

USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS

2022



ROANOKE POLICE DEPARTMENT
APRIL 2023

CITY OF ROANOKE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Roanoke Police Department’s annual Use of Force Analysis reflects the department’s commitment to transparency and accountability. The purpose of this report is to provide a meaningful statistical analysis of the lethal, less-lethal and non-lethal force used by officers.

This analysis was conducted for the purpose of reviewing the Roanoke Police Department’s use of force for calendar year 2022. This analysis indicates that there were 241 police incidents involving the use of force which was 15 more than the 225 incidents in 2021. The following uses of force were reported by officers of the Roanoke Police Department:

POLICE INCIDENTS INVOLVING FORCE	USE OF FORCE EVENTS	FORCE UTILIZATIONS	OFFICERS USING FORCE	CITIZENS INVOLVED
241	406	494	102	255

PURPOSE

Operational Directive 2.1.22 provides officers guidelines on the use of lethal and less lethal force. The Department recognizes and respects the value and special integrity of each human life. Investing officers with the lawful authority to use force to protect the public welfare requires a careful balancing of all human interests; therefore, it is the policy of this department that officers shall use only the amount of force that is reasonably necessary to achieve the officer’s lawful objective, while protecting the lives of the officer or another person. Force in excess of what is necessary is prohibited.

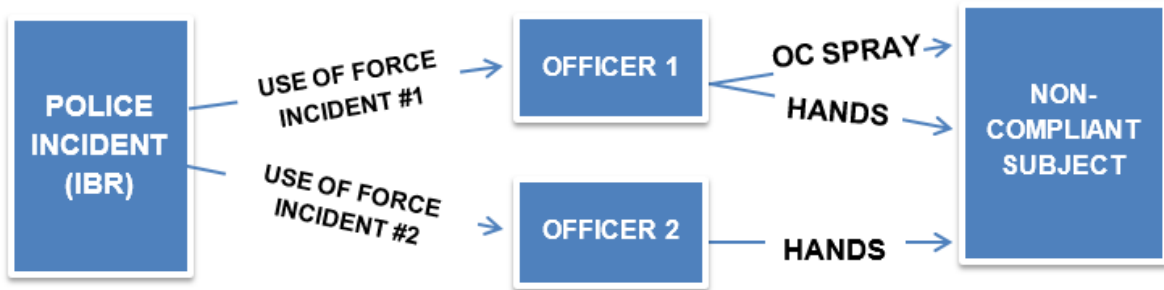
Officers are required to submit a detailed written incident report in every situation in which the application of force exceeds verbal levels to overcome physical resistance. In addition, officers shall complete the Department’s Use of Force Form as a supplemental report to the standard incident report form, in the following instances:

- Every time that an officer must use physical force to overcome physical resistance to the officer’s completion of a lawful act.
- Every time an officer must use lethal or less lethal weapons to overcome resistance.
- Every time an officer must use physical force to protect themselves or others from a physical assault.
- Every time an officer is alleged to have inflicted injury to another person during an incident or the officer is injured under the same circumstances.
- The Use of Force Report Form is required even if the force applied does not result in the arrest of the party to whom the force is applied.

The electronic Use of Force Form is forwarded through the Chain of Command to the Chief of Police or his designee for administrative review of all uses of force.

METHODOLOGY

Police offenses that occur are tracked via an Incident Based Reporting (“IBR”) number. For each IBR number there can be one or more officers involved and one or more of the officers can have used force on a single or multiple subjects. If an officer uses force during a police incident, a “Use of Force” report number is generated through the IPro/BlueTeam software for each officer that uses force and each subject on whom force is used. Each Use of Force report number will only have one officer and one subject involved but could have multiple types of force techniques used on that single subject.



ANALYSIS

POLICE SERVICES

In 2022, Police Officers with the Roanoke Police Department responded to 100,376 calls for service, conducted 6,187 traffic stops, and self-initiated 749 events, totaling 107,312 citizen contacts for the year. Of those 107,312 citizen contacts, 3,450 arrests were made. Of the 107,312 contacts and 3,450 arrests, police only used force in 241 incidents, or only .22% of all citizen contacts and 7% of all arrests. The officers of the Roanoke Police Department did not use force in 99.78% of all citizen contacts. While not all uses of force result in arrest, all use of force events would only comprise approximately 93% of arrests. Only one in every 447-citizen contacts resulted in a use of force by officers.

CITIZEN CONTACTS				ARRESTS*			
	TOTAL	UF	NON-UF		TOTAL	UF	NON-UF
2022	107,312	241	99.78%	2022	3,450	241	93%
2021	101,321	225	99.78%	2021	3,225	225	93%
2020	96,697	224	99.77%	2020	4,196	224	95%

**Not all uses of force result in arrest*

GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The Roanoke Police Department operates under a geographic policing model which is based on the creation of four zones. Each zone is subsequently divided into districts. This geographic policing model decreases response times to calls for service, increases accountability to the citizens the department is

committed to serving and increases interaction between the community and police. When zones are referenced in this analysis, the following boundaries apply:

- **Zone 1**-Encompasses the area south of the NS railroad tracks and east of US Route 220 (Additionally, Zone 1 will encompass the area known as “Downtown”)
- **Zone 2** - Encompasses the area north of the NS railroad tracks and east of I-581
- **Zone 3** - Encompasses the area south of the NS railroad tracks and west of US Route 220
- **Zone 4** - Encompasses the area north of the NS railroad tracks and west of I-581

The City of Roanoke had a total population of 100,106 citizens in 2022 which was a slight increase of a 1% over the previous year total of 99,487.

ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3	ZONE 4
21,135	24,178	25,851	28,996
21%	24%	26%	29%
TOTAL POPULATION: 100,160			

CALLS FOR SERVICE BY ZONE

Zone 4, which is the most populated zone in the City, also continued its historical trend of having the highest volume of calls for service. The geographic disbursement of calls for service remained nearly the same as it has for the previous two years in 2021 and 2020 with no more than a 1% change for any given area.

ZONE	2022		2021		2020	
1	24,548	24%	22,905	24%	21,228	24%
2	24,421	24%	22,667	24%	21,325	24%
3	18,499	18%	18,213	19%	17,441	19%
4	27,054	27%	26,063	28%	25,146	28%
CITYWIDE*	5,854	6%	4,904	5%	4,531	5%
TOTAL	100,376		94,752		93,524	

** Computer Aided Dispatch uses geo-coded coordinates to address the city’s mapping system that coordinates to area identifiers. In those instances, when calls for service are received by E-911 Communications or are created through officer initiated calls for service or traffic stops and the location of the incident cannot be geo-coded, the default area for this location is designated as Police City Wide (PCW) or AO (Field Command).

TRAFFIC STOPS BY ZONE

Officers with the Roanoke Police Department made 6% more traffic stops in 2022 than in 2021 which is a 10% increase over the last two years. Despite the increase in traffic stops over the last two years, the number of traffic stops continues to be drastically lower than it was in 2019 prior to the beginning of the pandemic, staffing shortages and the 2021 legislative changes that limited officer's ability to stop drivers for certain infractions. In 2022, the Roanoke Police Department made 55% fewer traffic stops than it did in 2019.

The most notable changes in traffic stops by geographic zone were in Zones 1 and 4 which both saw a double digit increase in traffic stops by the end of 2022. Zone 1 had a 13% increase and Zone 4 had a 14% increase over the previous year.

ZONE	2022	%	CHANGE	2021	%	CHANGE	2020	%
1	1,505	24%	13%	1,332	23%	-8%	1,447	26%
2	1,555	25%	-2%	1,591	27%	63%	979	17%
3	976	16%	-6%	1,040	18%	-5%	1,099	20%
4	2,075	34%	14%	1,826	31%	-12%	2,081	37%
CITYWIDE*	76	1%	4%	73	1%	421%	14	<1%
TOTAL	6,187			5,862			5,620	
CHANGE	+6%			+4%				

USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS

USE OF FORCE INVOLVEMENT

The following is an analysis of all use of force incidents reported by officers during 2022. Comparisons have been made between the years 2022, 2021 and 2020 with regard to the type of force used, the citizens and officers involved and the nature of the police service involving the use of force as well as when and where these incidents occurred.

INCIDENTS INVOLVING USE OF FORCE

There were 241 police incidents that required the use of force by one or more officers in 2022 which is 15 more incidents than in 2021. While this does represent a 7% increase in the total number of police incidents where a use of force incident occurred, the frequency at which that happens in regards to overall citizen contacts remains nearly the same as the previous year. The number of officers reporting a use of force during those 241 incidents also increased 11% from 366 to 406.

	2022	CHANGE	2021	CHANGE	2020	CHANGE	2019
POLICE INCIDENTS INVOLVING FORCE	241	+7%	225	<1%	224	-18%	273
USE OF FORCE REPORTS	406	+11%	366	-11%	410	-6%	436

USE OF FORCE GEOGRAPHY

The geographic distribution of police incidents that included uses of force by officers in 2022 remained similar to the previous two years. Zone 4 continued its historical pattern of having the highest number of use of force incidents, which is consistent with Zone 4 having the highest number of calls for service and other citizen contacts in the city.

The use of force outside of the City of Roanoke was the most notable difference in the geographic distribution of use of force events in 2022. Of those 17 reports most (15) were related to subjects who were eluding or fleeing from officers. The other two incidents involved a combative subject that was being transported to Catawba Hospital (3 officers involved) and one officer that assisted with a K-9 track requested by Roanoke County.

ZONE	2022		2021		2020	
BEAT	37	9%	22	6%	40	10%
1	92	23%	97	27%	95	23%
2	85	21%	68	19%	71	17%
3	51	13%	61	17%	82	20%
4	124	31%	117	32%	119	29%
OTHER JURISDICTION	17	4%	1	0%	4	1%
TOTAL	406		366		411	

DAY OF WEEK

As seen in 2021, use of force incidents occurred most frequently on Saturdays during 2022. The weekend period between Friday and Sunday accounted for nearly half (48%) of all police incidents that required a use of force in 2022 which is identical 2021 and 2020.

DAY	2022		2021		2020	
SUNDAY	37	15%	36	13%	37	18%
MONDAY	26	11%	15	6%	24	10%

TUESDAY	38	16%	30	13%	23	8%
WEDNESDAY	36	15%	34	16%	33	14%
THURSDAY	32	13%	38	17%	39	19%
FRIDAY	32	13%	31	14%	26	11%
SATURDAY	47	20%	41	21%	45	18%
TOTAL	241		225		224	

TIME OF DAY

Officers reported using force most often during evening and early morning hours in 2022 which is similar to previous years. In 2022, the hours between 6:00 PM and 6:00 AM accounted for nearly 70% of all reported uses of force. Unlike the previous two years, uses of force by officers occurred most often during the time period between midnight and 6:00 AM. There were 63 more use of force incidents during the midnight to 6:00 AM time period than the previous year. The largest decrease in uses of force during a particular time period was between noon and 6:00 PM which saw a decrease from 107 use of force events to 79.

TIME	2022		2021		2020	
0000 - 0600	147	36%	84	22%	111	28%
0601 - 1200	53	15%	58	16%	37	11%
1200 - 1800	79	22%	107	32%	119	32%
1800 - 2359	127	31%	117	32%	144	34%
TOTAL	406		366		411	

USE OF FORCE REASON

The use of force by officers of The Roanoke Police Department continues to decline. There were 406 Use of Force incidents in 2022, which is an 11% increase from 2021. Analysis indicates that the primary reason for officers using force continues to involve subjects who are resisting arrest or fleeing. Uses of force on individuals who were resisting or fleeing from officers was an overwhelming 43% of all use of force incidents.

Use of force incidents occurring as the result of a citizen being assaulted had the largest increase from 16 to 38 incidents during 2022. However, typically the average number of use of force reports with that

reason type are in the 30's so it would appear that 2021 was an anomaly year and 2022, while it may appear high, only increased back to the historical average.

FORCE REASON	2022		2021		2020	
ASSAULTING CITIZEN(S)	38	11%	16	4%	30	7%
ASSAULTING OFFICER(S)	18	7%	27	7%	34	8%
COMBATIVE SUBJECT	36	11%	36	10%	41	10%
DAMAGE TO CITY PROPERTY	2	1%	1	0%	1	0%
DAMAGE TO PRIVATE PROPERTY	4	1%	1	0%	1	0%
NON-COMPLIANCE	52	17%	63	17%	101	25%
POSSIBLE WEAPON INVOLVED	63	18%	60	16%	55	13%
RESISTING ARREST/ FLEEING	139	43%	130	36%	129	31%
TRAFFIC STOP/ELUDING	49	15%	32	9%	19	5%
TOTAL	406		366		411	

TYPES OF FORCE USED

The following data is a breakdown of the reported types of force used by officers for the years 2020 through 2022. These statistics represent the total number of each type of force utilized during use of force incidents. The use of physical force continues to be the most prevalent type of forced utilized by officers while the use of OC Spray has seen the most decline since 2020 and the number of handgun displays have seen had largest increases.

At nearly 50% (245) of total force utilizations, the use of physical force by officers (hands, knee strikes, using their body weight, etc.) was overwhelmingly the most prevalent type of force used against subjects just as it has been traditionally each year.

FORCE TYPE	2022		2021		2020	
40MM	2	<1%	1	<1%	5	1%
BATON	2	<1%	1	<1%	1	<1%
BODY WEIGHT	38	8%	74	17%	57	11%
CEW DISPLAY ONLY	27	5%	16	4%	31	6%
CEW FIRED	15	3%	4	1%	7	1%
CLEAROUT	0	0%	0	0%	3	1%
CS GAS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
FEET	3	1%	5	1%	9	2%
FIST	8	2%	4	1%	14	3%

HANDGUN DISPLAY ONLY	115	23%	86	20%	74	14%
HANDGUN FIRED	1	<1%	5	1%	2	0%
HANDS	171	35%	191	43%	195	38%
IMPROVISED WEAPON	3	1%	0	0%	0	0%
K-9 BITE	9	2%	3	1%	2	0%
KNEE	25	5%	20	5%	25	5%
LESS LETHAL SHOTGUN ERID	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%
OC SPRAY	38	8%	18	4%	60	12%
PATROL RIFLE DISPLAYED	7	1%	6	1%	7	1%
PATROL RIFLE FIRED	1	<1%	0	0%	0	0%
PEPPERBALL	8	2%	0	0%	12	2%
PID	19	4%	6	1%	7	1%
TOTAL	494		440		511	

The use of OC Spray remains dramatically lower since 2020. There are fewer uses of OC Spray in the past two years combined than in 2020. Most of this decrease can be attributed to personnel changes within the department. Of the 15 officers who used OC Spray more than once in 2020, eight of them no longer work for the department and four have since moved into different assignments where there is typically much less opportunity to be involved in a use of force situation.

The most significant increase in utilization type was the display of handguns by officers. There were 29 more instances of officers displaying their handguns in 2022 than in 2021 and 41 more times when compared to 2019. Of those 115 handgun displays, however, only a single officer actually fired their handgun in 2022 (there was also an officer involved shooting that involved a patrol rifle.) Overall, handgun displays made up 23% of all use of force types which is a 10% increase since 2020. There does not appear to be any one underlying factor that has led to this increase. Potentially these variations may be the result of a sharp increase in the number of vehicle pursuits (which typically end in the involved officers displaying their handguns); a young department where nearly 50% of officers using force have less than 6 years of service and may be less able to predict suspect behavior and a rise in the number of calls for service by the department.

CONDUCTED ELECTRICAL WEAPON (TASER)

In July of 2019, the Roanoke Police Department began using Conducted Electrical Weapons or “Tasers” for the first time in its history as an additional less lethal option in order to reduce officer and citizen injuries. 2022 was the third full calendar year of Taser usage. Officers that were equipped with CEW’s utilized them in 2022 twice as much as they did in 2020. Officers displayed their CEW as a threat of force 27 times during the year and discharged their CEW 15 times. In 2020 and 2021, the percentage of officers only displaying their Taser versus those who actually deployed their Taser was similarly distributed. That gap between a threat of force and the use of force narrowed in 2022.

Of the 42 incidents involving a CEW, officers fully deployed their Tasers 15 times or 36% of the total Taser utilizations. This indicates that 64% of Taser incidents were resolved without projectile deployment. This would also indicate that the the warning of a Taser continues to be an overwhelmingly effective less lethal aid in use of force occurrences.

CEW USE	2022		2021		2020	
CEW DISPLAYED ONLY	27	64%	16	80%	31	82%
CEW DISCHARGED	15	36%	4	20%	7	18%
TOTAL	42		38		21	

The most overwhelmingly prevalent reason for CEW usage in 2022, resisting arrest or fleeing, paralleled that of other uses of force in 2022 as well as being historically similar in every year since Taser use began at the department in 2019. These incidents accounted for 19 of the 42 CEW uses or 45% overall.

CEW REASON	TOTAL	%
ASSAULTING CITIZEN(S)	4	10%
ASSAULTING OFFICER(S)	1	2%
COMBATIVE SUBJECT	5	12%
NON-COMPLIANCE	6	14%
POSSIBLE WEAPON INVOLVED	5	12%
RESISTING ARREST/ FLEEING	19	45%
TRAFFIC STOP/ELUDING	2	5%
TOTAL	42	

NATURE OF POLICE SERVICE INVOLVING A USE OF FORCE

Calls for service resulted in an officer using force more often than any other type of police service in 2022, as it traditionally has been. The number of uses of force in 2022 resulting from calls for service accounted for 57% of all use of force events. No other response type resulted in a significant amount of use of force incidents in comparison to calls for service. Overall, the percentage of service types that resulted in a use of force has remained consistent since 2020.

SERVICE TYPE	2022		2021		2020	
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION	1	0%	3	1%	11	3%

CALL FOR SERVICE	232	57%	224	61%	221	54%
COURT	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%
DRUG INVESTIGATION	0	0%	9	2%	12	3%
FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION	5	1%	0	0%	3	1%
INTERVIEWING	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%
NONE	0	0%	3	1%	3	1%
OFF DUTY SECURITY	2	0%	2	1%	1	0%
PRISONER TRANSPORT	4	1%	2	1%	3	1%
PUBLIC SERVICE	2	0%	2	1%	11	3%
RESTRAINING	7	2%	2	1%	11	3%
SCHOOL INCIDENT	5	1%	0	0%	4	1%
SEARCH WARRANT	0	0%	4	1%	0	0%
SELF-INITIATED CALL	38	9%	13	4%	33	8%
TRAFFIC STOP	42	10%	34	9%	33	8%
WANTED SUBJECT	50	12%	40	11%	41	10%
WARRANT SERVICE	17	4%	28	8%	23	6%
TOTAL	406		366		411	

SERVICE TYPE BY CITIZEN DEMOGRAPHIC

Of the 399 police incidents where the sex of the individual was known, 336 (84%) of those subjects were male and 76 (16%) were female.

MALES

In the 399 use of force events occurring in 2022 where race and sex could be determined (non-crowd situations), male subjects were involved 336 times (84%) of use of force events. Black male subjects were involved in 46% of use of force incidents compared to 37% of use of force events that involved white male subjects. Only 2% of these incidents involved males from other races.

The police service that most often resulted in the use of force in 2022 by officers were calls for service. Of the 191 calls for service that resulted in a use of force where the subject was identifiable both black males and white males were involved equally at 23% each.

FEMALES

Female subjects only accounted for 16% of all use of force events in 2022 where the subjects were identifiable. As with their male counterparts, females were involved in uses of force most often during calls for service. White females were involved in 48% of all use of force events involving a female compared to 51% of black females.

SERVICE TYPE	MALES				FEMALES		
	B	W	H	OTHER	B	W	H
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
CALL FOR SERVICE	93	93	4	1	16	21	0
FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
INTERVIEWING	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
OFF DUTY SECURITY	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
PUBLIC SERVICE	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
PRISONER TRANSPORT	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
RESTRAINING	1	5	0	0	1	0	0
SCHOOL INCIDENT	2	0	0	0	2	1	0
SELF-INITIATED CALL	20	8	0	0	4	4	0
TRAFFIC STOP	27	11	0	1	2	0	0
WANTED SUBJECT	24	22	1	0	1	1	1
WARRANT SERVICE	11	4	0	0	1	1	0
TOTAL	183	146	5	2	32	30	1

INVOLVED OFFICER ANALYSIS

INVOLVED OFFICERS

The number of police officers who used force in 2022 continues to drop from the previous two years. There were only 103 officers who used force at least once in 2022 which was down from 116 in 2021 and 129 in 2020. That is an 11% decrease from the previous year and a 20% decrease since 2020.

OFFICERS INVOLVED IN A USE OF FORCE

2022	2021	2020
103	116	129

Use of force incidents in 2021 were overwhelmingly resolved by only one officer on scene having to utilize any type of force. Of the 241 police incidents involving a use of force in 2022, only one officer used force during the event in 144 incidents or 60% of the time. Multiple officers used force 97 times or 40% of the total incidents where there was forced used. This disbursement pattern is identical to 2021 as well.

OFFICERS USING FORCE PER INCIDENT	INCIDENTS	%
SINGLE OFFICER USING FORCE	144	60%
MULTIPLE OFFICERS USING FORCE	97	40%
TOTAL	241	

INVOLVED OFFICER TENURE

In a change from the previous two years, officers with 5-10 years of service were most often involved in use of force events in 2022. 36 officers with 5-10 years of service used force at least once in 2022, which was 35% of all officers that used force. However, the number of officers with less than five years of service with the department was nearly equal, 34 or 33%, to that highest category. Overall, officers with less than 10 years of service made up 70% of all officers that used force at least once during 2022.

YEARS	2022		2021		2020	
<5	34	33%	42	36%	58	45%
5-10	36	35%	31	26%	36	28%
10-15	14	14%	17	15%	13	10%
15-20	13	13%	18	15%	15	12%
20-25	6	6%	8	7%	6	5%
>25	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
TOTAL	103		116		129	

INVOLVED OFFICER AGE

The average age of a police officer involved in a use of force in the City of Roanoke in 2022 was 32 years old just as it was in 2021. In 2022, as well as in 2021, 45 officers involved in a use of force were under the

age of 30. In 2022, this accounted for 44% of officers involved in a use of force incident. Nearly 80% of officers involved in a use of force in 2022 were under the age of 40 which remains similar to the previous two years.

AGE	2022		2021		2020	
<30	45	44%	45	39%	61	47%
30-40	36	35%	45	38%	44	34%
40-50	20	19%	20	17%	20	16%
Over 50	2	2%	6	5%	4	3%
TOTAL	103		116		129	

INVOLVED OFFICER ASSIGNMENT

In 2022, Charlie Platoon accounted for nearly one-third of all use of force incidents for the department. The largest decrease in uses of force in any department assignment continues to be Community Response. This was due to the changing of our organization structure in recent years that moved many of the positions from CRT where an officer would have a higher likelihood of being involved in a use of force to Investigations. This is evident by the decrease of CRT uses of force and the increase in Investigations uses of force since 2020.

ASSIGNMENT	2022		2021		2020	
ALPHA	56	14%	58	16%	60	15%
BRAVO	67	17%	49	13%	100	24%
CHARLIE	136	33%	135	37%	91	22%
DELTA	117	29%	84	23%	98	24%
COMMUNITY RESPONSE	8	2%	20	5%	52	13%
INVESTIGATIONS & SERVICES	22	5%	20	5%	9	2%
TOTAL	406		366		410	

INVOLVED CITIZEN ANALYSIS

DEMOGRAPHICS

Of the identifiable citizens involved in use of force events, 199 were males (82%) and 44 were females (18%). As with previous years, use of force events occurred most frequently in 2022 with males between

the ages of 20-30 (35%). A difference in the number of female subjects involved in uses of force was notable in 2021. In 2020, 62 females were involved in uses of force but that number dropped to only 45 in 2021.

	2022	2021	2020
MALES	199	175	167
FEMALES	45	45	62
TOTAL	245	220	229

MALES

The calendar year 2022 saw a rise in the number of males involved in a use of force incident, increasing from 175 to 206. Males between the ages of 30-40 were most likely to be involved in a use of force in 2022. Of those men, there was an almost even divide between black males and white males with 29 each with only two other individuals not falling within those categories. Black males between the ages of 20-30 were involved in the most uses of force at 35 or 17% of the total for all males. While overall, black males were involved 56% of all uses of force involving a male.

2022 MALES					
AGE	B	W	H	OTHER	TOTAL
<20	17	6	0	0	23
20-30	35	18	1	1	55
30-40	29	29	1	1	60
40-50	16	25	0	0	41
50-60	11	6	0	0	17
60+	7	3	0	0	10
TOTAL	115	87	2	2	206

2021 MALES					
AGE	B	W	H	OTHER	TOTAL
<20	13	1	2	0	16
20-30	24	28	7	2	61
30-40	20	25	2	0	47
40-50	20	6	0	0	26
50-60	15	14	0	0	29
60+	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	88	74	11	2	175

FEMALES

The number of females involved in a use of force event from 2021 to 2022 was nearly identical decreasing from 44 to 42. Black females under the age of 20 were involved in the most use of force incidents among females. However, white females overall had more uses of force than any other females with 22 or 52% of all females involved in uses of force.

2022 FEMALES

2021 FEMALES

AGE	B	W	H	OTHER	TOTAL
<20	10	5	0	0	15
20-30	5	3	0	0	8
30-40	4	7	1	0	12
40-50	0	4	0	0	4
50-60	0	2	0	0	2
60+	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	19	22	1	0	42

AGE	B	W	H	OTHER	TOTAL
<20	2	2	0	0	4
20-30	4	10	0	0	14
30-40	7	4	0	0	11
40-50	3	5	1	0	9
50-60	1	2	1	0	4
60+	0	2	0	0	2
TOTAL	17	25	2	0	44

CITIZEN IMPAIRMENTS

Officers reported 223 or 55% of citizens involved in use of force events in 2022 were impaired by one or more judgement altering conditions (alcohol, drugs or a mental health crisis.) This rate is statistically similar to the two previous years, which was slightly over 50% on both 2021 and 2020. Alcohol (111 or 26%) was the most prevalent condition in uses of force in 2022. 59 (14%) subjects were reported by officers to have multiple impairments during their use of force event.

IMPAIRMENT	2022	2021	2020
ALCOHOL	66	67	74
ALCOHOL, DRUGS	17	22	18
ALCOHOL, DRUGS, MENTALLY UNSTABLE	15	14	11
ALCOHOL, MENTALLY UNSTABLE	13	6	5
DRUGS	25	28	31
DRUGS, MENTALLY UNSTABLE	31	17	22
MENTALLY UNSTABLE	56	48	38
TOTAL	223	202	199

INJURIES

OFFICER INJURIES

In 2022, Officers complained of pain or reported minor injuries as a result of a use of force 25 times, or 9% of all use of force events. This is up slightly from 7% in 2021. Officers reported two serious injuries as a result of the use of force in 2022 for the first time since 2020.

INJURY TYPE	2022	2021	2020
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COMPLAINT OF PAIN	4	5	2
MINOR INJURY	16	20	17
SERIOUS INJURY	2	0	0
TOTAL	25	19	32

CITIZEN INJURIES

In 2022, officers made 406 reports of force being used on a subject. Of those 406 reports by officers, 54 or 13% included injuries ranging from complaints of pain to life threatening injuries. The majority of those injuries, 89%, were complaints of pain or minor injuries. Six reports were made from officers that included a subject who sustained a serious injury from the result of a use of force.

There were two officer involved shootings in 2022 involving two officers. One white male subject was transported to the hospital after receiving a gunshot wound to his leg by the officer. During the second officer involved shooting, the officer did not hit an individual. As per department policy, the actions of the involved officers were investigated by the Virginia State Police who found that the officers acted lawfully during the incident. The Professional Standards Unit also investigated the encounter to determine if the officers acted within department policy. The investigations were presented to the department's Disciplinary Review Board, which is made up of community members and Command Staff. The DRB panel concluded that both officers' actions were justified and within departmental policy. Their recommendation was sent to Chief Sam Roman, who concurred with their findings.

INJURY TYPE	2022	2021	2020
COMPLAINT OF PAIN	16	13	25
MINOR INJURY	32	35	38
SERIOUS INJURY	6	3	4
FATAL INJURY	0	0	2
TOTAL	54	54	69

TRAINING

The Roanoke Police Department continues to incorporate the Use of Force Operational Directive 2.1.22 as a guide in daily operations. This directive is taught and referred to continuously during academy training to recruits and sworn personnel. In addition to OD 2.1.22, verbal communication, de-escalation, crisis intervention training (CIT), diversity and inclusion, and various extended training outside of the police academy are offered and required for recruits and officers to participate in. PowerDMS, on-line training, is required for all personnel to complete with continuous updated policies, case laws, and standards added throughout the calendar year.

Continuous training dealing with issues such as search and seizure, and laws of arrests continue to be critical components of department training to ensure that officers continue to be prepared for every situation that they encounter and ensures that officer’s use of force is within policy and consistent with the expectations of the community.

RECRUIT TRAINING

The Roanoke Police Academy conducted two full recruit classes in 2022, Classes 82 and 83. Class 84 completely Basic Academy Phase I in 2022. Academy recruits participated in the following training hours related to the use of force:

TRAINING	PT HOURS	DT HOURS	DE-ESCALATION, CIT, ACTIVE SHOOTER, USE OF FORCE, FIREARMS, FOOT PURSUIT, OC HOURS
CLASS 82	69	116	156
CLASS 83	78	124.5	150
			USE OF FORCE, FIREARMS, FOOT PURSUIT, OC HOURS
CLASS 84	82	120	81

OFFICER TRAINING

In 2022, officers participated in approximately 2,945 hours of training related to the use of force including the following:

- Annual In-service (firearms and defensive tactics)
- Crisis Intervention Training
- Verbal De-Escalation Train the Trainer
- AR15 Armorer Training
- Firearms/Light/Night Training
- NTOA – Swat Team Leader Development
- Taser Energy Weapons Instructor
- 4-Day Less Lethal ICP Instructor Program
- Firearms Familiarization Certification
- OC Certification
- Animal Warden
- CEW Certification
- Patrol Rifle School
- HCSO Gracie Survival Tactics School for Law Enforcement
- HITS: Handler Instruction & Training
- Basic SWAT Course
- 2022 Virginia Police Work Dog Association Fall Seminar
- Peacekeeper Baton Training
- CEW Recertification

- DT Instructor Recertification

CONCLUSION

In 2022, The Roanoke Police Department continued to face staffing shortages throughout the department. Despite this challenges, the overall percentage of use of force demographics in most categories remained consistent or statistically insignificant with previous years. Supervisory oversight in thorough and accurate reporting of all use of force incidents remains critical to a comprehensive, accurate use of force analysis.

The cognitive impairment of a subject involved in a use of force incident continues to be a major contributing factor in uses of force. Half of all citizens involved in uses of force in 2022 were under the influence of one or more mental health impairments (alcohol, drugs or mental health crisis.) Additionally, officer tenure (although slightly improved) and the increased display of handguns by officers remain areas of concern regarding the use of force.

Recruits and officers are trained to think objectively and critically in potential limited situations at times to de-escalate. If de-escalation is not successful or the incident rises above the application of de-escalation immediately, then the least amount of force is taught to use or apply to accomplish lawful objectives. The goal in dealing with uncooperative subject(s) whether verbally or physically is to detain or arrest in a manner that causes the least harm or injury to the subject and officer within lawful application. Police Officers with the Roanoke Police Department had 107,312 citizen contacts in 2022. 241 of those incidents resulted in a use of force which is a use of force rate of only .22%. Officers of the Roanoke Police Department did not use force 99.78% of the time during a citizen contact.