

# AN ANALYSIS OF 2012 USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS IN THE MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT



## REPORT OF THE FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION

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## Introduction

The purpose of this study is to provide an analysis of use of force incidents recorded by the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. This report is part of a continuing systematic effort that began in 2009 to provide an understanding of the nature, frequency, and circumstances of use of force incidents in the MPD. The report is divided into two main sections: (1) summary baselines and (2) situational characteristics of use of force incidents. As appropriate, 2012 data are also compared with 2009, 2010, and 2011 data. The report concludes with a summary of the findings.

The data analyzed here were obtained from the MPD AIM (Administrative Investigation Management) system, which were manually converted to SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) format for analysis.<sup>1</sup> These data are based on the use of force reports that are completed by supervisory officers when a use of force incident occurs. The AIM system also contains incident narratives that are written by supervisors. Data on the number of arrests, traffic stops, and subject stops were obtained from other sources in the MPD. According to MPD General Order 2009-51:

The "Use of Force Report" shall be completed by a supervisory officer when a Department member: discharges a firearm, uses a baton in the line of duty, discharges an irritant, chemical, or inflammatory agent, deploys an Electronic Control Device, Department canine bites a subject in the performance of their duty, [or] uses any other type of force which results in an injury to a person.

In addition, according to the Order, even if a subject claims to have been injured without those injuries being visible, a report is to be completed.

The AIM system database contains a comprehensive list of variables on each use of force incident recorded by the MPD. Some data are related directly to the incident (e.g., date of incident, district of incident, number of officers involved in incident) but most of the data are

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<sup>1</sup> This conversion required substantial work and knowledge of the intricacies of the AIM computer system. This conversion was performed by Joseph Lawer of the Fire and Police Commission.

related to the officers (e.g., officer race, officer rank, type of force used by officer, etc.) and subjects (e.g., subject age, race, charge, etc.) involved in the incidents. There are separate variables for each officer (up to five officers) and each subject (up to four subjects) involved in the incident. Additional variables were manually created based on the incident narratives.

### Frequency of Use of Force Incidents

From January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012, there were 462 reportable use of force incidents recorded by the MPD. Of these 462 incidents, five were accidental<sup>2</sup> and 17 were for the purpose of euthanizing an injured or diseased animal.<sup>3</sup> As these 22 incidents are fundamentally different from other use of force incidents, these incidents are excluded from all subsequent analyses. Accordingly, 440 incidents are analyzed in this report. In addition, of the 440 incidents, 32 involved force being used against one or more dogs. These incidents are included in most of the aggregate totals analyzed in this report and they are also analyzed separately (see p. 19).

Given that there are now four years of data on use of force incidents, it may be instructive to compare the characteristics of these incidents from 2009 to 2012. Figure 1 shows the number of accidental (unintentional) use of force incidents in 2009 through 2012. Figure 2 illustrates the number of use of force incidents where force was used against a dog over the four year time frame. Figure 3 shows the number of incidents that involved euthanizing an injured or diseased animal.

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<sup>2</sup> Four of these incidents involved an accidental discharge of an Electronic Control Device (ECD; Taser) and one involved an accidental discharge of a firearm. None of these incidents involved a subject.

<sup>3</sup> Ten of these incidents involved deer, six incidents involved raccoons, and one incident involved a dog that was first shot by its owner. All of these incidents involved the use of a firearm.

Figure 1. Number of Unintentional “Use of Force” Incidents, 2009-2012

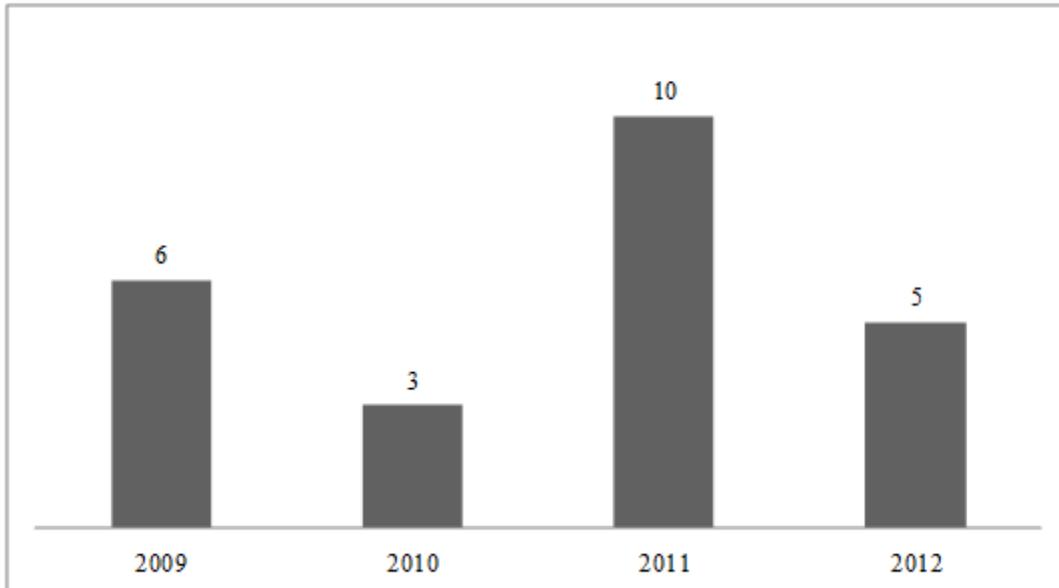


Figure 2. Number of “Use of Force” Incidents Where Force was Used Against a Dog, 2009-2012

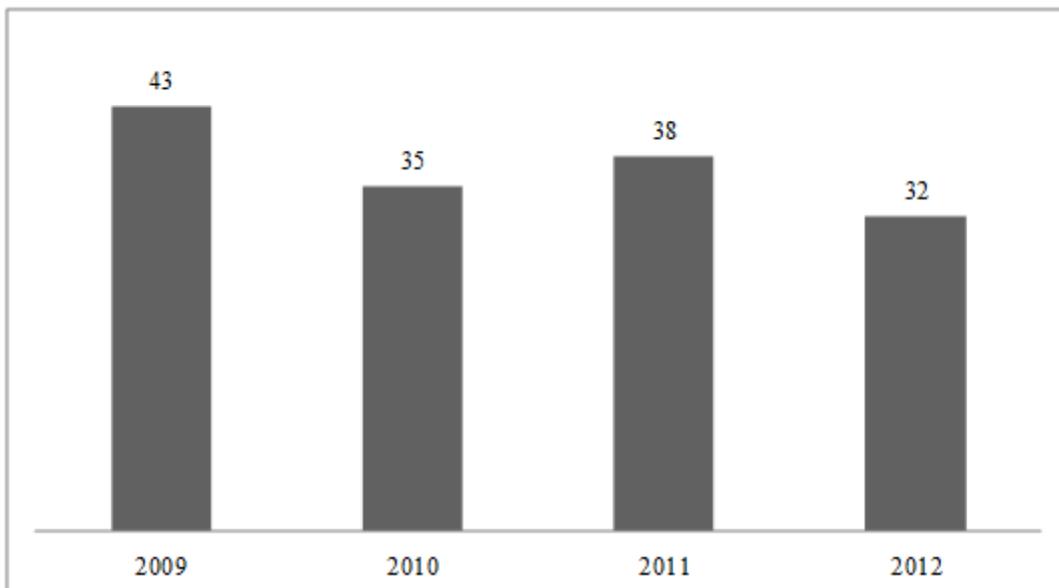
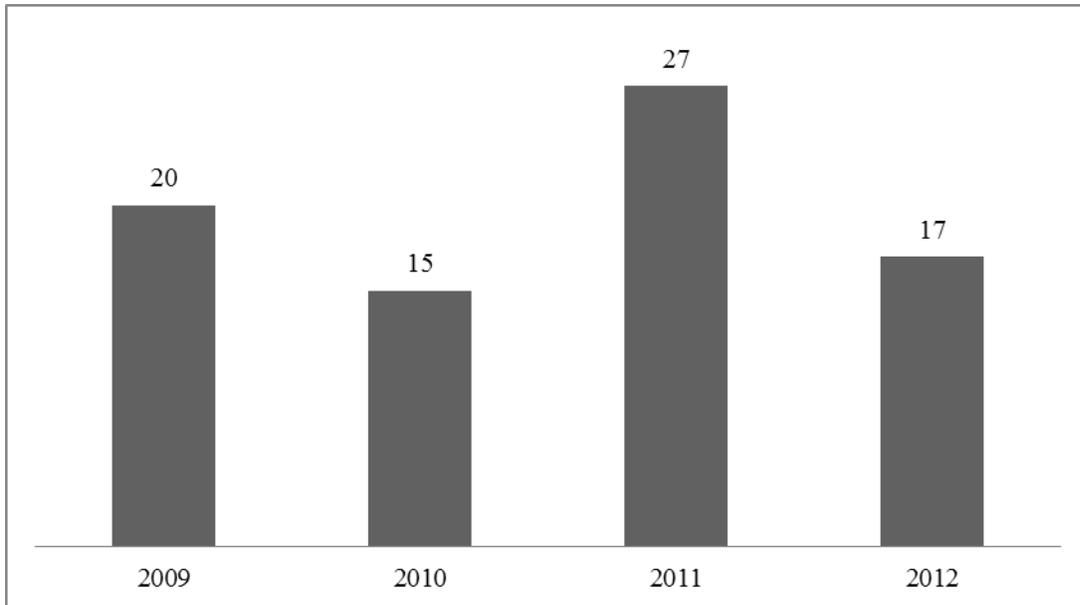
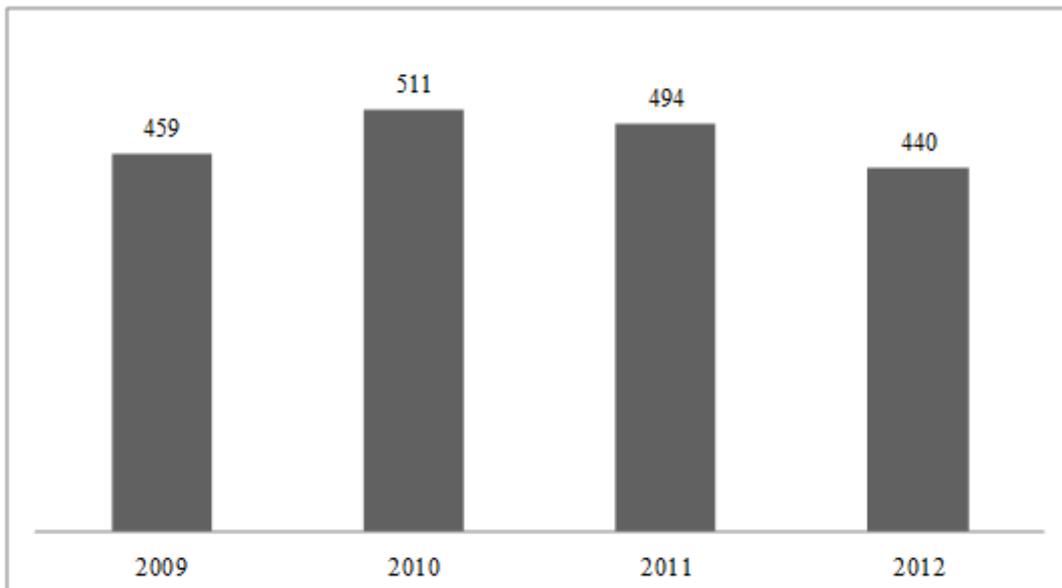


Figure 3. Number of “Use of Force” Incidents That Involved Euthanizing an Injured/Diseased Animal, 2009-2012



Finally and most importantly, Figure 4 shows the total number of intentional use of force incidents, not including incidents where an animal was euthanized, from 2009 to 2012.

Figure 4. Total Number of Intentional “Use of Force” Incidents (not including animal euthanizations), 2009-2012



It is seen that the number of incidents per year has ranged from 511 in 2010 to 440 in 2012, with a mean number of incidents per year of 476.

### Frequency of Use of Force Incidents: Summary Baselines

One of the objectives of this study is to provide baseline statistics on use of force incidents in order to allow one to monitor changes in patterns, trends, and frequency of use of force incidents over time. On the basis of the AIM system and other departmental data, several baseline measures were computed and are discussed here: (1) number of incidents by day month, (2) number of incidents by number of arrests, (3) number of incidents by number of traffic stops, (4) number of incidents by number of field interviews, (5) number of incidents by city population, and (6) number of incidents by police district and aldermanic district. Each is discussed below.<sup>4</sup>

#### *Baseline 1: Number of Use of Force Incidents by Day and Month*

With 440 incidents occurring from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012, there was an average of approximately 1.21 use of force incidents per day.

Table 1 provides a breakdown of the incidents by month.

Table 1. Use of Force Incidents by Month, 2012

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
45	22	36	27	39	44	35	41	31	44	44	32	440

Note: No missing data.

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<sup>4</sup> The baseline measures used here have been calculated in other police departments as well; however, comparing use of force baselines across departments is hazardous because practices of defining and recording use of force incidents (as well as arrests, traffic stops, etc.) are not standard across police departments.

As seen in Table 1, there was variation in the frequency of incidents from month to month, but there is no discernible monthly or seasonal pattern. The mean number of incidents per month was 36.7, with monthly totals ranging from a low of 22 incidents (February) to a high of 45 incidents (January). In previous years, the winter months generally had the lowest monthly totals and summer the highest totals.

### *Baseline 2: Number of Use of Force Incidents and Arrests*

Because most use of force incidents occur during arrests, it is necessary to consider the number of use of force incidents in relation to the number of arrests made. Further, in this calculation, it is important to include only the use of force incidents that also involved an arrest. Again, from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012, there were 440 use of force incidents. Of these 440 incidents, 408 involved a person who could have potentially been arrested (the other 32 incidents involved only a dog). Of these 408 incidents where someone could have been arrested, in 372 of them a subject was *actually* arrested. Also during this period, MPD officers made a total of 34,711 arrests.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, for each arrest where force was used, there were approximately 93 arrests where force was not used ( $34,711/372 = 93.3$ ). Overall, an average of 1.07% of all arrests involved the use of force ( $372/34,711 * 100 = 1.07$ ). In contrast, in 2011, approximately 1.18% of all arrests involved the use of force. In 2010, approximately 1.15% of all arrests involved the use of force. In 2009, approximately 1.07% of all arrests involved the use of force.

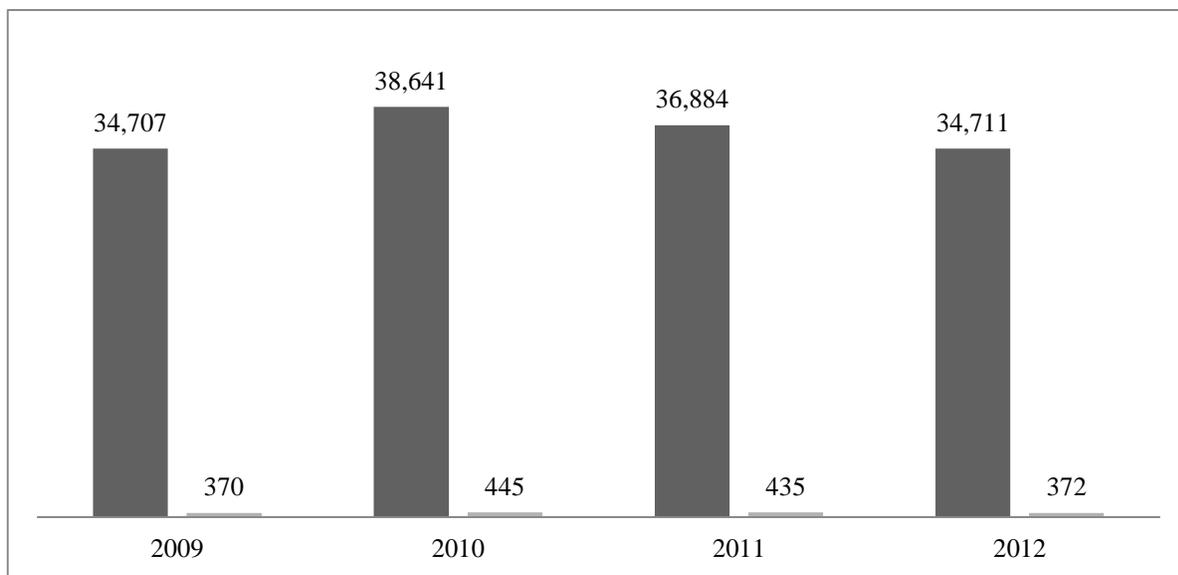
From 2009 to 2012, there is a very strong correlation between the number of force incidents that involved an arrest and the total number of arrests ( $r = .96$ ). In essence, one can predict the number of use of force incidents that involved an arrest in any given year based on

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<sup>5</sup> Included here are arrests for felonies, misdemeanors, and ordinance violations (based on booking numbers).

the total number of arrests that were made in that year. In other words, more arrests means more use of force incidents, fewer arrests means fewer use of force incidents (see Figure 5).

Figure 5. Number of Arrests Made and Number of Arrests Where Force Was Used, 2009-2010



*Baseline 3: Number of Use of Force Incidents and Traffic Stops*

The third baseline compares the number of use of force incidents that resulted from traffic stops to the total number of traffic stops made by officers. As the overwhelming majority of traffic stops that involved force also involved at least one arrest, it must be understood that these traffic stop tallies are not independent of the arrest statistics discussed in Baseline 2 (results not tabled).

In 2012, MPD officers made 197,893 traffic stops and 24 of them involved the use of force. There was minimal meaningful variation in traffic stops across month or by season. In total, there were approximately 8,246 traffic stops for each traffic stop that involved the use of force ( $197,893 / 24 = 8,245.5$ ). Overall, in 2012 approximately .01% of traffic stops involved the

use of force ( $24 / 197,893 * 100 = .01$ ). For comparison, in 2011, .02% of traffic stops involved the use of force; in 2010, this percentage was .03; in 2009 this percentage was .04.<sup>6</sup>

#### *Baseline 4: Number of Use of Force Incidents and Field Interviews*

The fourth baseline compares the number of field interviews (subject stops) where force was used to the total number of field interviews conducted by officers. As with traffic stops, the overwhelming majority of field interviews that involved force also involved at least one arrest. As a result, once again, these field interview figures are not independent of the arrest statistics discussed in Baseline 2 (results not tabled).

In 2012, MPD officers conducted 71,839 field interviews and 37 of them involved the use of force. Approximately 45% of all field interviews occurred in May through September. There were, on average, approximately 1,942 field interviews for each stop that involved the use of force ( $71,839 / 37 = 1,941.6$ ). Overall, an average of approximately .05% of field interviews involved the use of force ( $37 / 71,839 * 100 = .05$ ). In comparison, in 2011 approximately .12% of field interviews involved the use of force. In 2010 this percentage was .13. In 2009 it was .19.<sup>7</sup>

Based on these data, it is reasonable to conclude that: 1) the use of force in subject stops is (and has been) an extremely uncommon event and 2) the use of force in traffic stops is even more uncommon. In addition, the proportion of traffic stops and subject stops where force was used was less in 2012 than it was in 2009, 2010, or 2011.

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<sup>6</sup> In 2011, there were 189,556 traffic stops and 37 of them involved the use of force. In 2010, there were 192,230 traffic stops and 50 of them involved the use of force. In 2009, there were 140,342 traffic stops and 52 of them involved the use of force.

<sup>7</sup> In 2011, there were 61,138 field interviews and 74 involved the use of force. In 2010, there were 47,578 field interviews and 63 involved the use of force. In 2009, there were 27,270 field interviews and 53 involved the use of force.

*Baseline 5: Number of Officers Involved in Use of Force Incidents*

The 440 use of force incidents that occurred in 2012 involved 417 different MPD officers. In 2012, the MPD employed 1,890 sworn officers. As such, approximately 22% of all MPD officers ( $417 / 1,890 * 100 = 22.1$ ) were involved in at least one use of force incident in 2012. Stated differently, approximately 78% of all sworn officers were *not* involved in any use of force incidents in 2012. For comparison, in 2011, 74% of officers were not involved in any use of force incidents. In 2010 this percentage was 79; in 2009, 80% of officers were not involved in any use of force incidents.

*Baseline 6: Number of Use of Force Incidents and City Population*

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the City of Milwaukee had a population of 594,833. Considering the 440 incidents of force in relation to the population of the city, there was, on average, one incident of force for every 1,352 Milwaukee residents in 2012.<sup>8</sup>

*Baseline 7: Number of Use of Force Incidents and Geographic Location of Incidents*

Two variables in the AIM system are related to the geographic location of the incidents: police district (Table 3) and aldermanic district (Table 4). As seen in Table 3, there was substantial variation in the number of use of force incidents across police district. By far, similar to previous years, the largest proportion of use of force incidents occurred in District 7 (32.7%), while the smallest proportion occurred in District 1 (5.1%). As for aldermanic district, District 15 had the largest share of use of force incidents (15.7%), while District 11 had the smallest share of incidents (1.9%) (see Table 4).

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<sup>8</sup> For comparison, in 2011 there was one incident of force for every 1,204 Milwaukee residents. In 2010 there was one incident of force for every 1,164 Milwaukee residents; in 2009 there was one incident of force for every 1,259 Milwaukee residents.

Table 3. Location of Use of Force Incidents by Police District, 2012

Police District	Frequency	Percentage
1	21	4.9
2	46	10.7
3	81	18.9
4	53	12.4
5	52	12.1
6	35	8.2
7	140	32.7
Total	428	99.9

Note: Missing data (12 cases) are excluded from the analyses; percentage does not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Table 4. Location of Use of Force Incidents by Aldermanic District, 2012

Aldermanic District	Frequency	Percentage
1	37	8.8
2	35	8.3
3	21	5.0
4	35	8.3
5	8	1.9
6	37	8.8
7	63	15.0
8	13	3.1
9	20	4.8
10	19	4.5
11	8	1.9
12	21	5.0
13	21	5.0
14	16	3.8
15	66	15.7
Total	420	99.9

Note: Missing data (20 cases) are excluded from the analyses; percentage does not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Given the wide variation in the number of use of force incidents across police district, it is necessary to explore possible corresponding variation in population and arrests across districts.

Table 5 shows the total number of arrests, the number of arrests that involved force, the total number of use of force incidents, and the population of each police district. From these figures, the number of arrests for each use of force arrest and the number of residents for each use of force incident is calculated.

Table 5. Arrests, Population, and Use of Force by Police District, 2012

Police District	Total Arrests Made (a)	Number of Use of Force Incidents That Involved an Arrest (b)	Number of Arrests for Each Use of Force Arrest	Total Number of Use of Force Incidents (c)	Population (d)	Number of Residents for Each Use of Force Incident (e)
1	1650	20	82.5	21	47807	2277
2	5487	38	144.4	46	85671	1862
3	6761	72	93.9	81	82030	1013
4	4352	43	101.2	53	94295	1779
5	6069	44	137.9	52	67841	1304
6	3269	29	112.7	35	114117	3260
7	6839	116	59.0	140	102336	731
Total	34427	362	--	428	594097	--

Notes: (a) Total arrests made excludes 284 arrests because the arrest could not be placed in a district due to the address of the arrest being unknown or unmatched; (b) 10 missing cases (unknown district); (c) 12 missing cases (unknown district); (d) Population based on 2010 U.S. Census data; see [http://itmdapps.milwaukee.gov/publicApplication\\_SR/policeDistrict/index.jsp](http://itmdapps.milwaukee.gov/publicApplication_SR/policeDistrict/index.jsp) (e) figures are rounded.

If the number of use of force incidents were simply and completely a function of the number of arrests made and the size of the population served, one would expect there to be minimal variation across districts in the total number of arrests for each use of force arrest, as well as minimal variation in the number of residents for each use of force incident (i.e., districts that have more arrests would also have more use of force arrests; districts that have higher populations would have more use of force incidents). Clearly, as shown in Table 5, this is not the case; there is substantial variation across police districts in the number of arrests for each use of force arrest, and the number of residents for each use of force incident. Most notable are the

figures that correspond to District 7. District 7 accounts for approximately 17% of the city's population but approximately 33% of the use of force incidents. In District 7, there were, on average, 59 arrests for each arrest that involved the use of force (i.e., 1.70% of arrests involved the use of force), and 731 residents for each use of force incident. These figures are higher than in any other district. However, in an absolute and relative sense, the use of force in arrest situations is a very uncommon event, even in District 7. A similar, but more pronounced, pattern was noted in previous years with District 7.

To further explore this issue, additional analyses were conducted. Table 6 shows the number of traffic stops, field interviews, total proactive police-citizen contacts (traffic stops and field interviews combined), the number of use of force incidents, and the calculated rate of use of force incidents per 1,000 police-citizen contacts (i.e., number of use of force incidents / total police-citizen contacts x 1,000).

Table 6. Use of Force Incidents and Police-Citizen Contacts by Police District, 2012

Police District	Traffic Stops (a)	Field Interviews (b)	Total Number of Proactive Police-Citizen Contacts	Total Number of Use of Force Incidents (c)	Use of Force Incidents per 1,000 Police-Citizen Contacts
1	14429	6605	21034	21	1.00
2	24210	9276	33486	46	1.37
3	28202	12338	40540	81	2.00
4	31008	15741	46749	53	1.13
5	32556	11500	44056	52	1.18
6	29251	5637	34888	35	1.00
7	37478	10562	48040	140	2.91
Total	197134	71659	249638	428	1.51 (mean)

Notes: (a) 759 missing cases (the traffic stop could not be placed in a district due to the address of the stop being unknown or unmatched); (b) 180 missing cases (the field interview could not be placed in a district due to the address of the field interview being unknown or unmatched); (c) 12 missing cases (unknown district).

Once again, in Table 6 it is seen that the use of force is most frequent in District 7 (2.91 use of force incidents per 1,000 proactive police-citizen contacts) compared to other districts. However, use of force in District 7 in 2012 was less frequent than in 2010 and 2009. Specifically, in 2010 there were 3.55 use of force incidents per 1,000 police-citizen contacts in District 7; in 2009, District 7 had 6.05 use of force incidents per 1,000 police-citizen contacts. In 2011, in District 7, there were 2.73 incidents per 1,000 police-citizen contacts (not tabled).

Despite the decline in the frequency of use of force incidents in relation to police-citizen contacts, and the overall rarity of use of force incidents, on the basis of the analyses presented in Table 5 and Table 6, it appears that in District 7: (1) force is more frequently used in arrest situations, compared to other districts; (2) force is more frequently used in relation to the number of persons who reside in the district, compared to other districts; and (3) force is more frequently used in relation to the number of proactive police-citizen contacts (traffic stops and field interviews), compared to other districts. The possible reasons for this disparity cannot be determined definitively with the data analyzed here.<sup>9</sup>

#### Situational Characteristics of Use of Force Incidents

Along with providing baseline measures of use of force, the other purpose of this study is to provide an understanding of the circumstances of use of force incidents. The following characteristics of use of force incidents are discussed here: (1) characteristics of officers and subjects involved in use of force incidents, (2) types of force used, (3) other characteristics of use of force incidents, and (4) force used against dogs.

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<sup>9</sup> Some possible explanations may be that: (1) force is more likely to be used in certain types of arrests (e.g., robbery vs. shoplifting) and that districts vary in terms of the types of arrests made, (2) citizens are more likely to be combative or resistive in some districts (and in some arrests) than in others, (3) officers are more likely to use force in some districts than in others, and/or (4) force is more likely to be reported by officers in some districts than in others.

### *Characteristics of Officers and Subjects Involved in Use of Force Incidents*

The 440 use of force incidents involved 417 MPD officers. Most incidents (303 out of 440; 68.9%) involved one officer, 37 incidents (out of 440; 8.4%) involved three or more officers. With regard to the number of incidents that officers were involved in, 281 officers (of the 417 officers; 67.4%) were involved in just one incident, 18 officers (4.3%) were involved in five or more incidents. The highest number of incidents any officer was involved in was seven (1 officer). These figures are similar to previous years.

In 91% of the incidents, the first officer<sup>10</sup> involved was male, in 70% the officer was white, in 98% of incidents the officer was in uniform, in 99% of the incidents the officer was on duty, and in 81% of incidents the officer was assigned to squad patrol. The average (mean) age of the first officer was 36.8 and the average length of service was 10.1 years. In 15% of the incidents, an officer involved in the incident was injured. These characteristics are very similar to those of previous years.

The 408 incidents involved 415 subjects.<sup>11</sup> Most incidents (395 out of 408; 96.8%) involved just one subject, 14 out of 408 incidents (3.4%) involved two or more subjects. In 84% of the incidents, the first subject involved was male, in 74% the subject was Black, in 40% the subject was under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, the average age of the first subject was 29.5 years, and in 89% of incidents the subject was injured (with the greatest proportion of these injuries classified as “minor.”) In 14% of incidents, the subject was armed with a weapon (not including personal weapons). In 73% of the incidents the subject had a criminal record. In 92% of incidents, the officer noted that the subject resisted arrest. Again, these characteristics are very similar to those in previous years.

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<sup>10</sup> Due to the structure of the data, most descriptive statements regarding the officers and subjects relate only to the first officer or subject involved.

<sup>11</sup> In an additional eight cases the name of the subject was not provided. Excluded from these analyses are the 32 incidents that involved a dog.

### *Type of Force Used by Officers*

With regard to the type of force used, it is seen in Table 7 that the largest proportion of incidents involved bodily force only, followed by the use of an ECD only, chemical agent only, firearm only, bodily force and chemical agent, and bodily force and ECD.

Table 7. Type of Force Used, 2012

Type of Forced Used	Frequency	Percentage
Bodily Force Only	178	40.5
ECD Only	69	15.7
Chemical Agent Only	58	13.2
Firearm Only	40	9.1
Baton Only	3	.7
Bodily Force and Chemical	46	10.5
Bodily Force and ECD	21	4.8
ECD and Chemical	5	1.1
Bodily Force, Chemical, Baton	3	.7
Bodily Force, Baton	3	.7
Police Canine	3	.7
Other Combination (no firearm)	11	2.5
Total	440	100.0

In total, 40 incidents (9.1%) involved the discharge of a firearm,<sup>12</sup> and as discussed below, nine of these incidents involved a subject and 31 involved a dog. Clearly, in a relative and absolute sense, the use of a firearm in a use of force incident was a rare event.

The most notable proportional pattern of change from 2009 to 2012 with regard to the type of force used is that the use of an ECD has increased in frequency while the use of a firearm and especially a chemical agent have declined (see Figure 6 and Figure 7).

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<sup>12</sup> Pointing or aiming a firearm (or ECD) without discharging the weapon was not a reportable use of force category.

Figure 6. Percentage of “Use of Force” Incidents that Involved an ECD (alone or in combination with other types of force), 2009-2012

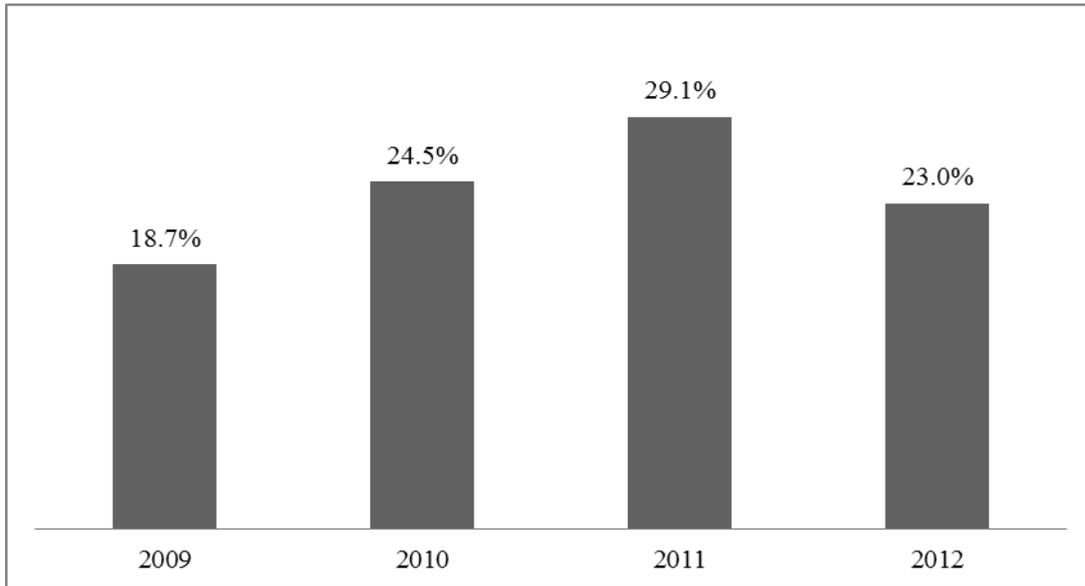
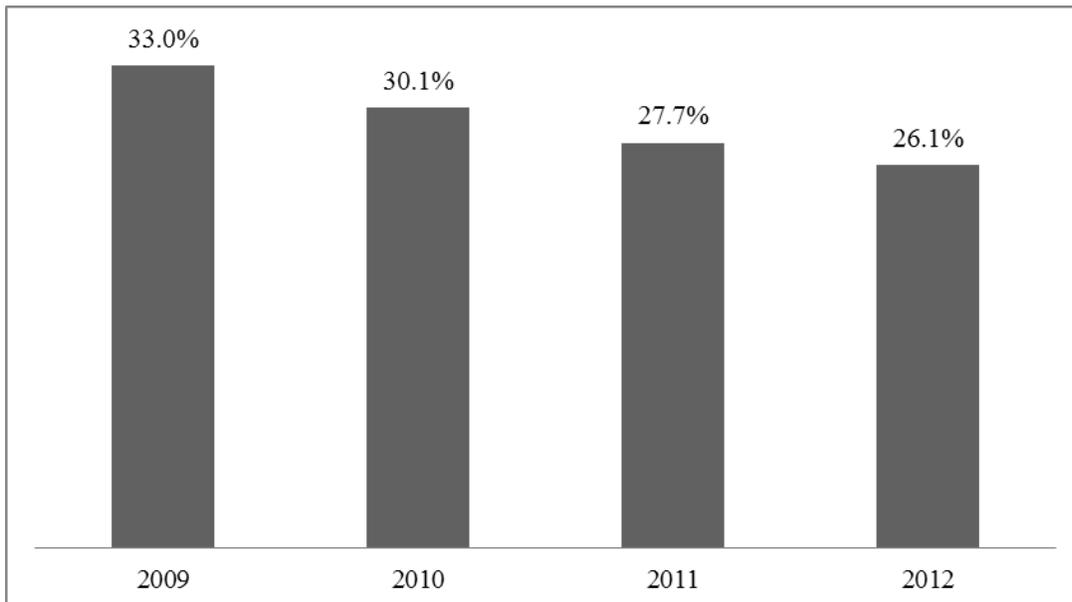


Figure 7. Percentage of “Use of Force” Incidents that Involved a Chemical Agent (alone or in combination with other types of force), 2009-2012



It is worthwhile to note that certain forms of force were more likely than others to lead to “major” or fatal injuries to subjects. Eleven incidents (of the 408 that involved a subject, not a dog) resulted in eleven subjects sustaining “major” or fatal injuries. Four of these incidents involved police use of a firearm, the other seven involved bodily force (either by itself or in combination with a chemical agent or an ECD). Analyses also reveal that certain forms of force were more likely than others to lead to officer injuries. Specifically, officers were more likely to be injured when using bodily force than when using a chemical agent or an ECD. In addition, the more officers involved in the incident, the more likely more forms of force were used in the incident and the more likely that more officers were injured in the incident.

Table 8 shows how firearms were used in use of force incidents. In the rare instance that a firearm was used, it was most commonly used for the purpose of neutralizing a dog.

Table 8. Incidents Where a Firearm was Used, 2012

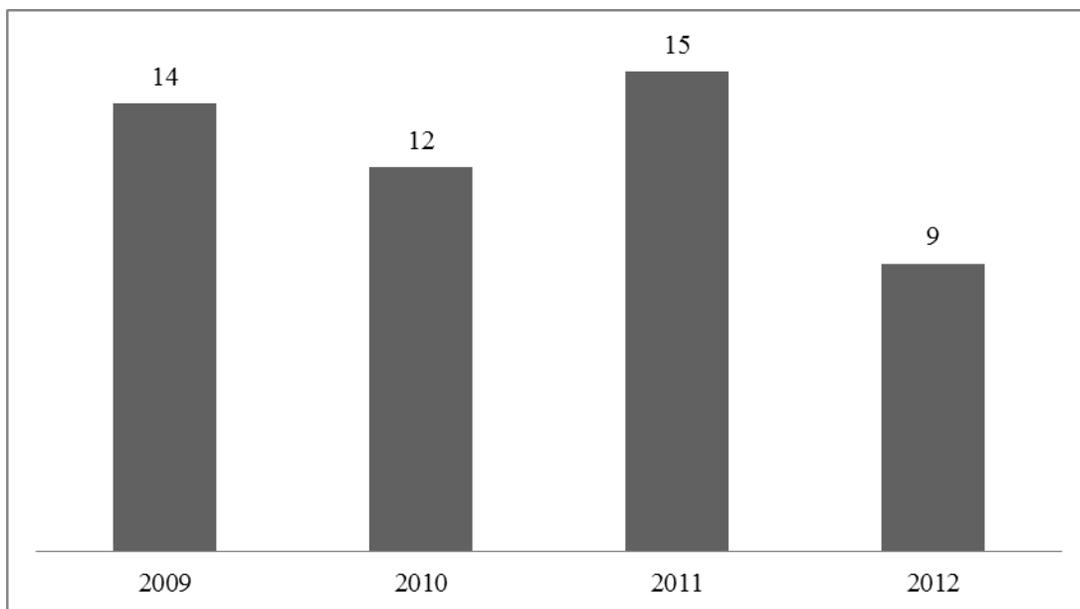
Target of Firearm	Frequency	Percentage	Result
Dog(s)	31	77.5	24 dogs confirmed shot; 23 were fatal
Subject	9	22.5	4 subjects confirmed shot; 1 was fatal
Total Number of Incidents	40	100.0	--

Of the nine incidents that involved the intentional use of a firearm against a subject, one involved an off-duty officer (whose home was being burglarized). Of the nine incidents, one involved fatal injuries and three involved non-fatal injuries to a subject. In two of the incidents, a subject was shot at but not struck. In the other three incidents, it was unknown if a subject was actually struck by gunfire. Six of the nine incidents involved a subject who was confirmed to be armed (4 with a gun, 2 with a vehicle). In the other three instances, the officer involved believed

that the subject was armed with a gun. These nine incidents involved a variety of situations; most frequent were “subject with gun” complaints.

For comparison, Figure 8 shows the number of incidents that involved the use of a firearm against a subject from 2009 to 2012. The 2012 total shows a dramatic decline from previous years.

Figure 8. Number of “Use of Force” Incidents That Involved the Use of a Firearm against a Subject, 2009-2012



#### *Other Characteristics of Use of Force Incidents*

Along with the situational characteristics of use of force incidents that have already been discussed, two additional characteristics are worthy of mention. First, as seen in Table 9, most use of force incidents occurred outdoors (72.2%) and during daylight (52.5%). These characteristics are similar to the incidents in previous years.

Table 9. Other Characteristics of Use of Force Incidents

Characteristic	freq	%
Location of Incident (a)	435	100.0
Indoors	121	27.8
Outdoors	314	72.2
Time/Lighting of Incident (b)	436	100.0
Dark/Night	174	39.9
Light/Daytime	229	52.5
Dusk/Dawn	33	7.6

Notes: (a) 5 missing cases; (b) 4 missing cases.

#### *Force Used Against Dogs*

Of the 440 use of force incidents that occurred in 2012, 32 involved force being used against at least one dog (31 incidents involved a firearm, one involved an ECD). These 32 incidents involved 38 dogs (4 incidents involved 2 dogs, 1 incident involved 3 dogs). Twenty-four of the dogs were struck by gunfire, 13 were shot at but not hit, and one was struck with an ECD. In total, of the 38 dogs upon which force was used, 23 were killed.

Of the 38 dogs, 35 (92.1%) were Pit Bulls, and three (7.9%) were other breeds. With regard to the circumstances in which force was used against dogs, the most common was when officers were responding to a loose dog complaint (see Table 10). In five of the 32 incidents, a citizen was bit by the dog prior to force being used against the dog. In no instances was an officer bitten by the dog.

Table 10. Circumstance of Incidents Where Force was used against Dogs, 2012

Circumstance	Frequency	Percentage
Loose Dog Complaint	12	37.5
Call for Service/Investigation	7	21.9
Animal Bite Complaint	4	12.5
Search Warrant	1	3.1
Traffic Stop/Accident Investigation	1	3.1
Field Interview	1	3.1
Other	6	18.8
TOTALS	32	100.0

In prior years, loose dog complaints and other calls for service/investigations also accounted for most instances where force was used against dogs. See Figure 2, p. 3 for a comparison of the number of incidents that involved dogs from 2009 to 2012.

Unfortunately, it is difficult to put these incidents into perspective as no reliable estimates of the number of dogs, by breed, in Milwaukee were located, nor are there statistics that indicate the number of dogs that are confronted by MPD officers but are not shot.

### Summary

This report is part of a continuing effort to better understand use of force incidents in the Milwaukee Police Department. Based on an analysis of the 440 reportable use of force incidents that occurred between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012, the following summary statements can be made:

- There were 440 reportable use of force incidents in 2012 (compared to 459 in 2009, 511 in 2010, and 494 in 2011). See Figure 4, p. 4.
- There was an average of 1.21 use of force incidents per day in 2012.
- There were 93.3 arrests for every one arrest that involved the use of force.

- Approximately 1.07% of arrests involved the use of force in 2012 which represents minimal change from previous years (i.e., 1.18% in 2011, 1.15% in 2010, and 1.07% in 2009). See Figure 5, p. 7, for raw totals.
- There were 8,246 traffic stops for each traffic stop that involved the use of force.
- Approximately .01% of traffic stops involved the use of force.
- There were 1,942 subject stops for each subject stop that involved force.
- Approximately .05% of subject stops involved the use of force.
- Approximately 22% of MPD sworn officers were involved in at least one use of force incident in 2012.
- There was one incident of force for every 1,352 persons in Milwaukee in 2012.
- The largest proportion of use of force incidents in 2012 occurred in Police District 7 (32.7%) and in Aldermanic District 15 (15.7%). See Table 3 and Table 4, p. 10.
- Similar to previous years, there was variation across police districts in the number of arrests for each use of force arrest, in the number of residents for each use of force incident, and in the number of use of force incidents per 1,000 proactive police-citizen contacts (traffic stops and field interviews). In spite of this variation, use of force was a rare event in all districts. See Table 5, p. 11 and Table 6, p. 12.
- The 440 use of force incidents involved 417 officers. Approximately 67% of these officers were involved in just one incident; approximately 4% of the officers were involved in five or more incidents.
- The most common type of force was bodily force only (40.5%) followed by ECD only (15.7%) and chemical agent only (13.2%). From 2009 to 2012, use of a chemical agent (as a single category or in combination with other types of force), and the use of a firearm have declined in frequency while the use of an ECD has increased in frequency. This

represents the most notable change over the four years in which data were analyzed. See Figure 6 and Figure 7, p. 16 and Table 7, p. 15.

- Forty incidents (9.1%) involved a firearm; in 31 of these incidents (77.5%) the firearm was used to shoot (or shoot at) a dog; nine incidents (22.5%) involved a subject. See Figure 8, p. 18 and Table 8, p. 17.
- Approximately 7% of incidents (32 of 440) involved force being used against one or more dogs (and 31 of the 32 involved a firearm). Most of the dogs were Pit Bulls and the largest proportion these incidents related to a loose dog complaint. See Figure 2, p. 3 and Table 10, p. 20.

Based on the analyses conducted here, and similar to previous years, the typical use of force incident:

- Involved one uniformed police officer and one subject. The officer was a white male, 37 years old, with ten years of service. The officer was not injured as a result of the incident. The subject was a Black male, 29.5 year old, with a previous record. The subject was not armed with a weapon. The subject resisted arrest and sustained “minor” injuries as a result of the incident.
- The incident most likely involved the officer using “bodily force only” against the subject. The incident related to a call for service/investigation and occurred outdoors during day-time.

This study provides information for understanding and interpreting the nature, frequency, and circumstances of use of force incidents in the MPD. The study also provides useful information on data collection practices concerning use of force incidents. These data can be used to compare baseline metrics to monitor use of force incidents.