despite a rise in

use of force incidents in 2023, these efforts aim to minimize the intensity of confrontational encounters focusing on effective communication, and enhancing officer and community safety. This is reflective in the drastic decrease of subject and officer injury in 2023 compared to previous five-year trend.

Table #1
TYPE OF CALL

Type of Call	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022-2023 Variance
ASSAULT	7	6	3	7	133%
CHECK WELFARE	2	1	6	2	-400%
DOMESTIC DISPUTES	14	24	15	21	40%
PERSON IN CRISIS	12	10	11	6	-45.5%
ROBBERY: CAR/HOME/COMMERICAL/STREET	8	3	12	17	41.6%
UNKNOWN TROUBLE	5	7	2	7	250%
WARRANT EXECUTION	1	1	2	20	900%
WEAPONS CALL	51	58	43	60	39.5%
TOTAL CALLS RESULTED IN UOF	189	230	199	265	33.17%

NOTE: See Appendix A for a comprehensive list for all types of call resulted in police use of force.

WEAPON CALL TYPES

Members draw their firearms when it is necessary to safeguard themselves or the public from imminent threat of serious bodily harm or death. Incidents involving use of force commonly arise as a response to situations involving weapons, where individuals are believed to be armed, a weapon is implicated, or the presence of a weapon is anticipated due to the nature of the call.

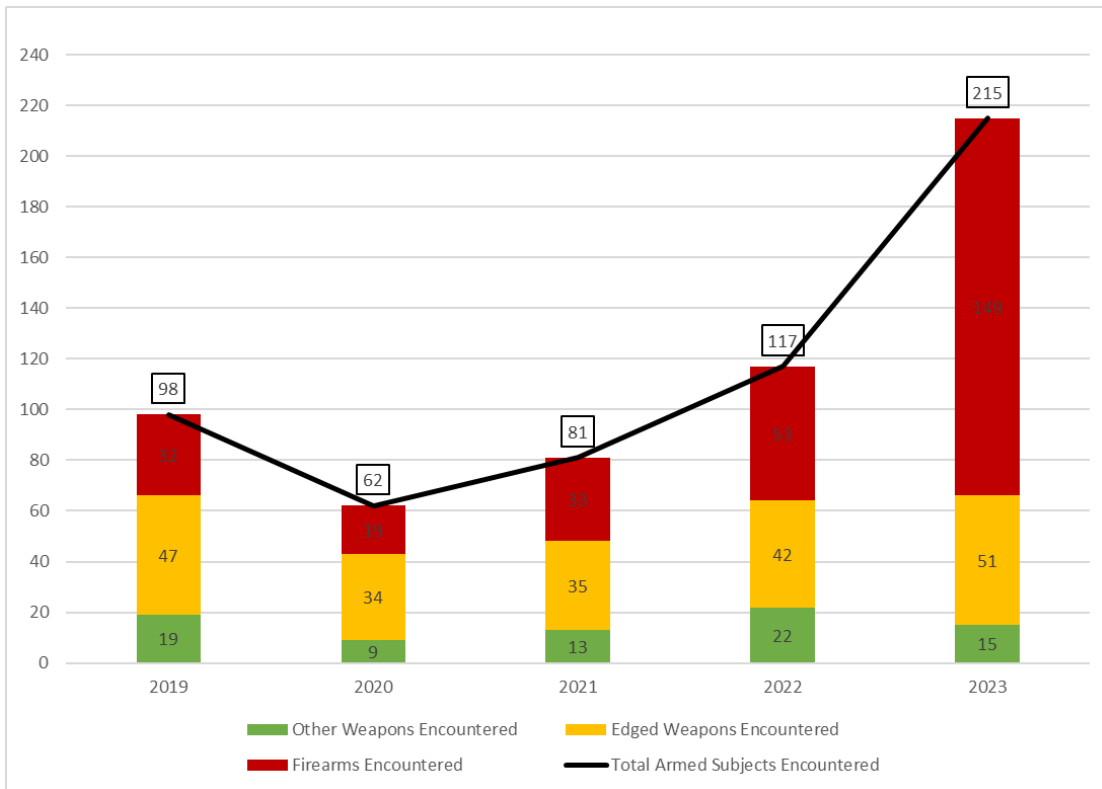
Beginning in 2022 and extending beyond 2023, there has been a concerted effort to bolster training in de-escalation techniques and team tactics aimed at minimizing risks to the public, subjects and officers.

INCIDENTS WITH ARMED SUBJECTS

In 2023, a substantial increase was observed in interactions involving subjects armed or perceived to be armed with firearms. Of the 265 use of force incidents, 92 (34.71%) incidents involved firearms, 46 (17.35%) incidents involved edged weapons, 9 (3.39%) incidents

involved blunt force objects as weapons, and 4 (1.50%) incidents where vehicles were used as weapons. Overall, this marked a substantial increase of officers encountering armed subjects from the previous year. 56% of all use of force incidents involved an armed subject, compared to 41% in 2022. Figure #5 illustrates the type of weapon carried by the armed subjects.

Figure #5
INCIDENTS WITH ARMED SUBJECTS

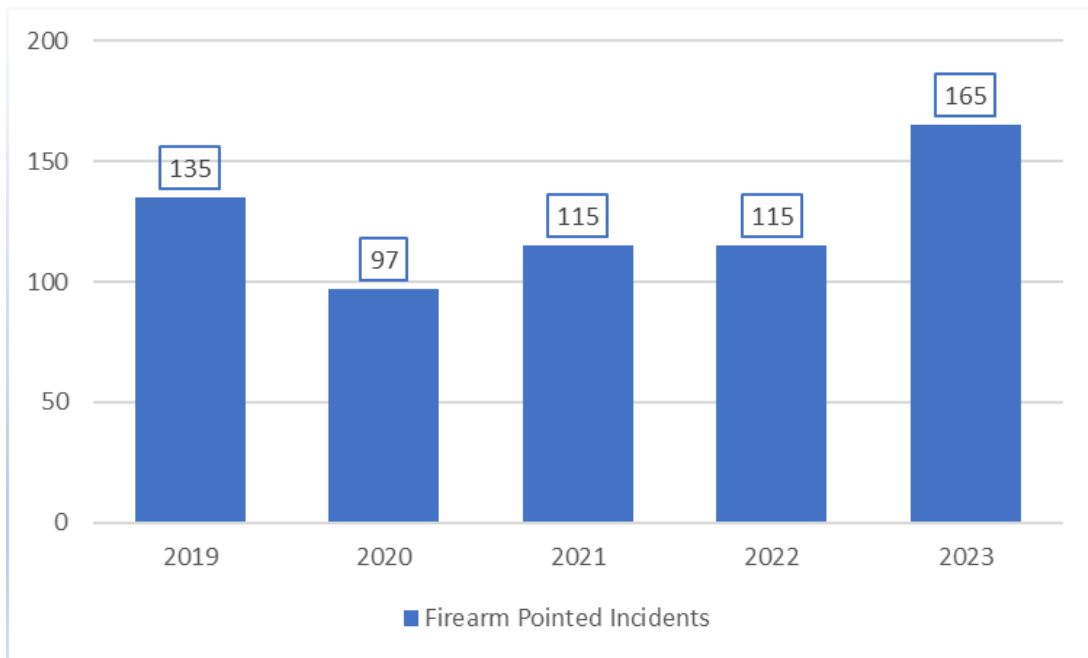


USE OF FORCE OPTIONS

Point Firearm

In 2023, out of 421 Use of Force Reports, 165 included incidents where officers drew and pointed their firearms at a subject. Figure #6A illustrates the vast majority of incident resulting in officers de-escalating situations and applying strategies effectively with a demonstration of force, not having to discharge their firearms.

Figure #6A
POINT FIREARM BY POLICE



Discharge of Firearm

In 2023, York Regional Police tended to 429,844 calls for service. Out of these incidents, two included the discharge of a firearm, one resulting in one fatality and one subject being uninjured. Both incidents resulted in investigations by the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). The SIU is an independent civilian police oversight agency in the province of Ontario. The SIU is responsible for investigating police conduct resulting in serious injury, death, the discharge of a firearm at a person, or an allegation of sexual assault. Both incidents are still under investigation by the SIU. By comparison in 2022, York Regional Police discharged a firearm during five incidents resulting in injury of one subject, and the death of four subjects.

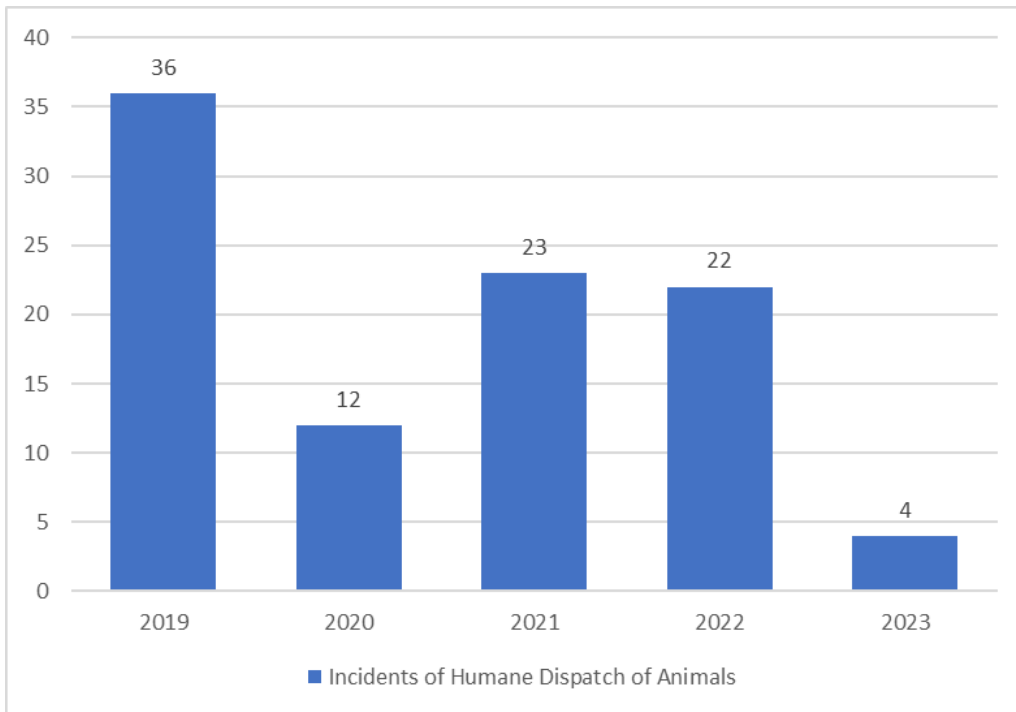
Humane Dispatch of Injured Animals

In 2022, 22 incidents involved officers discharging firearms to humanely dispatch injured animals. 2023 saw a decrease in such occurrences, with only four incidents recorded. These

instances predominantly stemmed from citizen-generated calls for service, primarily traffic collisions involving animals, resulting in the humane dispatch of the injured animal.

Figure #6B illustrates the five-year data of the humane dispatch of injured animals.

Figure #6B
HUMANE DISPATCH OF INJURED ANIMALS

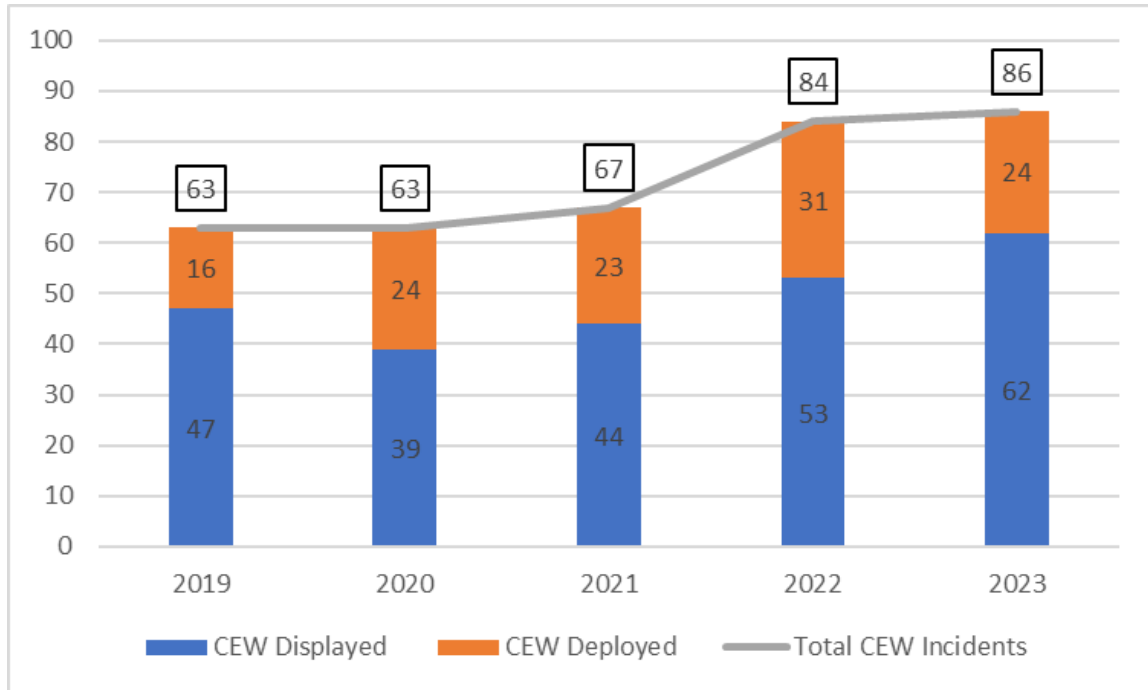


Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW)

Police officers continue to undergo training in the utilization of the Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW), which is recognized as an effective, less-lethal use of force option. The presence and display of the CEW have demonstrated efficacy in de-escalating high risk situations. In 2023 there were 86 incidents where a CEW was reported as a use of force option. Of the 86 incidents, 62 were deployed in a demonstrative mode, meaning it was displayed to the subject and not physically applied. Of the remaining 24 incidents, the CEW was deployed in probe mode, emphasizing its role in tactical interventions.

Figure #7 highlights the five-year trend of CEW incidents which reinforce officers' utilization of the CEW to assist in de-escalation.

Figure #7
CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON DEPLOYMENT



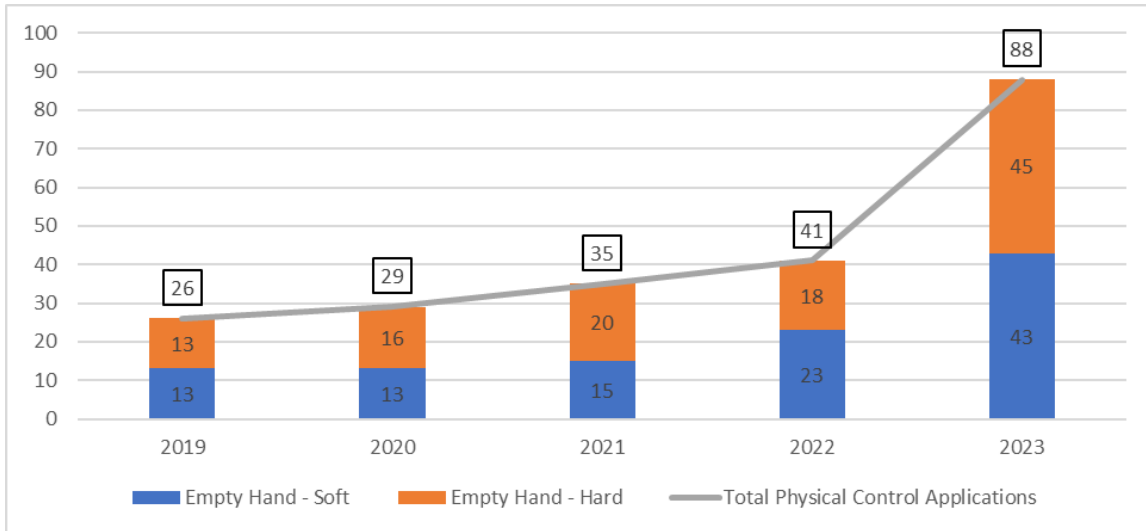
Physical Control

Physical control involves the application of physical force on a subject. Techniques range from escorting individuals to handcuffing, these actions alone in the absence of a subject injury or other use of force option do not require a Use of Force Report to be submitted.

In 2023, officers reported 88 instances of using physical force to control subjects which resulted in the subject seeking medical attention and/or other use of force option(s) were utilized. These incidents were comprised of 43 applications of soft empty hand techniques, for example using leverage to pry an arm or leveraging joints, and 45 applications of hard empty hand techniques, which could include striking or grounding of subjects. Since 2022, York Regional Police officers have received enhanced subject control training. Despite a notable increase from the previous year’s data in the application of physical control, subject injuries drastically decreased from 39 subjects in 2022, to 16 subjects in 2023, marking a 59% reduction. Additionally, officers injured from the application of force decreased from 25 members in 2022 to eight members in 2023, which is a 68% reduction.

Figure #8 illustrates the increase in physical control applications since 2019 and displays the trend involving subject injuries.

Figure #8
PHYSICAL CONTROL

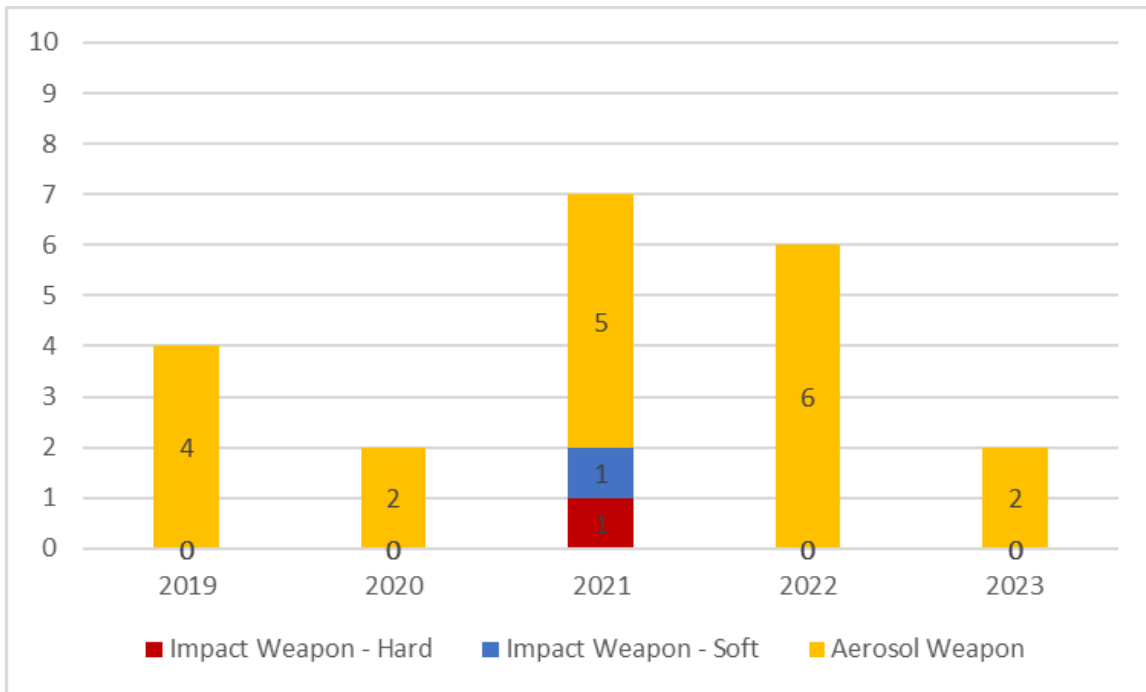


Impact Weapons and Aerosol Weapons

The deployment of impact weapons such as, batons and aerosol weapons, like oleoresin capsicum (pepper spray), remained limited in 2023. There were no baton applications hard (strikes) or soft (used to pry a limb such as an arm) reported. This is consistent with the 2022 data. Similarly, aerosol weapons were utilized on two occasions, mirroring the data from 2022. Officers minimal use of these use of force options continue show a consistent trend in the reduced deployment of impact weapons, with only aerosol weapons being utilized, accounting for a small fraction of all Use of Force Reports.

The previous five-year data for these weapons is illustrated in Figure #9. Out of all 2023 use of Force Reports (421), only two (0.48%) are related to the use of an Aerosol Weapon.

Figure #9
IMPACT WEAPONS AND AEROSOL WEAPONS



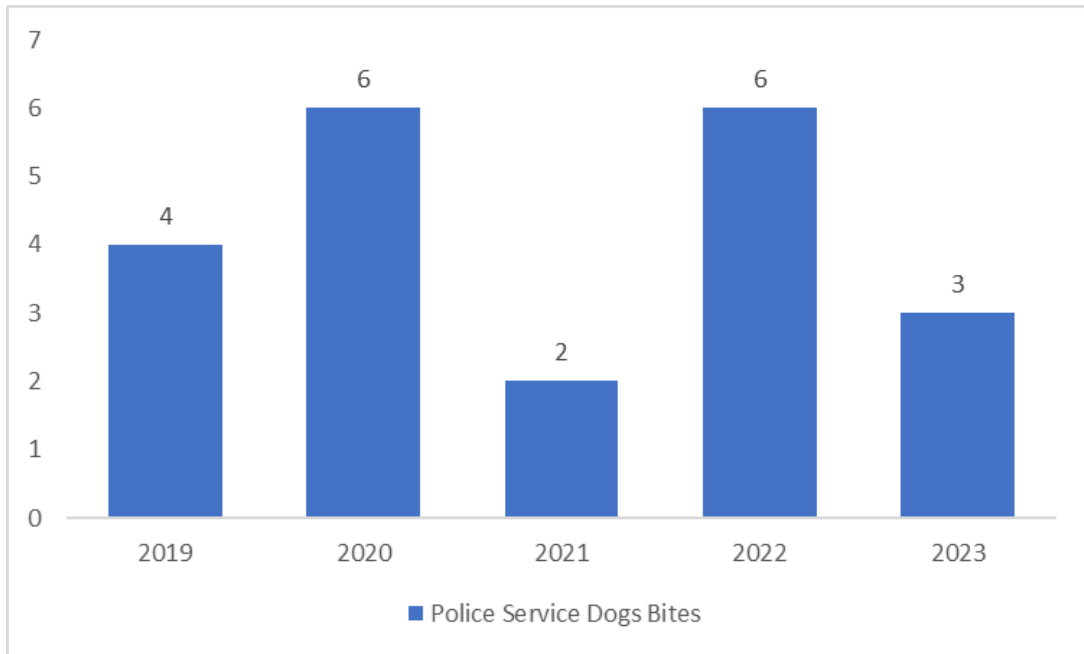
Police Service Dogs

Police Service Dogs play a vital role in police operations, offering support in various tasks, including tracking, searches, and apprehensions. In 2023, there were three incidents involving police dog bites during suspect apprehensions. Despite their deployment for multiple purposes, incidents resulting in dog bites or damaged suspect clothing remain infrequent, representing 0.71% of all reported use of force incidents.

Figure #10 illustrates the number of Police Service Dog bites since 2019.

Figure #10

POLICE SERVICE DOGS BITES



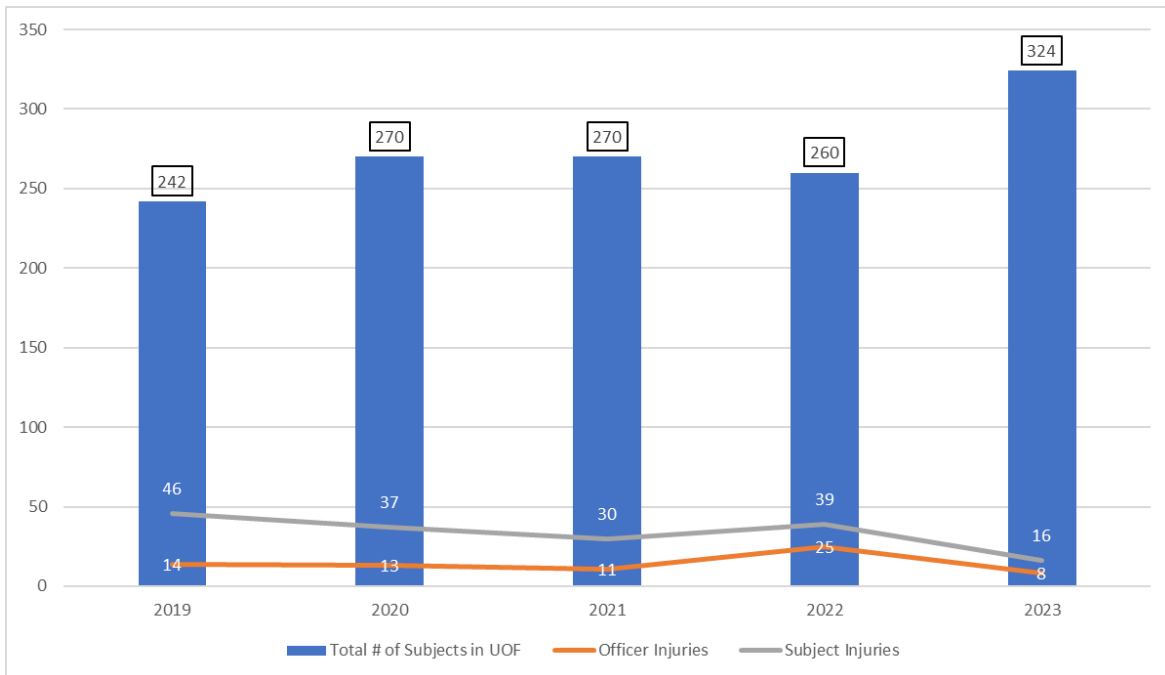
INJURIES DATA

Officer Injuries vs. Subject Injuries

In 2023, there was a noticeable decline in injuries sustained by both officers and subjects during use of force incidents, with eight officers and 16 subjects reporting injuries sustained from their interactions. This represents a significant decrease from the previous year even though use of force incidents and the number of subjects involved, both increased notably. By comparison, in 2022, there were 25 officers and 39 subjects injured during use of force incidents. This reduction can be attributed to the improvement of training dedicated to officers' application of physical control techniques. Improved training protocols have assisted in providing substantial improvement to injury outcomes for both officers and subjects.

Figure #11 illustrates Officer Injuries vs. Subject Injuries.

Figure #11
OFFICER INJURIES VS. SUBJECT INJURIES



SUBJECT RACE DATA

Perceived Subject Race

As of January 1, 2020, under the Anti-Racism Act, police services have been mandated to collect data on the perceived race of individuals involved in use of force incidents. This legislation aims to ensure accountability and transparency in the justice sector by monitoring and addressing any potential racial disparities in police officers' application of force. All police services in Ontario are mandated to comply with the legislation by completing a standardized Ministry Use of Force Reporting Form which contains a comprehensive group of datasets designed to monitor and identify any disparities in police use of force across seven race-based categories.

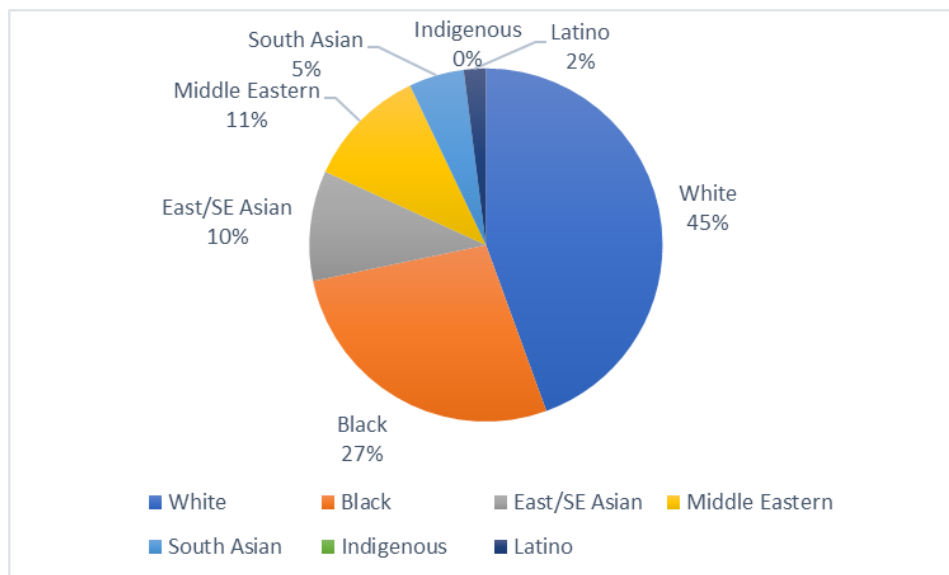
Within the Use of Force Report, officers are required to select and categorize the perceived race of the subject involved, choosing from seven distinct racial categories defined by the Ministry. The Race groups are categorized by the Ministry and divided into seven groups; Black, East/Southeast Asian, Indigenous, Latino, Middle Eastern, South Asian and White. It is essential to acknowledge the potential for inaccuracies in capturing race-based information based upon the perception of the officer (s), as subjects are not required to self-identify for data collection purposes and an officer's perception of the subject's race may be subjective or incorrect. These factors can contribute to either an over or under-representation of certain racial groups in police use of force data.

In 2023, there were 265 use of force incidents, and 421 Use of Force Reports involving 324 subjects. Figure #12A illustrates the perceived race of these subjects. Of the 324 subjects involved in use of force incidents, 215 (66%) were armed or perceived to be armed with a firearm, edged weapon, or another type of weapon, marking a significant increase from the previous year's statistics where 117 (45%) subjects were armed with a weapon. This data highlights the increased trend of weapon involvement during police interactions, and further emphasizes the need for a comprehensive understanding of the demographic factors influencing such incidents.

Figure #12B further delineates the percentage of armed versus unarmed subjects across different racial categories. With the exception of those subjects perceived as East Asian, Southeast Asian and Latino, the application of reportable force was evenly distributed between armed and unarmed subjects across various racial categories. This data underscores the importance of ongoing analysis and evaluation to ensure equitable policing practices and address any potential racial disparities in use of force reports.

Despite these monitoring efforts, it is crucial to recognize that racial disparities persist, particularly in the use of force against Black and other racialized groups, underscoring the ongoing need for targeted interventions to address systemic biases within the criminal justice sector.

Figure #12A
PERCEIVED SUBJECT RACE



Perceived race data shows that individuals perceived as White were involved in the largest percentage of use of force incidents (45% or 144 subjects), followed by subjects perceived as Black (27% or 87 subjects), then Middle Eastern (11% or 37 subjects), East/Southeast Asian (10% or 33 subjects), South Asian (5% or 17 subjects) and Latino (2% or five subjects). Only one subject has been perceived as Indigenous.

Figure #12B
ARMED VS. UNARMED SUBJECTS BY RACE

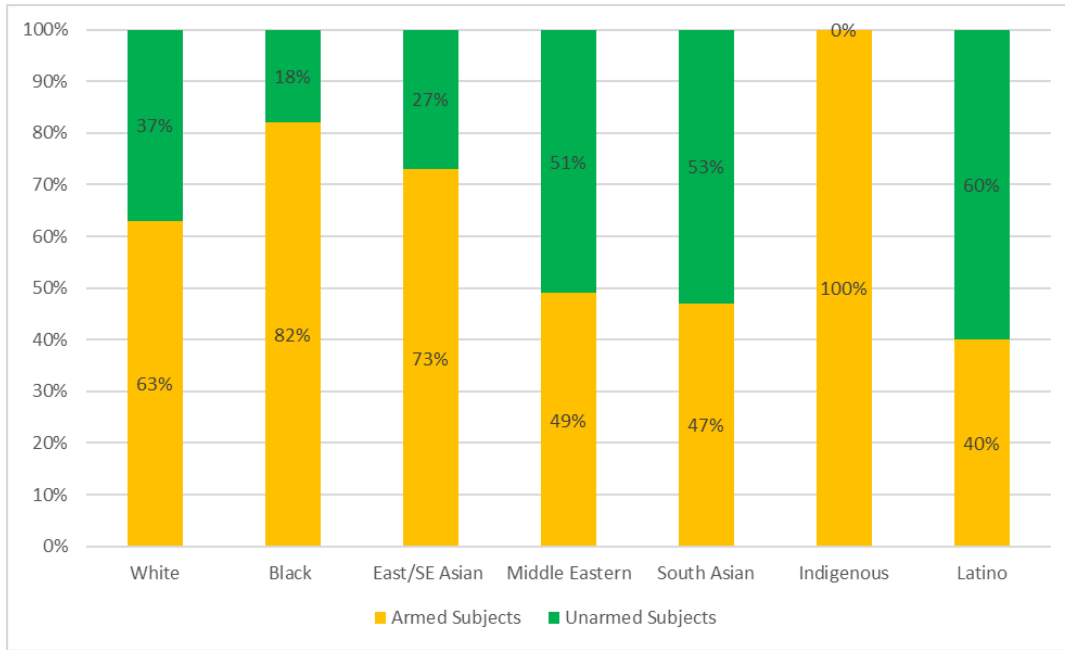


Table #2
ARMED VS. UNARMED SUBJECTS BY RACE

Race/ Ethnicity	Armed (2021)	Unarmed (2021)	Armed (2022)	Unarmed (2022)	Armed (2023)	Unarmed (2023)
White	48 (47%)	54 (53%)	45 (51%)	44 (49%)	91 (63%)	53 (37%)
Black	25 (46%)	29 (54%)	41 (45%)	51 (55%)	71 (82%)	16 (18%)
East/SE Asian	15 (33%)	30 (67%)	7 (26%)	20 (74%)	24 (73%)	9 (27%)
Middle Eastern	24 (59%)	17 (41%)	13 (52%)	12 (48%)	18 (49%)	19 (51%)
South Asian	6 (30%)	14 (70%)	9 (45%)	11 (55%)	8 (47%)	9 (53%)
Indigenous	0	0	0	0	1 (100%)	0
Latino	1 (13%)	7 (88%)	1 (17%)	5 (83%)	2 (40%)	3 (60%)
Unknown	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	119 (44%)	151 (56%)	117 (45%)	143 (55%)	215 (66%)	109 (34%)

Table #2 illustrates the three-year data of armed versus unarmed subjects within each perceived race category. The percentages reflect the distribution of armed versus unarmed subjects within each race category.

ARMED SUBJECTS – INFORMATION AND FACTORS

In 2023, a total of 324 subjects were involved in use of force incidents, with 215 subjects (66.35%) identified as armed with a weapon at the time force was applied. This data provides insight into the prevalence of weapon possession among subjects engaged in confrontational encounters with police officers, highlighting the complexities and challenges faced in managing armed individuals effectively.

Table #3

ARMED SUBJECTS BY RACE

Race/ Ethnicity	Firearm	Edged Weapon	Vehicle	Other – Blunt Instrument
White	54	33	2	2
Black	62	6	2	1
East/SE Asian	18	4	1	1
Middle Eastern	12	5	0	1
South Asian	1	2	0	5
Indigenous	0	1	0	0
Latino	2	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	149	51	5	10

Table #3 illustrates the weapons used by armed subjects, divided into race categories.

UNARMED SUBJECTS – INFORMATION AND FACTORS

During community consultation, questions have often arisen with regard to the application of force on unarmed subjects. With many community members expressing concern that unarmed subjects do not pose the same amount of risk to an officer or member of the public as an armed subject. The majority of calls resulting in application of reportable force were

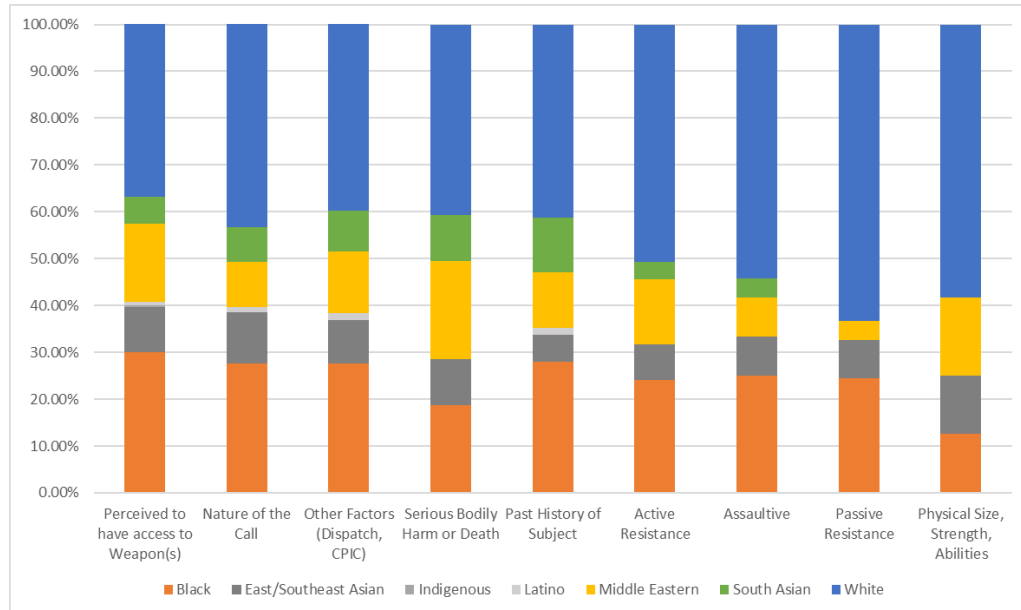
citizen-generated (92.83%), which often dictates the nature of the call and provides information to officers leading them to believe that the subject was armed. This information and the status of the subject as armed vs. unarmed can often change upon further investigation.

Other situations involved subjects who were actively assaultive towards another member of the public or police, or subjects who were about to cause serious bodily harm or death to another person or self; however, they were not armed with a weapon during the police interaction.

In 2023, York Regional Police officers used reportable force on 109 unarmed subjects. The incidents were reflected in a wide range of situations where force was necessary and required to ensure public safety or protect individuals from harm. Each of these incidents were subject to a thorough review to ensure that the application of force was justified, reasonable and proportionate based on the subject’s behaviour. The data suggests that an officer’s response to unarmed subjects is influenced by various situational factors, with no apparent race disparity observed in the application of force when considering the specific behaviour of the subject and the context of the encounter.

Figure #13 illustrates information and/or factors that influenced officer response.

Figure #13
INFORMATION / FACTORS THAT INFLUENCED OFFICER RESPONSE



5. Financial Considerations

There are no financial implications.

6. Local Impact

This report is intended to give a better understanding to the community we serve to illustrate what constitutes the reporting of the use of force, the trends that affect police decision making in relation to using force, understanding the legal requirements; and what training is undertaken by York Regional Police to ensure that our interactions with the community is grounded in principles to resolve matters as peacefully as possible under the circumstances.

7. Conclusion

The data presented in this report offers a comprehensive overview of use of force incidents and the type of force used by York Regional Police officers in 2023. It emphasises the multifaceted nature of police interactions and the dynamic challenges faced by police officers in maintaining public safety while adhering to legal and ethical standards.

This report displays York Regional Police's commitment to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement in our policing practices. York Regional Police has become a leader in collaborating with the Ministry of Solicitor General to improve upon the validity of data utilized to build this report. By leveraging data-driven insights and prioritizing community engagement, we remain committed to upholding the highest standards of professionalism and integrity, focusing on equitable practices, eliminating bias, and focusing on de-escalation.

York Regional Police is in compliance with the *Police Services Act*, the Policing Standards Manual, York Regional Police Use of Force Procedure AI 012/AI 014 and the *Anti-Racism Act*.

Alternative formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Approved for Submission: Jim MacSween, M.O.M., B.A.A.
Chief of Police

Attachment (1) – Appendix A

Appendix A
COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF ALL CALL TYPES WHICH RESULTED IN USE
OF FORCE REPORTING 2022-2023

INITIAL CALL TYPE	2022	2023
ABDUCTION		1
ALARM / VERIFIED		
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	4	4
ARMED BARRICADED PERSON	5	4
ASSAULT IN PROGRESS	2	3
ASSAULT REPORT	1	4
ASSIST AMBULANCE	1	3
ASSIST CITIZEN		
ASSIST OFFICER EMERGENCY	1	1
ASSIST P.O. OR OTHER AGENCY	5	15
BREACH OF CONDITIONS OR PROBATION	1	
BREAK AND ENTER IN PROGRESS	7	6
BREAK IN COMMERCIAL		
BREAK IN RESIDENTIAL		2
CHECK WELFARE	6	2
COMMERCIAL LANDLINE OR PAYPHONE- SECURITY TO CHECK	1	
COMPLAINT AREA INVESTIGATION		
COMPLAINT AREA TRAFFIC	1	
DISPUTE		
DISTURBANCE	1	2

INITIAL CALL TYPE	2022	2023
DOMESTIC FAMILY	4	7
DOMESTIC INCIDENT	5	3
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	6	11
DRIVING COMPLAINT		
DRIVING HAZARD	1	1
DRUGS	2	3
EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	9	4
ER006 RESPONSE	1	
ESCAPE/ELOPEE		1
FIRE		
FRAUD		
IMPAIRED	5	2
INDECENT ACT	1	
INFORMATIONAL CALL		
INJURED PERSON	2	
KEEP THE PEACE		
MISSING ADULT		1
MVC HIT AND RUN		1
MVC INJURY	1	2
MVC PROPERTY DAMAGE	11	5
OUT OF REGION DEPLOYMENT	12	21
PERSON IN CRISIS		6
PROPERTY DAMAGE	2	
RECOVERED AUTO		
REOPENING ONTARIO ACT/FORMERLY EMERG MEASURES ACT		

INITIAL CALL TYPE	2022	2023
ROBBERY CAR JACKING	3	4
ROBBERY COMMERCIAL	6	7
ROBBERY FINANCIAL INSTITUTION		1
ROBBERY HOME INVASION	1	4
ROBBERY STREET LEVEL	1	1
SEXUAL ASSAULT		1
SHOPLIFTING		1
SOUND OF GUNSHOTS		
SUICIDE ATTEMPT	1	3
SUSPECT APPREHENSION PURSUIT FOOT		
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	3	6
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	13	11
THEFT	1	1
THEFT IN PROGRESS	5	6
THEFT OF VEHICLE	1	2
THEFT OF VEHICLE IN PROGRESS	2	5
THREATS	1	3
TRAFFIC STOP	11	2
Unknown (Invisible)		
UNKNOWN TROUBLE	2	7
UNWANTED PERSON	3	2
WANTED PERSON	2	3
WARRANT EXECUTION	1	20
WEAPONS CALL	44	60
Grand Total	199	265