

WRPS 2020 SEMI-ANNUAL USE OF FORCE STATISTICAL REPORT Q1/Q2

Presented to the Waterloo Regional Police Services Board

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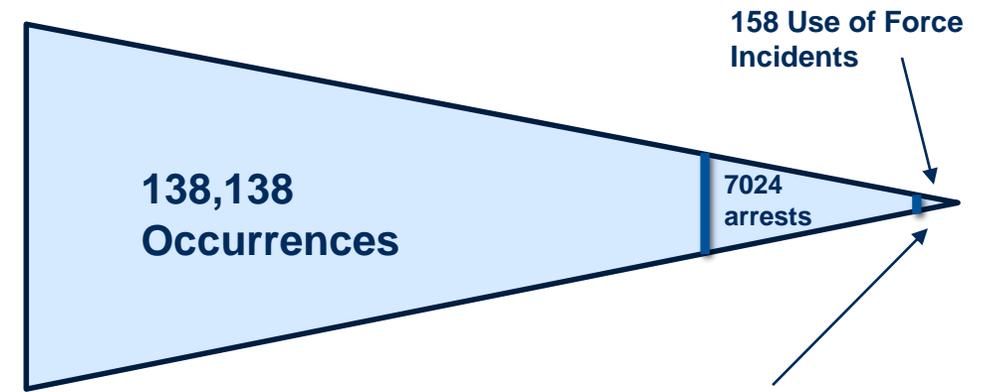
Background

- Period of reporting: January 1 – June 30, 2020 and is the first year that race –based data has been collected.
- ***Reportable incidents*** – Those incidents that require a *Use of Force Report* by legislation and/or WRPS Procedure
- A *reportable incident* may generate several *Use of Force Reports* – one for each officer (excludes team reports)
- Each *Use of Force Report* is subject to 3 layers of scrutiny:
 - (i) The S/Sgt of the platoon/unit;
 - (ii) the Senior Leader of the Unit/Branch/Division; and
 - (iii) a Use of Force Sgt in Training and Education.

Figure 1: Summary of UofF Reports/Incidents

Figure 1 provides a summary of 2020 Q1 and Q2 Use of Force Reports and incidents.

Figure 1	2019		2020	2018	2017	2016	2015
	First Half Jan - Jun 2019	Second Half Jul - Dec 2019	First Half Jan - Jun 2020	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics
Use of Force Reports and Incidents compared to Occurrences and Arrests							
CAD Occurrences ¹	154,638	151,180	138,138	304,082	297,204	287,525	280,141
Arrests ¹	8,707	7,504	7,024	16,868	15,059	14,385	13,624
Use of Force Reports ²	110	143	200	199	267	270	222
Patrol	65	105	149	126	188	203	162
Team (Special Response) ³	33	34	41	55	52	28	33
Animals	12	7	10	18	27	39	27
Use of Force Incidents ²	95	117	158	172	215	201	160
Patrol	50	80	108	99	137	135	100
Team (Special Response) ³	33	34	38	55	52	28	33
Animals	12	8	12	18	26	39	27



¹ Data provided by WRPS Strategic Services Branch, Planning and Project Management, 2020.

² Since some incidents require the attendance of more than one officer and each officer must submit their own Use of Force report, there are more reports than there are incidents.

³ Team reports represent specialized teams which submit one Use of Force report for one coordinated incident (e.g. The Special Response Unit)

- Occurrences (138,138) and arrests (7024) down – likely due to COVID and associated Public Health measures.
- Use of Force incidents up (158) – vast majority due to procedural change to reporting whenever a CEW is removed from holster (57 times in this reporting period).

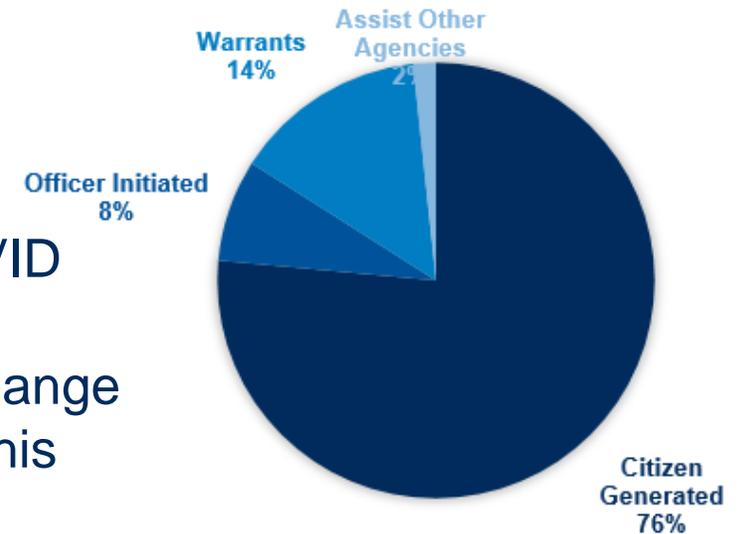


Figure 2 – Call Types Resulting in UofF

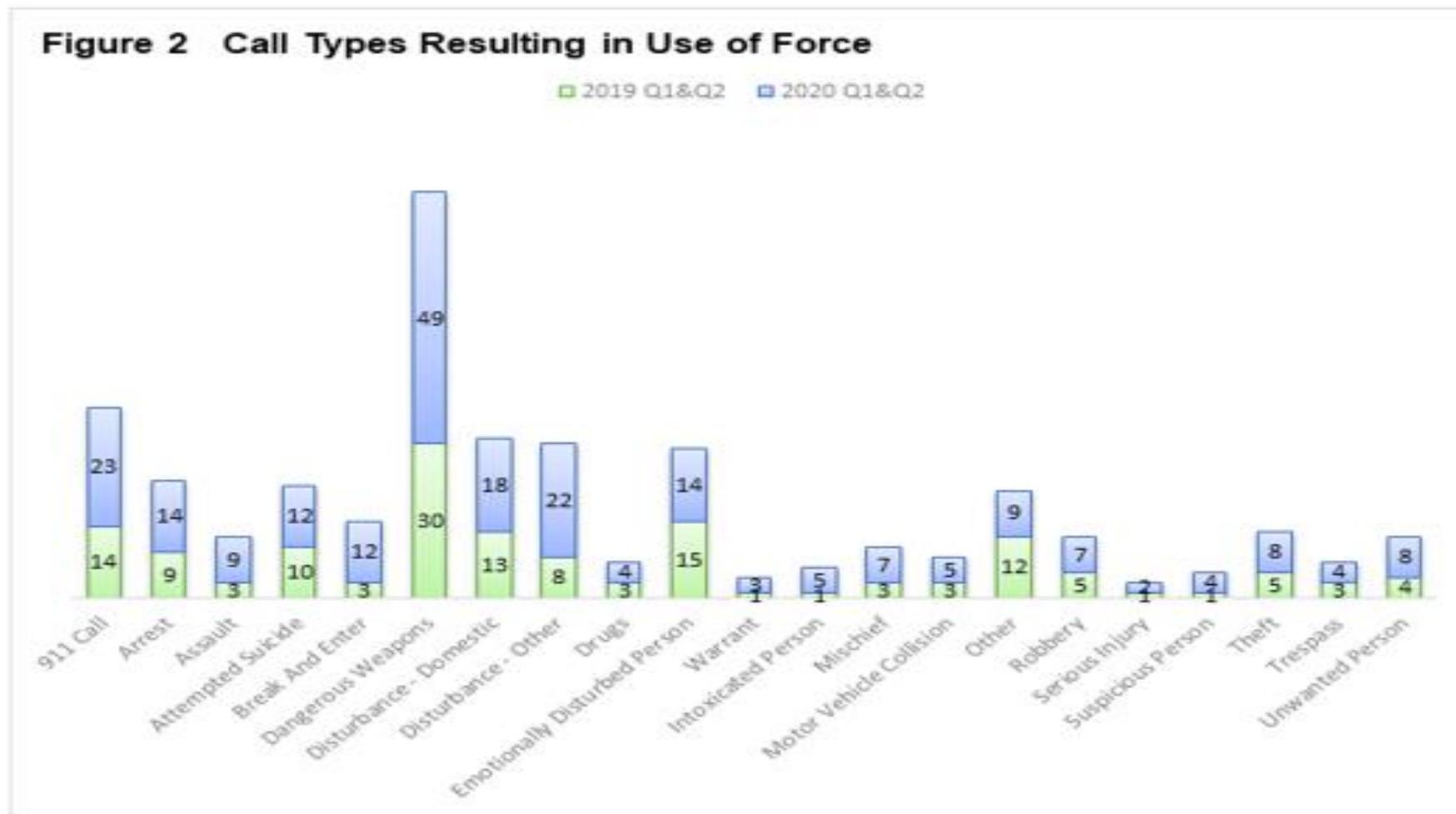


Figure 3: UofF Options (excluding CEWs)

Figure 3	2019		2020	2018	2017	2016	2015
	First Half Jan - Jun 2019	Second Half Jul - Dec 2019	First Half Jan - Jun 2020	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics
Use of Force Options							
Handgun							
Drawn	0	6	12	22	46	80	102
Pointed	19	21	35	18	36	71	68
Discharged	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Carbine Rifle							
Deployed	9	19	12	10	26	32	46
Pointed	1	3	35	9	3	12	33
Discharged	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC)							
	0	2	0	1	0	3	9
Baton							
	1	0	1	5	2	3	6
Physical Control							
	39	34	35	51	48	17	49

Reportable incidents occur in approximately **0.1%** of all occurrences. Due to this small number it is expected that incidents over time may fluctuate, sometimes significantly, for reasons which defy systematic explanation and may be attributable solely to the variability of situations encountered during a specific time period.

Figure 4: CEW Use and Canine

Figure 4	2019		2020	2018	2017	2016	2015
	First Half Jan - Jun 2019	Second Half Jul -Dec 2019	First Half Jan - Jun 2020	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics	Annual Statistics
Conducted Energy Weapons (CEW)							
Drawn only	1	1	57	5	18	11	n/a
Pointed only	22	38	54	60	83	41	n/a
Arc displayed	3	3	3	8	2	2	57
Deployed probes	11	19	12	22	32	26	20
Three Point contact	1	0	0	3	n/a	0	n/a
Drive stun	2	8	5	1	5	4	8
Total	40	64	131	99	140	84	85
Canine	0	1	2				

- Procedural change now requires a *Use of Force Report* each time CEW removed from holster.
- CEW is effective to de-escalate a situation simply through its display
- CEW's have greatly reduced the use of other UofF options such as baton and OC Spray

Figure 5: Summary of Injuries

Figure 5	2019		2020
	First Half Jan - Jun 2019	Second Half Jul - Dec 2019	First Half Jan - Jun 2020
Injuries			
Officer (minor)	2	2	3
Subject (minor)	0	5	16
Subject (serious)	0	1	1

A procedural change in 2020 requires all incidents where CEW probes were deployed (12 for this reporting period) to be recorded as Subject (minor) injuries. Region of Waterloo Paramedics are requested and attends to remove deployed probes.

Figure 6: Officer Perception of Subject Race

Appendix C

Incidents Analyzed - January to June, 2020

Figure 6		Jan - June 2020
Perceived Race of Subject Identified in Use of Force Reports		
Perceived Race	Count	Percentage of Overall Subjects
Black	40	16%
East Asian	7	3%
Indigenous	3	1%
Latino	7	3%
Middle Eastern	18	7%
South Asian	8	3%
White	161	66%

- Challenges:
 - UofF report was not designed to collect data at this level intended for comprehensive analysis
 - Officer's perception of race can differ from officer to officer and may also differ from self-identified race.
 - Small data set & lack of historical data
 - What do we compare this to? (e.g. out of Region subjects)

	Subject Perceived Race	Generated By	Occurrence Type	Subject Behavior	Officer Response
1.	8 Black + 2 White	Citizen Complaint	Homicide	Semi Automatic pistol at hand/ accessible	Team, Individual - Firearm drawn and pointed
2.	1 White	Police Traffic Stop	Vehicle Pursuit	Assaultive	CEW Deployed
3.	1 White + 1 Black	Officer initiated	Weapons Dangerous	Knife concealed & at hand	CEW Drawn & Pointed
4.	1 White	Citizen Complaint	Property Damage	Assaultive	CEW Drive Stun
5.	1 White	Citizen Complaint	Property Damage	Assaultive	CEW Drawn & Pointed
6.	1 White	Arrest Warrant	Provincial Warrant	Serious Bodily Harm or Death	CEW Drawn & Pointed
7.	3 East/Southeast Asian	Citizen Complaint	Weapon (stabbing)	Semi-Automatic firearm at hand/ accessible	Firearm drawn & pointed
8.	2 White OR 1 White	Police Traffic Stop	Stolen Motor Vehicle	Serious Bodily Harm or Death	Firearm Drawn & Pointed + CEW Drawn & Pointed
9.	5 White	Search Warrant	Drug Trafficking	Serious Bodily Harm or Death	Carbine Rifles + CEW + Pistols drawn & pointed
10.	2 White	Citizen Complaint	Weapons Dangerous	Axe at hand	Firearm Drawn & Pointed
11.	1 White	Citizen Complaint	Unlawfully in a Dwelling	Knives in/at hand	Firearm Drawn & Pointed + CEW Deployed
12.	1 Black	Citizen Complaint	Unwanted Person	Assaultive	CEW drawn & pointed

Of the incidents provided in Appendix C only 9 were classified as 'officer generated'

Conclusions

- Despite the frequency of interaction with members of our community (138,138 occurrences and 7,024 arrests in this reporting period) very few (approx. 0.1%) of these result in a *reportable incident*.
- Injuries to both subjects and officers occurring during these incidents remain very low.
- **De-escalation** training has been effective and will continue to be the cornerstone of officer intervention training.
- While the provincially mandated *Use of Force Report* remains a valuable tool for analyzing officer actions – several deficiencies have been identified which limit comprehensive data analysis.

Commitment to Future Actions

- Provide this report to the Board quarterly (2021)
- Assistance with data analysis will be provided by Strategic Services
- Future reporting will be incorporated into the ***WRPS Race-Based Data Collection Strategy***.
- The Training and Education Unit will work collaboratively with the Equity, Inclusion and Diversity (EID) Team to ensure close alignment with principles and actions outlined in the WRPS EID Strategic Plan (2019-2022)
 - Implicit Bias Awareness & Indigenous Awareness training (2020)
 - Anti-racism (with emphasis on anti-Black racism) training (2021)

QUESTIONS?

