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2023 CPS ANNUAL REPORT

DE-ESCALATION AND USE OF FORCE



**CALGARY
POLICE
SERVICE**

AT A GLANCE



INTRODUCTION

The Calgary Police Service (CPS) is committed to transparency, accountability and continuous improvement in de-escalation and use of force (DEUoF) policy, training and practices. Annual reporting is also a requirement under the Alberta Provincial Policing Standards. This report provides a summary of force used by our officers in 2023. It also includes advancements achieved, initiatives in progress and an outline of future work. Internally, the report informs ongoing organizational learning, the research and adoption of best practices, and response to local and global trends. Technical terms used throughout the document are defined in Appendix C: Glossary of Terms & Definitions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2023, the volume of officer-public interactions reached the highest count since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The volume and severity of violent crime¹, as well as the frequency of complex calls involving weapons and drugs², also show increases over the past few years³.

Within this environment, the volume of officer use of certain methods of force also increased, but the overall use of force is at par with the average; the 901 incidents reported represent officers using force in 0.16% (or one in every 644) of the more than 580,000 officer-public interactions⁴ that took place in 2024.

De-escalation communication skills and policy compliance continue to be emphasized through training, report review and feedback. In 2023, a second Force Review Officer (FRO) has been added as part of the Continuous Development and Compliance Unit that reinforces the commitment to reviewing Subject Behaviour/ Officer Response (SBOR) reports, which enables timely feedback and continuous improvement.

The CPS continues to research and implement equipment improvements with the goal of de-escalating incidents for both officer and public safety. Some examples of this are scheduled frontline training of the Axon Taser® T7, patrol rifle suppressors and pistol optical sights. This new technology keeps us in alignment with best practices.

¹ Corporate Data & Analytics reporting 2024

² Methamphetamine is the most common drug seized in Calgary; it is highly addictive and is associated to violent behaviours, volatility and paranoia. The presence of weapons - firearms in particular - in violent crimes has been increasing since 2018.

³ All averages in this report refer to a five-year average of 2018-2022, unless stated otherwise.

⁴ Public contacts are calculated as a sum of dispatched calls for service (public-generated), on-view calls for service (officer-generated), traffic stops, walk-ins, officer-issued summonses (no automated enforcement) and persons charged. The actual public contact counts are higher than this calculated sum as certain types of in-person officer-public interactions are not quantifiable.

⁵ See Table 1 and Table 5.

KEY TRENDS IN 2023⁵ (COMPARED TO FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE)

These trends are explored further under Analysis of Selected Methods of Force in this report.

+ INCREASE

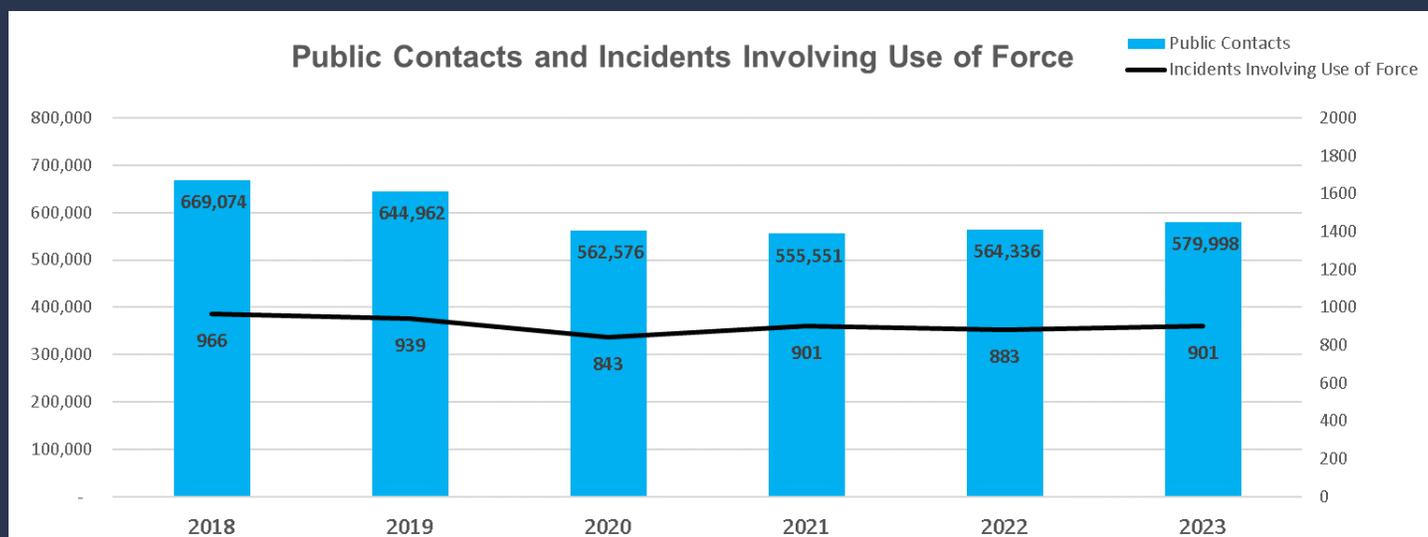
- Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) use increased by 41% (n=211, avg=149), but almost a half of all deployments (47%) were illumination/display/warning arc only.
- The use of dynamic takedowns also increased, by 50% (n=367, avg=244).
- A police firearm was pointed in more incidents. The 2023 deployment volume (n=32) was 54% higher than average (n=21) and translated to approximately one deployment every two weeks.

— DECREASE

- Police Service Dog contacts decreased 27% (n=49, avg=67).
- The use of spit mask also decreased, by 8% (n=70, avg=76).

ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

Figure 1



Reporting obligations outlined in the CPS DEUoF policy indicate an exhaustive list of force methods for which SBOR reporting is required⁶⁷. In 2023, approximately 580,000 public contacts⁸ with CPS officers took place. This represents an increase of 3% from the 2022 volume of 564,336 observed in almost every type of officer-public contact. Force was reported in 901 incidents, which is approximately 1 in 644 of these interactions⁹. Of the 901 incidents involving the use of force, 864 incidents (96%)¹⁰ were reviewed by the Force Review Officers to ensure compliance with training, policies, and standard operating procedures related to deployment and reporting of force. The remaining 37 reports are still in the review process, which will be completed in the upcoming weeks.

The increase in certain methods of force correlates with trends on the frontline – more officer-public interactions, more weapons present in crime, and higher volume and severity of violent crime (8% increase in violent crimes compared to 2022). Police responded to approximately 7,600 public generated CFS where weapons were observed (3% increase compared to 2022). In addition, social disorder continues to trend on par with 2022; this includes disturbances, suspicious persons and mental health-related calls. Crime reporting also shows that offenders are using weapons more often in the committal of crimes (e.g., firearms, edged weapons and blunt objects).

⁶ See Appendix B for details regarding reporting requirements.

⁷ Detailed data tables are found in Appendix A, and a glossary of terms in Appendix C.

⁸ See Table 4.

⁹ This report presents the counts of incidents where a given method was used, not the counts of officers deploying a specific method. In any incident, more than one method by one or more officers may be used, which means the sum of individual method counts will always be higher than the total incident counts.

¹⁰ As of Jan. 31, 2024; the remaining reports were still in the review process.

Figure 2

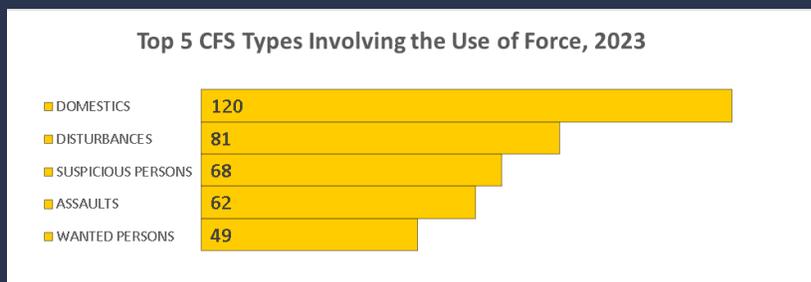


Figure 2 shows a breakdown of the top five call for service (CFS) types resulting in officer force deployment – these are consistently the top calls involved in force incidents. The calls were predominantly public-generated and are calls requiring officers to intervene in emotionally charged and/or volatile situations, involving persons behaving in an erratic manner that involves or implies violence, typically fuelled by alcohol and/or drugs (e.g., methamphetamine, crack cocaine and opioids).

ANALYSIS OF SELECTED METHODS OF FORCE

CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON (CEW)

An analysis of CEW deployments during 2023 was conducted to assess the method’s “effectiveness” – defined as gaining compliance from the subject and aiding in a successful resolution of the incident. The SBOR report does not allow officers to capture the use of force methods in a chronological order, so the analysis reviews how often a CEW was used alone or in combination with other methods. The findings suggest that the CEW methods effectively de-escalate volatile situations, and officers often only need to display and/or illuminate (“light-up” the red sight light of) the CEW or conduct a warning arc to defuse the situation.

The deployment of a CEW is an indicator that officer intervention was required to resolve an incident in the safest and quickest manner to avoid additional public/subject harm¹¹. A CEW was deployed in 211 incidents by a total of 241 officers, representing an increase in use when compared to the five-year average of 149¹² incidents. CEWs have been reported effective in resolving 68% of the incidents they have been used in.

Table 1

Annual Report	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 vs 2022	5Yr Avg	2023 vs 5yr Avg	Trend
CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON (CEW) USE - INCIDENT COUNT PER METHOD										
Display or Illumination	65	50	74	84	64	94	46.9%	67	39.5%	
Warning Arc	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12		N/A		
Contact Mode	7	10	11	17	14	8	-42.9%	12	-32.2%	
Probes	61	73	57	62	66	84	27.3%	64	31.7%	
Combination (Contact Mode/Probes)	27	5	13	21	27	25	-7.4%	19	34.4%	
METHOD COUNT TOTAL	160	138	155	184	171	223	30.4%	162	38.0%	
INCIDENT COUNT TOTAL	152	142	139	158	155	211	36.1%	149	41.4%	
OFFICER COUNT TOTAL	160	158	158	177	172	241	40.1%	165	46.1%	

**The warning arc function became available in 2023 when the CEW model was upgraded.*

¹¹ See Table 1

¹² These incidents frequently involve stabbings, slashings, assaults, choking, and other acts of violence.

Analysis of the 211 incidents involving a CEW shows that:

- Almost half of the total CEW deployments (47%) consisted of only the illumination or displaying a CEW or conducting a warning arc, which means no contact occurred and probes were not released.
- 119 (13% of all 2023 incidents, involving any method of force) involved only the use of CEWs (no other method of force) to conclude an incident.
 - 58 (49%) of these 119 incidents consisted of only the use of an illumination/display/warning arc, which equates to one in sixteen incidents involving force (6%) in 2023 being resolved by displaying, illuminating, or conducting a warning arc of a CEW. The warning arc is a new function added in 2023 when the new Taser was introduced.
- 92 incidents (44% of the 211 total) involved the use of a CEW in combination with another force method, most often with a dynamic takedown (59%), and/or with stuns/strikes (38%), and/or with other physical method(s) (28%).

The top five most frequent call for service types involving the use of a CEW are in close alignment with the most frequent call for service types where any method of force was deployed – disturbances (14%), domestics (14%), assaults (9%), calls related to mental health concerns (8%) and suspicious person calls (8%)¹³ – indicating the potential volatility of the situation.

The CPS has almost completed the replacement of the CEW Taser® X26P model with Taser® 7. Officer training on the new model commenced in early 2023 and the X26P model is almost fully decommissioned. An analysis will be provided in future reporting, comparing the two models in terms of officer usage, effectiveness, methods of deployment (illumination, warning arc, probes, etc.) as well as implications for other methods (e.g., if effectiveness increased and if incidents that use additional methods decreased).

¹³ Checks on welfare, unwanted guests, domestics, suspicious persons, and disturbances are among the most frequent public calls for service.

FIREARM POINTED

An analysis of the 32 incidents involving officers pointing a firearm revealed the call types were consistent with calls involving all other methods of force – most frequently: assaults with weapon, suspicious persons with weapon, firearm involved, domestic with weapon, disturbances (including with weapon), and mental health concerns¹⁴. Most (21) of the incidents involved a weapon, including firearms (fired, pointed at persons, or displayed as a threat), machetes, an axe, a meat cleaver, and knives. Eight involved vehicles, five of which were stolen, including a Calgary Transit bus.

All calls involved an agitated suspect, often impaired by drugs and/or alcohol, who posed an immediate threat or danger to safety. A large portion of the incidents occurred in District 1 (12, 38%), mostly the Beltline and Downtown communities, and in District 2 (9, 28%); the remaining incidents were distributed across the city. Two-thirds of incidents involving a firearm pointed occurred in the first half of the year (n=21, 66%), with January and June having the most incident (n=6 and n=5, respectively). The incidents most frequently occurred on Tuesdays (n=9), Wednesdays (n=6), and Thursdays (n=5). No trend for time of the day was observed, although five (16%) of the incidents occurred between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. All 32 incidents were reviewed, and officer actions were deemed reasonable and justified by the Force Review Officer.

A firearm was fired by officers in five incidents in 2023. Under the Police Act, any incidents where police conduct may have caused a serious injury or death are investigated by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT), an independent provincial agency. The CPS cannot address particulars of these incidents until the ASIRT investigations are completed and as such, these are not included in the analysis.

DYNAMIC TAKEDOWN

The increased use of a dynamic takedown is attributed to several factors. This method is used as an approved and trained tactic and its additional uses supplement the removed Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint (LVNR). The training focus is on ground-based subject control skills (part of the Subject Control Tactics requalification) and dynamic takedowns form part of the deployment of those skills. The increased takedowns also relate to the evolving operational environment - a higher volume of calls for service are volatile, dynamic, and complex, and involve weapons, physical violence, and impaired and distraught subjects.

POLICE SERVICE DOG (PSD) CONTACT

There were 49 PSD contacts, representing a 16% decrease from the previous year (n=58) and a 27% decrease from the average (n=67). This decrease reflects the CPS' continuous emphasis on de-escalation tactics and the patrol members' proficiency in deploying vehicle-based tactic (VBT) methods. The use of VBT reduces the opportunity for subjects to escape from (mostly stolen) vehicles; since the implementation of VBT in 2020, subjects are more likely to be apprehended without a foot chase and a PSD deployment.

¹⁴ See Figure 2

ANALYSIS OF FORCE SUBJECTS

FORCE SUBJECT POPULATION

The 2023 dataset includes 901 occurrences involving a total of 910 identified subjects¹⁵.

- 53 (6%) subjects were repeat subjects, meaning they were involved in more than one incident involving force in 2023
- 79% of force subjects were male (722), and 20% female (181)
- The average age of force subjects was 33 years (34 years for males, 33 years for females)

Table 2

2023 INCIDENTS	SUBJECT RECORDS	SUBJECTS
901 incidents	917 records:	910 identified subjects: of which 838 were unique: 785 involved once in 2023 7 unknown subjects
	917 records:	53 involved more than once: 40 twice 10 three times 1 four times 1 five times 1 six times
		884 occurrences involved 1 force subject 15 occurrences involved 2 force subjects 1 occurrence involved 3 force subjects

In Canada, any time a person is charged with an offence under the Criminal Code, they are allocated a unique identifier which is assigned to their criminal record and backed up by their fingerprints. This identifier is known as the Fingerprint Serial (FPS) Number, and it is contained in the RCMP's Canadian Police Identification Services (CPIC) database.

In 2023, most of the force subjects (75%, n=628) had an FPS number, meaning they are a person with a previous criminal charge. These subjects were involved in 83% of the incidents involving a force subject in 2023. For comparison, in 2022, it was 83% of the unique subjects (n=506), and they were involved in 86% of the incidents involving force towards a subject.

¹⁵ The dataset includes 722 males, 181 females and seven persons with unknown/not stated gender. Unknown subjects relate to people who escape from police before they are identified.

For most individuals involved in a use-of-force incident, that incident is typically not their only interaction with the CPS. An analysis of available records suggests:

- The average count of interactions with the CPS (measured using case file volume in the Sentry records management system) is about 12 per force subject in a three-year period (2021-2023).
- Subjects involved in 2023 force incidents amassed more than 9,000 Sentry case files between 2021 and 2023.
- 75% of the subjects had five or more interactions in the same three-year period.
- Approximately 54% of those interactions were criminal (about 23% related to property crime, about 18% to violent crime and 13% to other crime).
- 40% were non-criminal (non-violent domestic conflicts, mental health, missing persons, warrants, general information).

These findings directly support the general understanding that the force subject population is not directly comparable with the general population.

FORCE SUBJECT BEHAVIOURS AND IMPAIRMENT

Incidents that eventually require the deployment of some method of force typically involve persons experiencing an elevated level of distress¹⁶, often fuelled by alcohol and/or drug intoxication. The subjects are agitated, assaultive, display unpredictable mood swings, and/or attempt to actively harm or self-harm. The incidents are volatile and present a need for a fast and safe de-escalation to prevent further injuries or harm to the subject or others.

- Most subjects (77%) were described as exhibiting symptoms of being either intoxicated or in distress; 17% showed symptoms of both.
- More than a half (52%) of 2023 force subjects were showing symptoms of intoxication - 33% by alcohol, 26% by drugs, 7% by a combination of both.
- One-third (30%) of subjects showed symptoms of emotional distress.
- Only one in six subjects (about 15%) appeared not impaired nor distressed.

¹⁶ Evident from behaviours like physical and verbal aggression, throwing or breaking objects, shouting, crying, and self-harming.

FORCE SUBJECT APPREHENSIONS, ARRESTS AND CHARGES LAID

Three-quarters (75%, 636) of the subjects who experienced force used against them were arrested and an additional 13% (111) of subjects were apprehended. 67% (566) of force subjects were charged with an offence. The table below illustrates the top five types of calls for service.

Table 3

Subjects Apprehended Only			Subjects Arrested			Subjects Charged		
Top 5 Call Types	Count		Top 5 Call Types	Count		Top 5 Call Types	Count	
Mental Health	61	55%	Suspicious	104	16%	Domestic	99	17%
Disturbance	11	10%	Domestic	103	16%	Disturbance	84	15%
Domestic	9	8%	Disturbance	103	16%	Suspicious	79	14%
Suspicious	8	7%	Assault	57	9%	Assault	54	10%
Check on Welfare	7	6%	Theft	50	8%	Theft	49	9%
	111			636			566	



2023 ACHIEVEMENTS & INITIATIVES UNDERWAY

Continuous improvement remains a focus of the Service. To this end, the Chief Crowfoot Learning Centre (CCLC) works to continuously improve our approach to policy, equipment, training delivery, and supporting our members. The CPS' commitment to public trust, transparency, and accountability is reflected in current projects aimed at achieving these goals in the following areas:

POLICY

Code 700 Policy: The revised Code 700 (vehicle-based tactic) policy was published in January 2024. This policy was reviewed back-to-back with the Code 600 (vehicle pursuit) policy to ensure they were complementary and consistent.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Tire Deflation Devices (TDD): TDD will be the newest use of force tool be available to officers. Its training and deployment have been strategically developed for the safest and most effective use at the CPS. TDD deployment requires approval from the CPS Real Time Operations Centre and uses the same threshold as advanced vehicle-based tactics. To comply with our commitment to maximize officer safety, the CPS has elected to install and operationalize TDDs after 50% of the frontline officers are trained (which is estimated by 2024 Quarter 3). This will greatly reduce the need to increase driving haste to get into position during a mobile event. The Real Time Operations Centre will be scheduled for training as soon as possible, and the Field Training Unit will be the resource to maintain consistency and support the TDD roll-out process.

Vehicle-Based Tactics (VBT): VBT-Advanced certifications and recertifications are delivered by the Field Training Unit, with more classes being scheduled; these courses are delivered mostly during the summer months, so as to not conflict with the Recruit Training Program, which uses the same training track. This training needs deconflicting with the Recruit Training Program for the training track use, and this is the best way to ensure qualifications are up to date.

RESEARCH AND EQUIPMENT

New position of OSTTU Researcher: This new employee is scheduled to start with the CCLC in March 2024. Their role is to assess the current Officer Safety and Tactics Training Unit (OSTTU) programs and adult learning programming, and conducting best practice research and benchmarking to inform organizational and process changes in the CCLC. This work will be conducted in partnership with WinSport/Canadian Sports Institute, Aviation Industries and Alberta Health Services.

Less lethal program transition: The CPS continues to move from ARWEN® to the 40-mm Alsetex Cougar launcher and Blunt Impact Projectile. 100 launchers will be procured. The Firearms Training Team will provide training on the new platform to both in-Service members, current ARWEN® operators and recruits. Training is anticipated to start in mid-2024.

Pistol optics: The Request for Proposal (RFP) and procurement were completed in 2023. In-Service training started in the third quarter of 2023 and approximately 100 Service members are already trained. Recruit Class 254 was the first graduating class to receive the new Holosun pistol optics in March 2024.

C8 patrol rifle with suppressors: 100 new rifles and suppressors were received at the beginning of the third quarter of 2023 and all current rifle operators and 30 new operators have completed training with this equipment. Five courses to train new operators are planned for 2024.

CEW Taser™ T7: 1,477 CPS members have been trained and transitioned to the Taser™ T7 model in 2023, including all frontline members. Two additional training sessions will be offered throughout the year for members returning to their positions from leaves, through reintegration, etc. In 2024, the Skills and Procedures Team conduct qualification periods for members to ensure they are utilizing the Taser™ T7 to its maximum capacity and reinforcing new muscle memory for the deployment of the new device. Officers had been trained for years on a model with a single probes bay and the requalification is essential to ensure they are comfortable using a model with two cartridge bays. As expected, there have been a few accidental discharges as this model involves a new loading procedure and is a different platform than the previous X26P model.

Subject Control Training (SCT): As of 2023 year-end, 1,249 members were qualified in the new SCT that involves dealing with resistance on the ground, officer intervention and self regulation.

Covert Officer Safety Tactics (COST): Two courses for the Serious Habitual Offender Program (SHOP) and the Auto Theft Team (ATT) with approximately 20 members were delivered in 2023. Additional courses are planned for 2024, with dates yet to be determined.

Facility upgrades: To ensure employee health and safety, the Skills and Procedures Team are professionalizing the mat rooms with brand new mats, new CCTV (Milestones) cameras, smartboards, and new paint. This will help mitigate health and injury concerns related to outdated equipment (e.g., cracks in mats from enhanced cleaning protocols during COVID-19). Training engagement will also be enhanced through the ability to record, playback and provide real-time feedback on performance in training scenarios.

Skills training: All members must requalify in Subject Control Tactics (SCT) training each year. In 2024, to meet the requalification criteria, members will have a choice of selecting between four training modules developed in response to trends and to ad-hoc needs. The topics are takedowns, handcuffing and searching for plainclothes members, dealing with subject resistance while either subject or officer are facing up/facing down, and duty to intervene/self regulation. Members will have the option to attend all four modules.

The CCLC is also conducting a recruit injury study in conjunction with the Physical Training Team and the Occupational Health and Safety Unit to determine the mechanism of injuries suffered by recruits during training.

The Patrol Officer Casualty Management (POCMAN) Train the Trainer course is scheduled to be offered in two or three sessions, to leverage the expertise of front-line members who were previously the Tactical EMS medics and Advanced Emergency Medical Service (EMS) medics.



IN THE NEXT REPORT

The CPS will be sharing progress updates on these initiatives in the 2024 CPS Mid-Year De-Escalation and Use of Force Report, as part of our commitment to maintain public trust and transparency. Analysis of vehicle-based tactic methods will be presented in the 2024 mid-year report and a comparison of the Taser™ models in the 2024 annual report.

APPENDIX A — DETAILED DATA TABLES

Table 4

Annual Report	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 vs 2022	5Yr Avg	2023 vs 5yr Avg	Trend
SBOR REPORTS										
SBOR Reports Submitted	966	939	843	901	883	901	2.0%	906	-0.6%	
PUBLIC CONTACTS										
Dispatched CFS	275,212	274,886	263,391	260,875	251,197	243,099	-3.2%	265,112	-8.3%	
On-View CFS	56,116	60,811	67,228	57,754	54,737	66,609	21.7%	59,329	12.3%	
T-Stops and T-Stats	105,792	92,052	77,137	80,427	88,221	97,972	11.1%	88,726	10.4%	
Walk-In CFS	50,027	45,815	27,195	30,013	38,797	43,531	12.2%	38,369	13.5%	
Officer-Issued Summons	159,297	144,619	105,404	102,684	105,812	102,306*	-6.2%	123,563	-27.2%	
Persons Charged	22,630	26,779	22,221	23,798	25,552	26,481	3.6%	24,196	9.4%	
TOTAL	669,074	644,962	562,576	555,551	564,336	579,998	2.8%	599,300	-3.2%	
PROPORTION										
SBOR Reports Submitted to Public Contacts	1 in 693	1 in 687	1 in 667	1 in 617	1 in 639	1 in 644		1 in 661		
Public Contacts Resulting in an SBOR Submission	0.14%	0.15%	0.15%	0.16%	0.16%	0.16%		0.15%		

**2023 Officer-Issued Summons Issued are a Nov 2023 year-to-date total. The annual count will be available later in 2024, at which point the counts will be updated and the total and comparisons will be recalculated.*

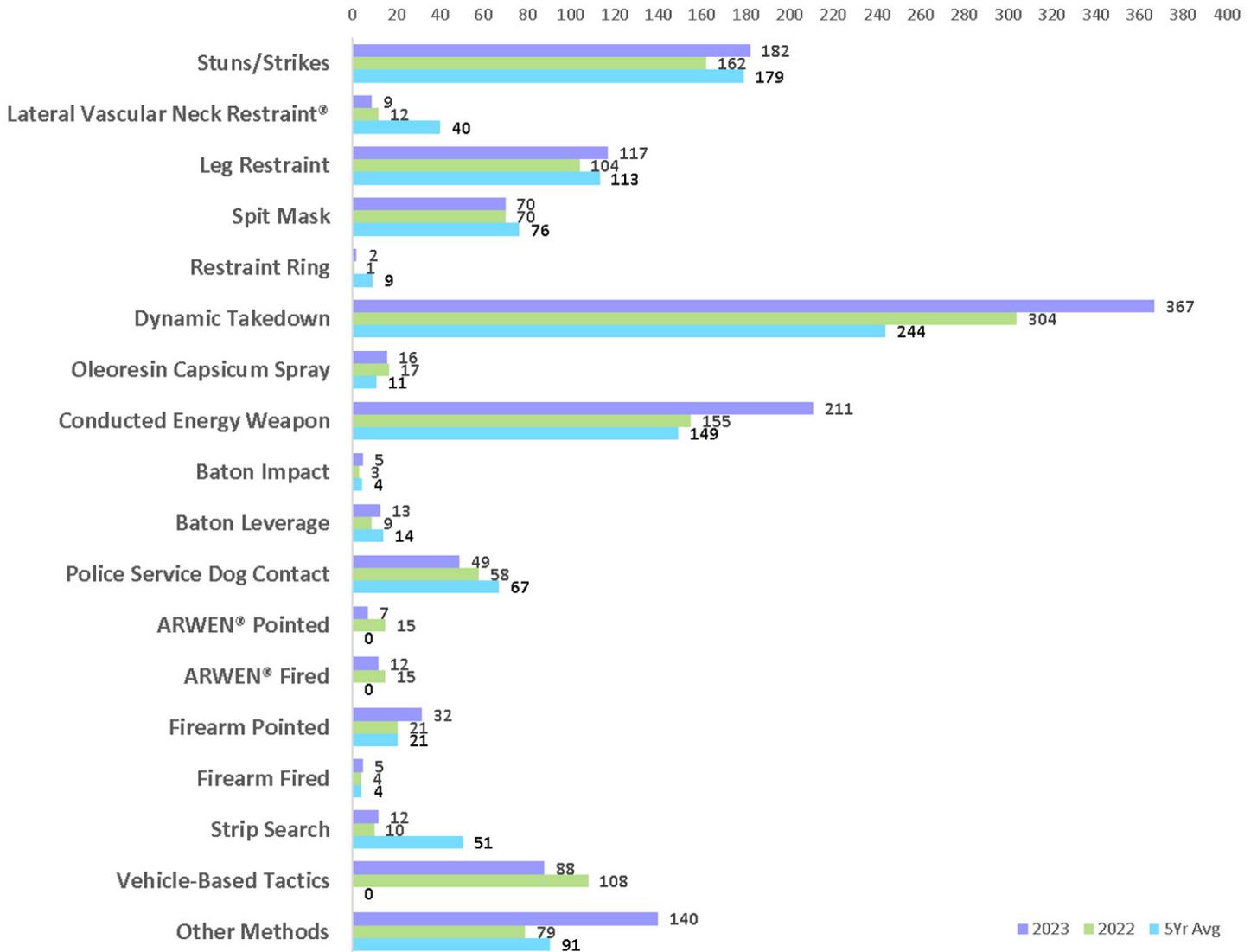
Table 5

Annual Report	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 vs 2022	5Yr Avg	2023 vs 5yr Avg	Trend
PHYSICAL CONTROL METHODS										
Stuns/Strikes	230	197	156	151	162	182	12.3%	179	1.6%	
Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint®	49	56	44	40	12	9	N/A	40	N/A	
Leg Restraint	137	134	88	103	104	117	12.5%	113	3.4%	
Spit Mask	87	77	85	63	70	70	0.0%	76	-8.4%	
Restraint Ring	7	22	11	5	1	2	100.0%	9	-78.3%	
Dynamic Takedown	260	214	209	233	304	367	20.7%	244	50.4%	
INTERMEDIATE FORCE OPTIONS										
Oleoresin Capsicum Spray	14	9	9	6	17	16	-5.9%	11	45.5%	
Conducted Energy Weapon	152	142	139	158	155	211	36.1%	149	41.4%	
Baton Impact	7	6	2	4	3	5	66.7%	4	13.6%	
Baton Leverage	16	19	14	13	9	13	44.4%	14	-8.5%	
Police Service Dog Contact	75	93	55	55	58	49	-15.5%	67	-27.1%	
ARWEN® Pointed	11*	18	4	13	15	7	-53.3%	N/A	N/A	
ARWEN® Fired	7*	20	6	10	15	12	-20.0%	N/A	N/A	
Firearm Pointed	30	17	24	12	21	32	52.4%	21	53.8%	
Firearm Fired	9	5	0	3	4	5	N/A	4	19.0%	
OTHER OPTIONS										
Strip Search	93	89	32	29	10	12	20.0%	51	-76.3%	
Vehicle-Based Tactics	N/A	N/A	65	91	108	88	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Other Methods	153	83	69	69	79	140	77.2%	91	54.5%	

**As ARWEN™ became available in July 2018, thus 2018 count does not represent a true annual count of deployments of this method.*

Figure 3

Methods of Force (2023 Annual Counts)



APPENDIX B — REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The CPS De-escalation Use of Force policy requires officers to report the use of force by completing a Subject Behaviour/Officer Response (SBOR) report by the end of their shift in every instance (other than training or qualification) where the officer(s):

- a. apply any empty hand physical force to a subject above the level of handcuffing or low-level pain compliance such as joint locks or pressure points, including but not limited to:
 - i. stuns, punches, strikes or kicks; or
 - ii. leverage or impact (dynamic) takedowns where a person has been forcibly taken to the ground;
- b. use a chemical agent when a subject is present (for example, OC spray);
- c. strike a subject with a baton or use a baton as a leverage tool;
- d. use a leg restraint strap;
- e. use a restraint ring;
- f. use a spit mask;
- g. use a police vehicle to intentionally contact an occupied motor vehicle (per the Code 700 (Vehicle-Based Tactics) policy);
- h. point, illuminate, conduct a warning arc, or discharge a CEW at a person;
- i. point a firearm, specialty munition or impact munition at a person;
- j. discharge a firearm, specialty munition or impact munition. If using a firearm to dispatch an animal, an Info Post needs to be completed (per the Assistance to Animal Control Officer policy when dispatching an injured animal);
- k. deploy a police Service dog and contact occurs;
- l. when force is used on a subject during a forced entry and/or when a subject is injured during a forced entry;
- m. are involved in an unintentional firearm discharge at a Service firearm range or an unintentional discharge of any other Service weapon;
- n. apply force to a subject that results in visible injury, loss of consciousness or medical distress; or
- o. any other use of force that is not an approved tactic but can be articulated in exigent or grievous body harm or death situations.

Source: CPS Policy Development Section; August 2023

APPENDIX C — GLOSSARY OF TERMS & DEFINITIONS

ARWEN®	A less-lethal launcher using foam, wood or tear gas rounds. The CPS uses impact baton munition - standard, non-irritant, “rubber”.
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW)	An electronic device designed to physically incapacitate a subject to allow officers to restrain and gain control of the subject.
De-escalation	A range of verbal and non-verbal strategies and tactics used to lower the intensity of potentially volatile situations with the aim to reduce the necessity or level of force required to successfully resolve the incident.
Dynamic takedown	A displacement technique utilized to take a subject from an upright position to the ground in a controlled manner to gain lawful control. Taking a subject to the ground lowers the risk of physical harm both to the subject and to the officer.
Force	The International Association of Chiefs of Police defines force as the “amount of effort required by police to compel compliance by an unwilling subject”.
Joint lock	A grappling technique involving manipulation of subject’s joints.
Leg restraint	A device applied to legs or ankles that limits the subject’s movement, allowing the subject only to walk, with a restricted stride. Used to reduce the chance of escape, injury to subjects or another person, and damage to transportation vehicle.
Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint® (LVNR®)	A method of controlling a resisting subject’s head and utilizing their neck to shift body balance to rear and gain compliance. It can be used standing, kneeling or on the ground, and does not affect the respiratory system.
Oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray	A naturally occurring biodegradable substance used as a lachrymatory agent, allowing for easier restraining of and gaining compliance from a subject.
Other methods	A reporting category that includes techniques such as joint locks, pressure points, weighted control.

Police Service Dog (PSD)	A use of force option deployed in tracking and apprehension of fleeing subjects. Preceded by officer commands and opportunities for subject to surrender.
Pressure point	A technique using application of pressure to certain areas of body, e.g., behind the ear, under the nose or jaw, at the collar bone, to gain compliance.
Restraint ring	A wall-mounted or table/chair-base-mounted ring and bracket that handcuffs can be attached to, used to control the behaviour of subjects attempting self-harm, being combative or violent, or damaging property.
Spit mask	A protective head covering that prevents the transfer of saliva, blood, and mucus from one person to another.
Strip search	A subject search for dangerous or potentially life-threatening items concealed on a subject (drugs, drug paraphernalia, sharp objects, lighters, etc.) involving the removal of all of their clothes.
Tire deflation device	A device that extends across the roadway, designed to puncture the tires of a vehicle.
Unintentional discharge	An inadvertent firing of a service weapon (CEW, firearm or a less lethal device) for any reason including user induced and/or mechanical malfunction and/or discharge of a CEW or CEW cartridge due to static electricity and/or due to an undetermined cause.
Vehicle-based tactics (VBT)	A range of measures employed to safely apprehend the driver of a motor vehicle. These include prevention and intervention techniques and may include the use of tools, tactics or an intentional vehicle contact.