AN ANALYSIS OF 2018 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 report is to provide an analysis of use of force incidents recorded by the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. 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. One of the objectives of this study is to provide information on use of force incidents to monitor changes in patterns, trends, and frequency of use of force incidents over time. The report is divided into two main sections: (1) summary metrics and (2) situational characteristics of use of force incidents. The report concludes with a summary of the findings.

The data analyzed here are based on "Use of Force Reports" completed by supervisory officers when an MPD officer uses force. The "Use of Force Reports" provide descriptive details on each use of force incident. The data relate to the incident (e.g., date of incident, district of incident, types of force used in the incident) as well as the officers (e.g., officer age, officer rank) and subjects (e.g., subject age, race) involved in the incident. These data are contained in the MPD Administrative Investigation Management (AIM) system. For this report, the data were manually converted to Excel and then to the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) for analysis.[1]

Along with the entry of data into the AIM system for each use of force incident, narrative descriptions of each incident were also written by supervisory officers at the time of the incident. These narratives provide a written description of the incident. They are based on information obtained from the officers involved as well as the subject and other witnesses, if available. These narratives are stored in the AIM system. In preparing this report, these narratives were reviewed and used to verify and, in some cases, supplement the AIM system data. Additional

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[1] These conversions were performed by David Gelting of the Fire and Police Commission.

data on the number of arrests, traffic stops, and subject stops made by officers in 2017 were

obtained separately from the MPD.

According to MPD Use of Force policy 460.35:

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, to include non-contact spark display, contact stun, and probe deployment; Department canine bites a person; forcible blood draws requiring use of force to obtain a sample where a subject claims injury or is injured as a result of police action; uses bodily force that involves focused strikes, diffused strikes, or decentralizations to the ground; uses any type of force in which a person is injured or claims injury, whether or not the injury is immediately visible.

This policy was put into place January 1, 2013. Prior to this policy, incidents that involved

"bodily force only" without injury or complaint of injury from the subject were not required to

be documented, now they are. As a result of this policy change, some of the data from 2013

through 2018 are not comparable to the data analyzed in 2009 to 2012. Only when appropriate is

pre-2013 data compared to post-2013 data.

Frequency of Use of Force Incidents: Summary Metrics

From January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018, there were 694 use of force incidents

recorded by the MPD. Of these 694 incidents, four were accidental[2] and eight involved

euthanizing an injured or diseased animal.[3] As these twelve incidents are fundamentally

different from other use of force incidents in the purpose and intent of the force, these incidents

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[2] Two of these incidents involved the accidental discharge of a firearm, one involved an accidental discharge of an Electronic Control Device (ECD; Taser), and one involved a police canine biting a police officer. Another incident involved an accidental discharge of an ECD along with the intentional use of bodily force. Only the police canine incident involved an injury to a person.

[3] Five of these incidents involved deer, two involved a coyote, and one incident involved a raccoon. All of the incidents involved the use of a firearm.

are excluded from all subsequent analysis. Accordingly, 682 incidents are analyzed in this report. This number is essentially the same as last year and a substantial (23.8%) decrease from 2013 (see Figure 1).

Figure 1.
Number of Use of Force Incidents
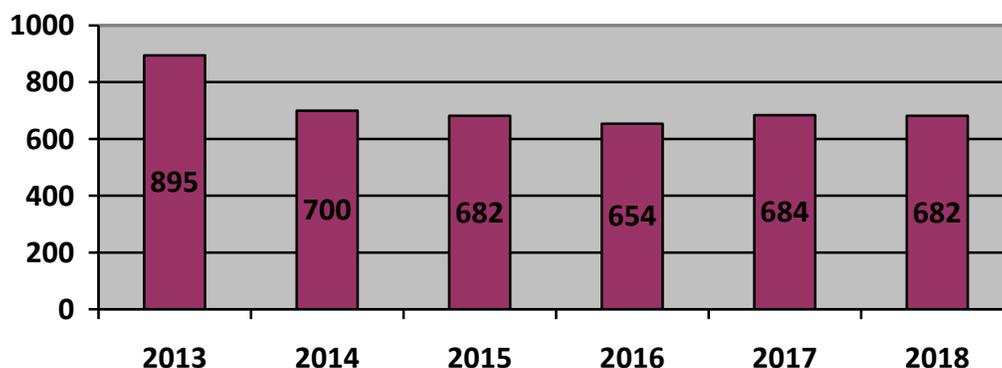
In addition, of the 682 incidents, 19 involved force being used exclusively against one or more dogs (an additional incident involved force against a person and a dog). These incidents are included in most of the aggregate totals analyzed in this report and they are also analyzed separately (see p.17).

On the basis of the AIM system and other departmental data, several comparison metrics were computed and are discussed here: (1) number of incidents per day and per month, (2) number of incidents in relation to number of arrests, (3) number of incidents in relation to number of traffic stops, (4) number of incidents in relation to number of subject stops, (5) number of incidents in relation to city population, and (6) number of incidents in each police district and aldermanic district. Each is discussed below.[4]

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[4] The metrics used here have been calculated in other police departments as well; however, comparing use of force metrics 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.

Metric 1: Use of Force by Day/Month

With 682 incidents occurring from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018, there was an average of approximately 1.87 use of force incidents per day (57 per month). Table 1 provides a breakdown of incidents by month.

Table 1. Month of Incident

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
51	46	58	62	51	60	76	60	62	62	51	43	682

As seen in Table 1, July had the largest number of incidents, December and February the fewest. In most previous years, May, June, and July had the greatest number of incidents, December the fewest.

Metric 2: Use of Force 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, in 2018 there were 682 use of force incidents. Of these 682 incidents, 663 involved a person who could have potentially been arrested (19 incidents involved a dog only). Of these 663 incidents where someone could have been arrested, in 626 of them a subject was arrested. Also during this period, MPD officers made a total of 18,363 arrests (for felonies, misdemeanors, and ordinance violations). Accordingly, for each arrest where force was used, there were approximately 29 arrests where force was not used (18,363 / 626 = 29.3). Overall, in 2018, an

average of 3.41 percent of all arrests involved the use of force (626 / 18,363 * 100 = 3.41 (see

Figure 2).

Figure 2.
Percent of Arrests
that Involved the Use of Force

As noted in Figure 1, the number of force incidents has been quite stable since 2014.

However, because of a decline in the number of arrests made from 2014 to 2018, the *percentage*

of arrests that involved force during those years has increased.

Further, there is a positive correlation between the *number* of force incidents that

involved an arrest and the total *number* of arrests, by month (r = .35; see Table 2). In other

words, one can estimate the number of force incidents each month based on the total number of

arrests that were made each month. In short, more arrests generally translate into more use of

force incidents, fewer arrests translate into fewer use of force incidents.

Table 2. Use of Force Arrest Incidents and Total Number of Arrests Made, by Month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Number of Use of Force Incidents That Involved an Arrest	44	42	56	58	45	52	72	52	59	58	46	42	626
Total Number of Arrests Made	1683	1530	1751	1625	1375	1383	1588	1535	1502	1571	1370	1450	18363

Metric 3: Use of Force and Traffic Stops

The third metric is a comparison of 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 the traffic stop tallies are not independent of the arrest statistics discussed in Metric 2.

In 2018, MPD officers made 90,745 traffic stops and 67 of them involved the use of force (33 of the 67 traffic stops also involved a foot pursuit; 49%). In total, there were approximately 1,354 traffic stops for each traffic stop that involved the use of force (90,745 / 67 = 1,354.4). Overall, an average of approximately .07 percent of traffic stops involved the use of force (67 / 90,745 * 100 = .07). Similar to previous years, this percentage is very small.

Metric 4: Use of Force and Field Interviews

The fourth metric is a comparison of 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. Therefore, once again, the field interview figures are not independent of the arrest statistics discussed in Metric 2.

In 2018, MPD officers conducted 6,945 subject stops and 39 of them involved the use of force (10 of the 39 subject stops also involved a foot pursuit; 26%). There were, on average, 178 subject stops for each stop that involved the use of force (6,945 / 39 = 178.1). Overall, an average of approximately .56 percent of subject stops involved the use of force (39 / 6,945 * 100 = .56). Similar to previous years, this percentage is quite low. Based on these data, one can conclude that use of force in subject stops is a rare event, and the use of force in traffic stops is even more uncommon.

Metric 5: Officers Involved in Use of Force Incidents

The 682 use of force incidents that occurred in 2018 involved 580 different MPD officers. In 2018, the MPD employed 1,917 sworn officers. As such, approximately 30 percent of all MPD officers (580 / 1,917 * 100 = 30.3) were involved in at least one use of force incident in 2018. This percentage is similar to previous years.

Metric 6: Use of Force and City Population

According to the 2017 U.S. Census estimates (most recent available), the City of Milwaukee had a population of 595,351. Considering the 682 use of force incidents in relation to the population of the city, there was approximately one incident for every 873 Milwaukee residents in 2018. This figure is similar to previous years.

Metric 7: Use of Force and Geographic Location of Incidents

Two variables are related to the geographic location of the incidents: aldermanic district (Table 3) and police district (Table 4). Aldermanic District 7 had the largest share of use of

force incidents (14.3%), while District 11 had the smallest share of incidents (1.8%) (See Table

3).

Table 3. Location of Use of Force Incidents: Aldermanic District

Aldermanic District	Frequency	Percentage
1	63	9.4
2	42	6.3
3	26	3.9
4	43	6.4
5	24	3.6
6	88	13.1
7	96	14.3
8	35	5.2
9	17	2.5
10	33	4.9
11	12	1.8
12	59	8.8
13	21	3.1
14	18	2.7
15	94	14.0
Total	671	100.0

Note: 11 cases are excluded due to unknown district.

Table 4 (p. 9) shows the number of force incidents for each police district from 2013 to

2018. Four aspects of Table 4 are noteworthy:

- In 2013 to 2015, District 7 accounted for the greatest share of force incidents;

  however, since 2016 District 7 is indistinguishable from Districts 3 or 5 in this

  regard.

- The decline in use of force incidents in District 7 from 2013 to 2018 is remarkable

  – from 242 incidents to 152 incidents, a decline of 37.25 percent; however,

  District 7 totals in 2018 represent a notable increase from 2016 and 2017. This

  may warrant further monitoring.

- From 2013 to 2018, the number of use of force incidents declined in each police district except for District 1.

- For all years, Districts 3, 5, and 7 accounted for a large majority of use of force incidents in the city (63.7% in 2018, 62.4% in 2017, 60.6% in 2016, 60.2% in 2015, 59.8% in 2014, and 64.7% in 2013).

Table 4. Location of Use of Force Incidents: Police District 2013-2018

Police District	2013 (1) Freq %		2014 (2) Freq %		2015 (3) Freq %		2016 (4) Freq %		2017 (5) Freq %		2018 (6) Freq %	
1	33	3.7	58	8.4	48	7.1	39	6.0	52	7.7	40	6.0
2	138	15.6	79	11.5	101	15.0	84	13.0	89	13.2	95	14.1
3	174	19.6	126	18.3	129	19.2	135	20.8	133	19.7	123	18.3
4	84	9.5	77	1.2	66	9.8	87	13.4	63	9.3	66	9.8
5	158	17.8	123	17.9	124	18.4	124	19.1	154	22.8	153	22.8
6	58	6.5	62	9.0	53	7.9	45	6.9	49	7.3	43	6.4
7	242	27.3	162	23.6	152	22.6	134	20.7	134	19.9	152	22.6
Total	887	100.0	687	99.9	673	100.0	648	99.9	674	99.9	672	100.0

Notes: (1) 8 cases are excluded due to unknown district; (2) 13 cases are excluded due to unknown district, percentage does not total 100 due to rounding; (3) 9 cases are excluded due to unknown district; (4) 6 cases are excluded due to unknown district, percentage does not total 100 due to rounding; (5) 10 cases are excluded due to unknown district; percentage does not total 100 due to rounding; (6) 10 cases are excluded due to unknown district.

Given the variation in the number of use of force incidents across police district, it may be useful to explore possible corresponding variation in the frequency of force in relation to arrests and population across districts (Table 5 and Table 6, respectively). Table 5 (p. 10) shows the total number of arrests, the number of arrests that involved force, and the percentage of arrests that involved use of force for each district (use of force incidents / total arrests * 100 = percent of arrests that involved force).

Table 5. Percent of Arrests that Involved Use of Force, by Police District

Police District	Total Arrests Made (1)	Number of Use of Force Incidents That Involved an Arrest (2)	Percent of Arrests that Involved Use of Force
1	917	38	4.14
2	2,822	86	3.05
3	3,331	113	3.39
4	2,496	58	2.32
5	3,052	142	4.65
6	1,351	39	2.89
7	3,395	141	4.15

Notes: (1) 999 arrests excluded because the arrest could not be placed in a district due to the address of the arrest being unknown or out of the city; (2) 9 missing cases (unknown district).

The analyses provided in Table 5 show that, in each district, a small proportion of arrests involve the use of force; the percentage of arrests that involve the use of force ranges from 2.32 percent in District 4 to 4.65 percent in District 5. Districts 1,5, and 7 appear as outliers compared to the other districts.

Table 6 (p. 11) shows the total number of force incidents, the population of each police district, and the number of force incidents per 100 residents in each district (population / use of force incidents * 100 = rate of force incidents per 100 residents). Table 6 shows that, in relation to the population of the district, use of force is least common in District 6 (use of force incidents per 100 residents is .04) and most common in District 5 (use of force incidents per 100 residents is .23). However, District 5 is not substantially different from District 3 or District 7 in this regard. Overall, it is seen from Table 5 and Table 6 that in an absolute and relative sense, the use of force is a very uncommon event, even in Districts 3, 5, and 7.

Table 6. Frequency of Force and Population, by Police District

Police District	Total Number of Use of Force Incidents (1)	Population (2)	Rate of Use of Force Incidents per 100 Residents (3)
1	40	47,807	.08
2	95	85,671	.11
3	123	82,030	.15
4	66	94,295	.07
5	153	67,841	.23
6	43	114,117	.04
7	152	102,336	.15

Notes: (1) 10 missing cases (unknown district); (2) Population based on 2010 U.S. Census data as reported in the "Milwaukee Police District Statistics" web site; however, the total district population does not equal the city population reported by the 2010 U.S. Census; (3) figures are rounded.

Situational Characteristics of Use of Force Incidents

Along with providing metrics on the 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) frequency of force used against dogs.

Characteristics of Officers and Subjects Involved in Use of Force Incidents

The 682 use of force incidents involved 580 MPD officers. Most incidents (371 out of 682; 54.4%) involved one officer, 217 incidents (31.8%) involved two officers, and 94 incidents (13.8%) involved three or more officers. With regard to the number of officers involved in the incidents, 318 officers (of the 580 officers; 54.8%) were involved in just one incident in 2018 and 39 officers (6.7%) were involved in five or more incidents. In 2018, the most incidents an officer was involved in was 24. Previous research studies show that the best predictor of the

number of use of force incidents an officer is involved in is the number of arrests made by that officer. In other words, officers who make more arrests are more likely to be involved in force incidents. However, given the data available and analyzed here, it is not known how many arrests were made by each officer.

In 97 percent of the incidents,[5] the first officer involved was male, in 72 percent the officer was white, in 94 percent of incidents the officer was in uniform, in 99 percent of the incidents the officer was on duty, in 96 percent of incidents the officer was the rank of police officer, and in 85 percent of incidents the officer was assigned to squad patrol. The average (mean) age of the first officer was 35 (range of 21 to 60) and the average length of service was eight years. In 15 percent of the incidents, the first officer involved in the incident was injured. These characteristics are similar to previous years.

Most incidents (97.4%; 646 out of 663) involved just one subject, 17 of 663 incidents (2.6%) involved two or more subjects. [6]   In 86 percent of the incidents the first subject involved was male, in 78 percent the subject was Black, in 28 percent the subject was under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. The average age of the first subject was 28 years (with a range of 11 to 68; 12% of subjects were under the age of 18 and 1% were 60 or older). In 58 percent of incidents the subject was injured, with the greatest proportion (77%) of injuries classified as "minor." In three incidents the injuries sustained by the subject were fatal (two were firearm-related; another subject died from an unspecified cause). In 14 percent of incidents the subject was armed with a weapon (not including personal weapons such as fists or feet); most often a

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[5] Due to the structure of the data, most descriptive statements regarding the officers and subjects relate only to the first officer or subject involved; percentages are rounded.

[6] Excluded from these analyses are the incidents that involved a dog only; percentages are rounded.

firearm (68%). In 88 percent of incidents, the officer noted that the subject resisted arrest. These characteristics are similar to those in previous years.

Type of Force Used by Officers

With regard to the type of force used by the officer(s) in the incident, it is seen in Table 7 that the majority of incidents (66.1%) involved "bodily force only."

Table 7. Type of Force Used

Type of Forced Used	Frequency	Percentage
Bodily Force Only	451	66.1
ECD Only	66	9.7
Chemical Agent Only (OC)	18	2.6
Firearm Only	13	1.9
Baton Only	3	.4
Police Canine Only	4	.6
Bodily Force and OC	10	1.5
Bodily Force and ECD	45	6.6
Bodily Force and Baton	4	.6
Firearm and ECD	3	.4
Firearm and Bodily Force	2	.3
Bodily Force and Handcuffing	29	4.3
Bodily Force, ECD, and OC	4	.6
Other (no firearm)	30	4.4
Total	682	100.0

Note: ECD refers to Electronic Control Device (Taser), OC refers to Oleoresin Capsicum spray.

In total, 18 incidents (2.6%) involved the use of a firearm alone or in combination with another form of force[7] and, as discussed in more detail below, 13 of these 18 incidents involved a dog only. Clearly, in a relative and absolute sense, the use of a firearm in a use of force incident was an uncommon event.

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[7] Pointing or aiming a firearm (or ECD) without discharging the weapon was not a reportable use of force category.

Additional analyses were performed to examine patterns in the types of force used over time (Table 8). These analyses are limited to incidents that involved the use of a chemical agent (OC Spray), an ECD (Taser), or a firearm.[8] The findings include:

- From 2009 to 2018 there has been a decline in police use of firearms, with 2017 having a dramatic decline from 2016, and 2018 having a significant increase from 2017. It appears 2017 was an aberration in the overall rate of decline.

- Police use of an ECD increased in frequency to 2011, declined from 2012 to 2015, dramatically increased in 2016, declined again in 2017, and remained stable in 2018.

- With regard to the use of OC spray, there was a steady decline from 2009 to 2016, a slight increase in 2017, and then a large decrease in 2018. In 2018 the use of OC spray was at its lowest level since 2009.

Table 8. Type of Force Used, by Year (Number of Incidents)

Type of Force Used	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Firearm Alone or with Other	53	46	51	40	40	30	27	26	9	18
ECD Alone or with Other (not with firearm)	85	125	144	101	85	77	65	169	128	129
OC Alone or with Other (not with ECD or firearm)	150	154	137	115	89	74	82	49	53	32

It is important to note that certain forms of force were more likely than others to lead to "major" or fatal injuries to subjects. Approximately 40 percent of the time a firearm was used

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[8] The 2013 use of force reporting policy change does not preclude an analysis of weapon use (OC Spray, Taser, or firearm) across years but it does preclude an analysis of "bodily force only" incidents. Prior to the policy change of January 1, 2013, all incidents that involved the use of OC spray, a Taser, or a firearm were required to be reported, but bodily force incidents that did not result in a citizen injury, or a complaint of an injury, were not required to be reported.

against a subject it led to major or fatal injuries (2 of 5 incidents). As noted, "bodily force only" is by far the most common type of force used against subjects. In approximately 52 percent (234 of 451) of the incidents when bodily force was used alone a subject was not injured. In an additional 43 percent (196 of 451) of the incidents, injuries to the subject were classified as "minor." No major or fatal injuries were sustained as a result of bodily force.

Analyses also reveal that certain forms of force were more likely than others to lead to *officer* injuries. As noted, 15 percent of officers[9] were injured in use of force incidents. Specifically, officers were most likely to be injured when using bodily force. There are two ways to look at this issue: (1) 72 percent of the time that officers were injured it was during "bodily force only" incidents and (2) 16 percent of "bodily force only" incidents resulted in injury to officers.

Table 9 shows how firearms were used in force incidents. In the rare instance that a firearm was used in 2018, most of the time (72.2%) it was used to neutralizing a dog.

Table 9. Incidents Where the Force Used was a Firearm

Subject of Firearm	Frequency	Percentage	Result
Dog(s)	13	72.2	9 dogs struck
Subject	5	27.8	3 subjects struck
Total Number of Incidents	18	100.0	--

Of the five incidents that involved the use of a firearm against a subject, two involved fatal injuries, one involved non-fatal injuries, and two resulted in no gunshot injuries (i.e., a subject was shot at but not struck). All of the incidents involved a subject who was armed with a weapon (4 with a gun, 1 with a knife). These five incidents involved a variety of situations

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[9] See footnote #5.

including a subject with gun, checking for a wanted subject, traffic stop/reckless driving, and domestic violence. All of the incidents involved on-duty officers.

Table 10 shows the frequency of incidents where dogs and subjects were the focus of the firearm from 2009 to 2018. It is seen that there has been an uneven decline in incidents that involve firearm force against a person (with a low of 5 incidents in 2017 and 2018, and a ten year mean of 10.1 incidents) and a steady decline in the number of firearm incidents that involve a dog (with a low of 4 incidents in 2017 and a ten year mean of 23.9 incidents). The 2017 figure appears to be an aberration in the overall steady decline since 2009.

Table 10. Subject of Police Use of a Firearm, by Year (Number of Incidents)

Target of Firearm	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Person	14	12	15	9	14	8	12	7	5	5
Dog	39	34	36	31	26	22	15	19	4	13

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 (Table 11). First, approximately equal proportions of use of force incidents occurred at night as during daylight. Second, most incidents occurred outdoors. These findings are similar to those of previous years.

Table 11. Other Characteristics of Use of Force Incidents

Characteristic	Frequency	%
Time/Lighting of Incident (a)	681	100.1
Dark/Night	328	48.2
Light/Daytime	313	46.0
Dusk/Dawn	40	5.9
Location of Incident (b)	681	100.0
Indoors	163	23.9
Outdoors	518	76.1

Notes: (a) one missing case, percentage does not total 100 due to rounding; (b) one missing case.

Force Used Against Dogs

Of the 682 use of force incidents that occurred in 2018, 20 involved force being used against at least one dog.[10] Five incidents involved the use of a Taser, two involved the use of OC spray, twelve involved a firearm only, and one involved a firearm and a Taser. These 20 incidents involved 21 dogs. Nine of the dogs were struck by gunfire. In total, of the 21 dogs upon which force was used, seven were confirmed at the scene to have sustained fatal injuries.

Of the 21 dogs, 17 (81%) were pit bulls. The most common circumstances in which force was used against dogs was when officers responded to a loose dog complaint (Table 12).

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[10] Note that Table 9 and Table 10 (p. 15, p. 16) only include those incidents where a firearm was used against a dog; the analyses reported here include any type of force used against a dog.

For comparison, in 2017 there were 11 use of force incidents that involved at least one dog. In 2016 there were 25 use of force incidents that involved at least one dog. In 2015 there were 16 incidents that involved at least one dog. In 2014 there were 26 incidents that involved at least one dog. In 2013 there were 26 incidents that involved at least one dog. In 2012 there were 32 incidents that involved at least one dog. In 2011, there were 38 such incidents, in 2010, there were 35 such incidents, and in 2009 there were 43 such incidents.

Table 12. Circumstance of Incidents Where Force was used against Dogs

Circumstance	Frequency	Percentage
Loose Dog Complaint	10	50.0
Search Warrant	3	15.0
Dog Bite Complaint	3	15.0
Other Call for Service	4	20.0
TOTALS	20	100.0

Unfortunately, it is difficult to put these dog-related 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 upon which force is not used.

Summary

This report is part of a continuing effort on the part of the City of Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission to better understand use of force incidents in the Milwaukee Police Department. Based on an analysis of the reportable incidents that occurred between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018, the following summary statements can be made:

- There were 682 use of force incidents in 2018 which represents a decrease of .29% from 2017 and a decrease of 23.8% from 2013.

- Of the 682 incidents, 19 (2.8%) involved a dog only.

- There was an average of 1.87 use of force incidents per day in 2018.

- One out of every 29 arrests involved the use of force.

- Approximately 3.4% of arrests involved the use of force in 2018, compared to 3.0% in 2017.

- One out of every 1,354 traffic stops involved the use of force.

- One out of every 178 subject stops involved the use of force.

- Approximately 30% of MPD sworn officers were involved in at least one use of force incident in 2018. Approximately 55% of these officers were involved in just one incident; approximately 7% were involved in five or more incidents.

- There was one incident of force for every 873 residents of Milwaukee in 2018.

- Police districts 5 and 7 had roughly equal number of use of force incidents in 2018 and combined accounted for approximately 45% percent of all force incidents in the city in 2018.

- From 2013 to 2018, the number of use of force incidents declined in every police district except District 1. District 7 showed the largest decline in use of force incidents during these years.

- In relation to use of force and arrests made, Districts 1, 5, and 7 had the highest rates of use of force in 2018 and District 4 had the lowest rate. In relation to use of force and population size, District 5 had the highest rate of use of force and District 6 the lowest rate. On an absolute basis, use of force was a rare event in all districts.

- The most common type of force used by officers was "bodily force only" (66.1% of all incidents) followed by "ECD Only" (9.7%).

- Since 2009, the use of a firearm has declined in a steady but uneven manner. In 2009 there were 53 such incidents, in 2018 there were 18 incidents. The decline is evident with incidents that involved a dog as well as incidents that involved a subject.

- The use of a firearm against a subject is at the lowest level since the annual use of force reports have been prepared (2009).

- In 2018, five of the 18 firearm incidents involved shooting at a subject (2 fatalities); 13 of the 18 incidents involved shooting at a dog (7 fatalities).

- Since 2009, the use of a chemical agent has declined in frequency. The use of an ECD increased from 2009 to 2011, declined from 2012 to 2015, significantly increased in 2016, declined in 2017, and remained steady in 2018.

- Approximately 3% percent of force incidents involved any force being used against one or more dogs. Most of the dogs were pit bulls and the largest proportion these incidents related to a loose dog complaint.

Based on the analyses conducted here, and similar to previous years, the typical use of force incident in 2018:

- Involved one uniformed police officer and one subject. The officer was a white male, 35 years old, with eight years of service. The officer used "bodily force only" in the incident. The officer was not injured. The subject was a Black male, 28 years old. The subject resisted arrest and sustained "minor" injuries as a result of the incident. The subject was not armed with a weapon. The incident occurred outdoors and at night.

Data Recommendation

During the past ten years, various recommendations have been made with regard to how MPD use of force reporting can be made more informative. One recommendation is provided here. Within the AIM system, a data field should be created to record the existence (or not) of body-worn camera (BWC) video of the use of force in the incident. Whether BWC video is available in the incident is already regularly noted in the narrative report of the incident. The availability of this information in AIMS would facilitate analysis and reporting of this issue.

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 monitor use of force incidents over time.