

2020

Use of Force Report

ROSEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Roseville Police Department

| 2660 CIVIC CENTER DR, ROSEVILLE, MN 55113

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ROSEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020 Use of Force Report

Publication Date: March 17, 2021



INTRODUCTION

QUICK FACTS AND FINDINGS

Below are some of the key findings of this report.

- In 2020, the Roseville Police Department (RPD) handled a total of 32,652 calls for service, 99.5% of which resulted in no uses of force by Roseville officers.
- Seven locations accounted for 36.1% of force incidents. Those locations were either retail malls/stores or hotels.
- In cases where officers used force on a subject, the most common force types overall were joint manipulations/pins, pointed firearm, pointed Taser, and escort holds.
- RPD has two canine teams. In 2020, the canines made one physical apprehension.
- There was one instance in which an officer fired their weapon. A SWAT operator fired his weapon at a suspect after the suspect fired at officers and a hostage. The suspect was uninjured.
- 72.9% of the subjects of force were male and 27.1% were female.
- 40.7% of the subjects of force were Black, 36.7% were White, 2.3% were Hispanic, 10.2% were Asian, and 4.5% were American Indian.
- Four out of every five subjects of force (83.6%) reported living outside of Roseville.
- There were documented injuries to force subjects in 8.4% of cases.

BACKGROUND

In the aftermath of George Floyd's death, police accountability and transparency are more important than ever. For several years, the Roseville Police Department has worked to improve reporting requirements to help provide a more comprehensive analysis of when and how force was being used. After each use of force incident, officers are required to submit forms detailing the number and type of force actions used and the demographic information of the subjects of the force actions.

In 2019, the Roseville Police Department began publishing annual reports regarding use of force. Copies of past years' Use of Force Summary Reports are available [online](#). The inaugural report summarizes RPD's use of force incidents from 2015 through 2018. Subsequent publications, including this report, will primarily review only one year's worth of data.

It is important to note, the current Record Management System (RMS) has limited capacity in the data collection and retrieval process which makes providing comprehensive and in-depth findings and analysis challenging. Recognizing the importance of this data, the Roseville Police Department is working to ensure use of force data is collected in a way that allows for future comprehensive analysis.

EFFECTS OF COVID-19

The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected RPD activities in 2020. Like most organizations, the department had to find ways to adjust to the constantly shifting landscape as new information about the virus and its transmission was published. Administration, Investigations, and support staff shifted to work from home and hybrid staffing models while patrol crews adopted minimum staffing levels and intra-crew bubbles to limit the risk of exposure and spread within the department.

For the safety of citizens and staff, officers also altered their approach to some calls for service. For some incidents in which and in-person response was not necessary, officers took reports via phone. Citizens were also encouraged to use the online reporting system if incident factors allowed for it.

Statewide quarantine orders, as well as local restrictions, led to a decrease in people traveling to and through the city. The most noticeable decline in CFS coincided with Governor Walz’s Stay at Home order declaration in mid-March.

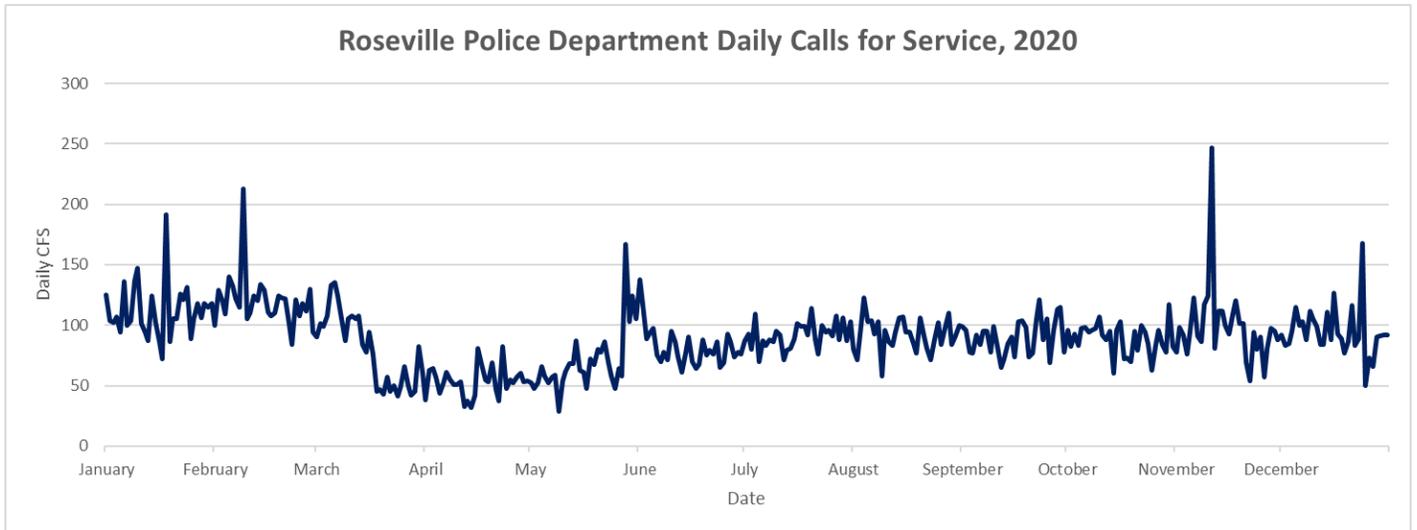


Figure 1 - Daily Calls for Service

The daily spikes in calls for service on 1/18, 2/9, 11/11, and 12/24 are due to snow removal parking citations following large snow falls. The increase in CFS at the end of May and beginning of June reflect the response to civil unrest activities in the wake of the death of George Floyd.

The average number of calls for service did rebound some after restrictions were loosened but still have not returned to pre-pandemic levels.

A Brief COVID-19 Timeline

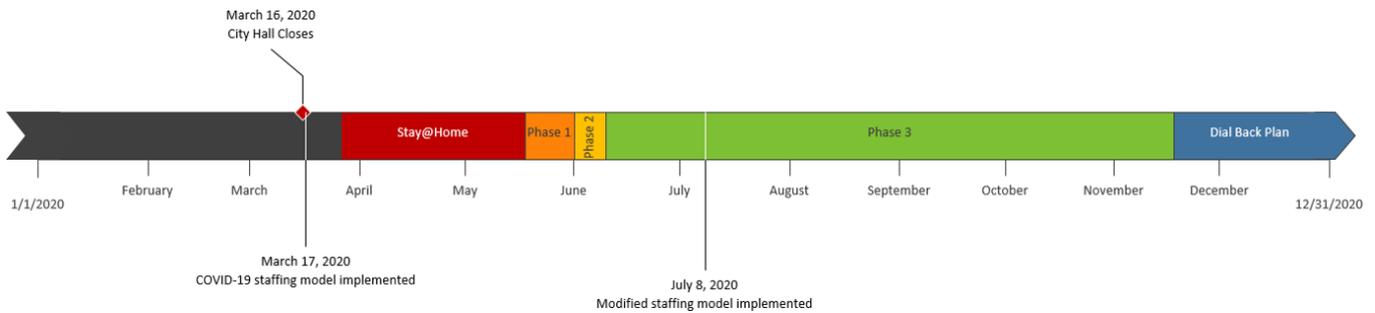


Figure 2 - COVID-19 Timeline

POLICY & REPORTING

USE OF FORCE POLICY

Both in 2018 and 2020, the Roseville Policy Manual, including the Use of Force Policy, was reviewed and updated. The revised Use of Force Policy emphasizes the importance of de-escalation and protecting the sanctity of every life. In our continued commitment to transparency, the policy manual has been posted on the police department’s [website](#). The Roseville Police Department Policy Manual states:

“The Roseville Police Department allows its members to only exercise the authority granted to them by law. While this department recognizes the power of peace officers to make arrests and take other enforcement action, officers are encouraged to use sound discretion in the enforcement of the law. The department does not tolerate abuse of law enforcement authority.

The Roseville Police Department values and respects the sanctity of every life. It is the Roseville Police Department’s expectation officers will make reasonable use of force decisions that demonstrate our value of every life.”

Police officers have been entrusted with special powers and authority by state statute to achieve their mission of preserving the peace, providing protection and security to the public, and enforcing criminal laws. These powers are

unique to the police and are not possessed by the general public. With this grant of public trust, police officers are obligated to exercise their powers judicially and with appropriate restraint.

Police use of force can be defined as an amount of effort required by police to compel compliance of an unwilling subject, or alternatively, a physical act by an officer that compels a person to do something. All situations where a Roseville officer uses force are documented and reviewed by a supervisor.

USE OF FORCE OVERSIGHT & REPORTING

The Roseville Police Department is committed to ensuring that all uses of force are justified and within department policy. Below are some of the measures in place to ensure that any force used by officers is reasonable and within department policy, as well as state and federal laws:

- Starting in 2018, all members of the Roseville Police Department began wearing body worn cameras. Officers are required to activate their body worn cameras when responding to all calls for service and during all law enforcement related activities.
- The Roseville Police Department mandates the completion of an incident report whenever any type of force is used by an officer.
- Supervisors are required to review all incidents involving any level of force used by officers. A comprehensive review of the officers’ reports, witness statements, dispatch information, body worn camera footage, squad video, and any other available information is required as part of the supervisor review. Any potential policy violations are investigated through the formal internal affairs investigation process.
- All supervisors conduct a comprehensive review of officers’ respective use of force data on a quarterly basis.

FORMAL COMPLAINTS

The Roseville Police Department seriously considers all excessive use of force complaints and investigates all complaints brought against officers. Complaints can be filed by the public or can be initiated by the department. [Complaint forms](#) are accessible on the department website and at the police department front counter, or can be provided upon request. The table below represents allegations of excessive use of force complaints against Roseville officers from 2015 to 2020 and the outcome of the investigations.

Use of Force Complaints	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Number of Complaints	1	5	1	2	1	0
Total Number of Sustained Complaints	0	3	0	0	1	n/a

Table 3 - Use of Force Complaints

A detailed account of all complaints filed against Roseville officers are reported annually to the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) and are posted on the department [website](#).

DEFINITIONS & DATA

USE OF FORCE DEFINED

Roseville Police policy defines force as the application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents, or weapons to another person to gain compliance. It is not considered a use of force when a person allows themselves to be searched, escorted, handcuffed, or restrained. When completing their reports, officers must classify the type of force they used (e.g. escort hold, take-downs, joint manipulation, strikes, canine apprehension, pointing of gun, lethal force) and the number of force actions.

Some classifications are not an actual physical application of force. Although many departments do not designate pointing a firearm as a reportable use of force, the Roseville Police Department requires officers to document every instance in which they point their firearm in the direction of an individual. The Roseville Police Department designates the following non-contact actions as force actions:

- Apprehension involving the presence of a police canine
- Pointing a Taser at an individual

- Pointing a firearm at an individual

Deadly Force Defined

Minnesota Statute states the use of deadly force by a peace officer is justified in the following circumstances ([Minn. Stat. § 609.066](#)):

- To protect the police officer or another individual from apparent death or great bodily harm.
- To effect the arrest or capture, or prevent the escape, of a person whom the peace officer knows or has reasonable grounds to believe has committed or attempted to commit a felony involving the use or threatened use of deadly force.
- To effect the arrest or capture, or prevent the escape, of a person whom the officer knows or has reasonable grounds to believe has committed or attempted to commit a felony if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or great bodily harm if the person's apprehension is delayed.

The Roseville Police Department was not involved in any deadly force incidents in 2020.

Report Definitions

There are several different ways to report and analyze use of force data. For this summary, the following data definitions are used:

- Force Incident – This refers to a call for service in which responding officer(s) used some amount of force.
- Force Action – This refers to each unique application of force during a single incident. In one force incident, multiple force actions may be used. Two officers placing an individual in an escort hold would result in two force actions, but one force incident. This would also be the case if an officer used multiple force actions on one individual during an incident.
- Force Type – This refers to the classification of force actions used during a force incident (e.g. escort holds, joint manipulation, pointing of a firearm).
- Force Subject – This refers to the person who received a force action. If two people had to be physically restrained during an incident, the data would reflect a single force incident, but two force subjects and two force actions.

DATA SET

Officers are required to submit “Response to Resistance” forms directly in the Record Management System after every incident in which they engaged in force actions against a subject. The forms include incident details, force action and force type specifics, and the demographic information of force subjects. The department provides training to ensure use of force data is entered as consistently as possible from officer to officer.

The current (RMS) has a limited data retrieval capacity. Therefore, departmental personnel were required to conduct several queries and link the data from each by unique identifiers such as case number (ICR) and subjects’ names and dates of birth. Data were also consolidated into subsets which allowed for analysis of ICRs only and force subjects only.

Departmental personnel attempted to resolve missing or unknown data from the queries by referring to officer reports, squad videos, booking records, and Ramsey County Emergency Communication Center dispatch records. Inconsistencies may still exist based on reporting and retrieval limitations of the RMS data, technical reporting issues, changes in department reporting procedures, and data collected based solely on officers’ perception (e.g. race and gender of subject). Additionally, demographics of force subjects may be incomplete because some force incidents involve subjects who may not have been taken into custody or identified (e.g. suspects fleeing from a stolen vehicle or the use of aerosol subject restraints (ASR or “mace”) to bring a group of people under control).

FORCE INCIDENTS & ACTIONS

In 2020, the Roseville Police Department handled a total of 32,652 calls for service.¹ Most incidents (99.5%) did not include any use of force actions from officers. During the 155 calls for service in which uses of force did occur, officers

¹ Total calls for service includes all police incident reports, including 911 calls, field-generated, investigative, and administrative related incidents. LETG RMS (January 2020). Case Records. Roseville, MN.

engaged in 421 force actions against 179 force subjects. Four of the force subjects were involved in more than one force incident. Below is a summary of the total number of calls for service and the total number of resulting force incidents from 2015 to present.

Total Calls for Service and Use of Force Incidents	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Calls for Service	33,619	36,057	36,444	42,085	39,218	32,652
Total Force Incidents	187	188	173	175	207	155
Percentage of Incidents without Force Used	99.44%	99.47%	99.53%	99.58%	99.47%	99.53%
Percentage of Incidents with Force Used	0.56%	0.53%	0.47%	0.42%	0.53%	0.47%
Total Force Subjects	222	224	225	218	237	179
Total Force Actions	430	499	500	596	532	421

Table 4 - Total Incidents and Force Incidents

LOCATION OF FORCE INCIDENTS

Geographically, force incidents were concentrated in retail areas and at hotels. Seven locations accounted for approximately one-third (36.1%) of force incidents. All seven were either a mall/retail store or a hotel. Below is a map of the location of 2020 force incidents across the City of Roseville. Bar height indicates the number of incidents at a given location—the higher the bar, the more force incidents occurred at that location. The accompanying chart lists the top locations at which force incidents occurred.

Location of Force Incidents, 2020

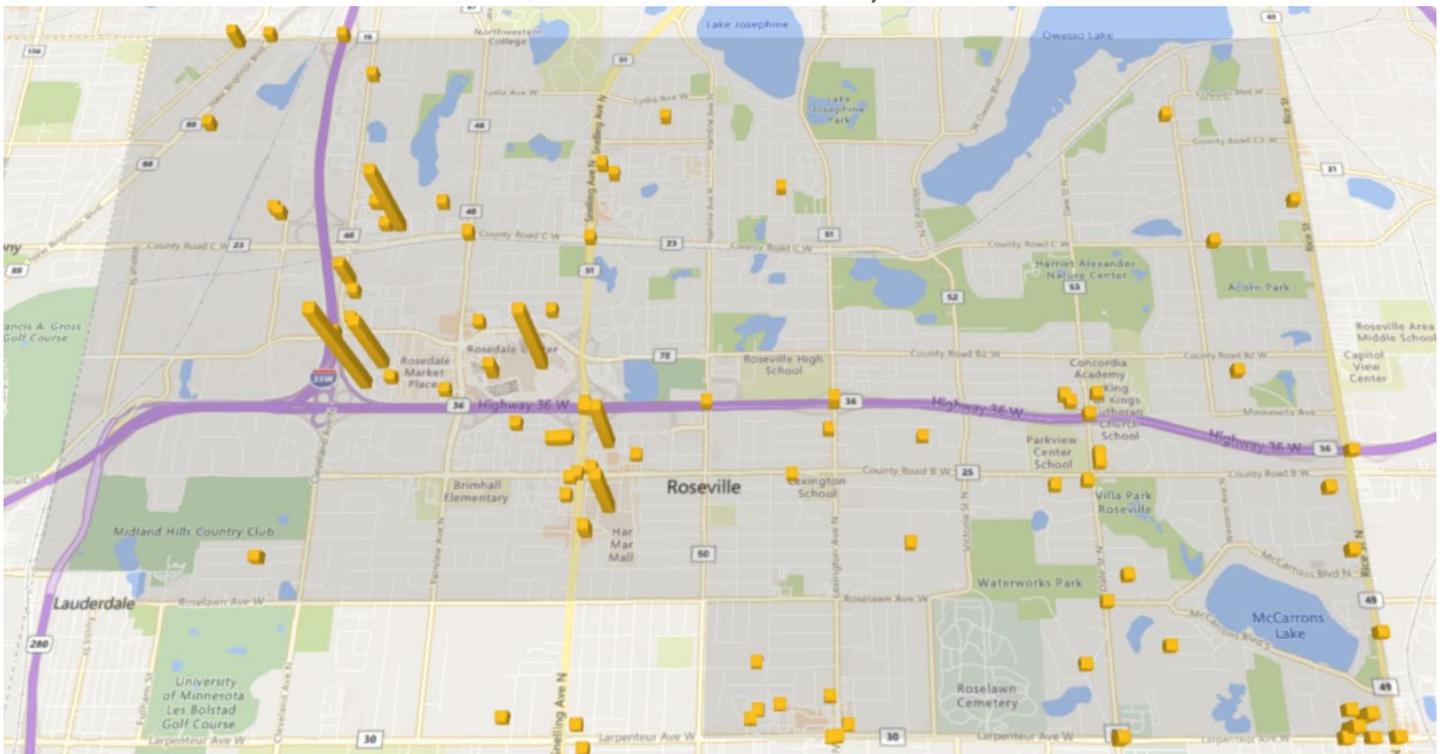


Figure 5 - Map of Use of Force Incident Locations

Top Locations of Force Incidents

Rank	Location	Address	# of Force Incidents
1	Motel 6	2300 Cleveland Ave	12
2	Rosedale Mall	1595 Highway 36 W	10
3	Walmart	1960 Twin Lakes Pkwy	9
T4	HarMar Mall	2100 Snelling Ave	7
T4	Norwood Inn	2401 Prior Ave	7
T4	Target	1515 County Road B	7
5	Key Inn	2550 Cleveland Ave	4

Table 6 - Top Five Locations of Force Incidents

FORCE ACTIONS & FORCE TYPES

Officers engaged in 421 total force actions during the 155 force incidents in 2020. Some incidents involved multiple force actions and force types. For example, if three officers performed a high-risk stop on a stolen vehicle, resulting in two officers pointing their handguns and one officer pointing their Taser at the occupants, it would be considered three force actions and two force types (two pointed firearms actions and one Taser pointing action). Additionally, if an officer

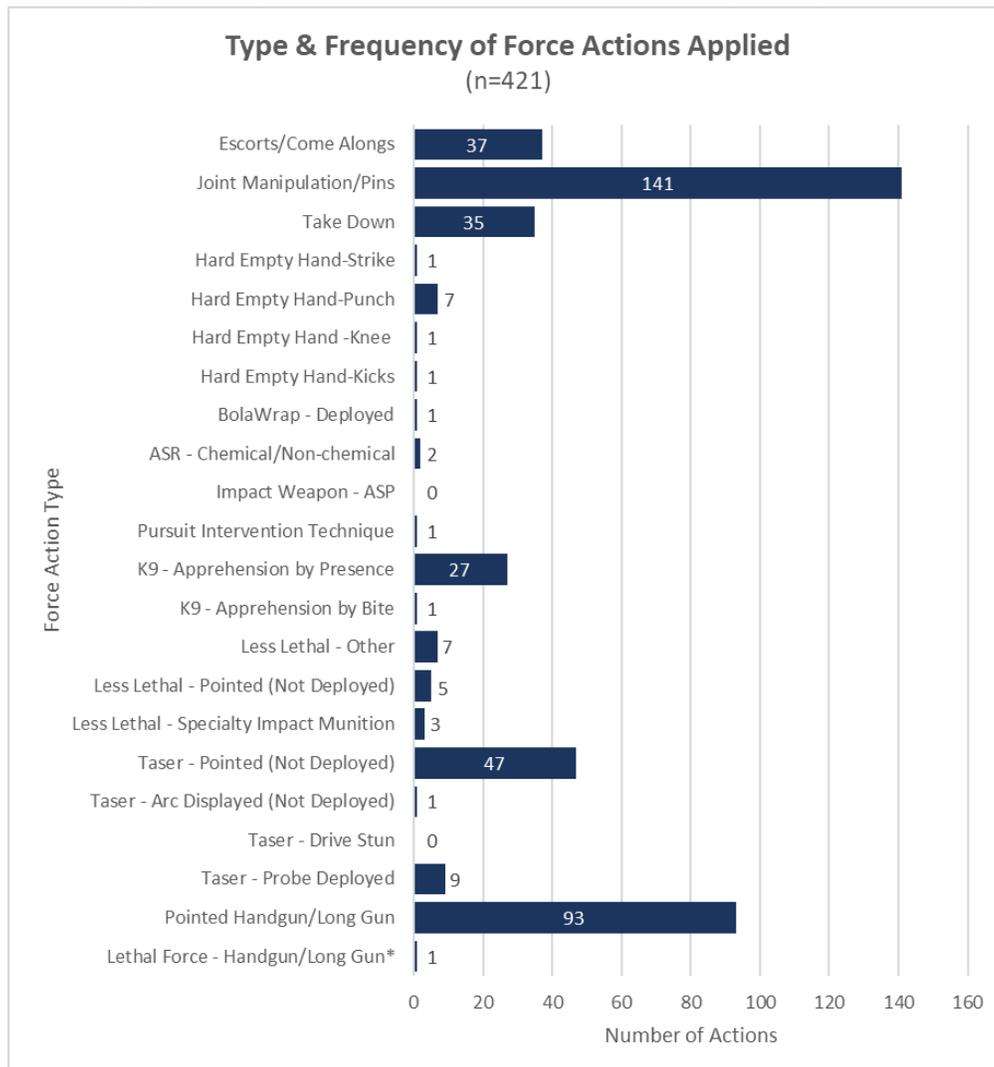


Figure 7 - Type & Frequency of Force Actions

applied both an escort hold and a joint manipulation during an incident, it would be considered two force actions and two force types. Multiple officers are on scene for most force incidents, but all officers present may not have engaged in force actions.

Firearm-related Force Actions

Although many police departments do not designate the pointing of a firearm as a force action, the Roseville Police Department requires officers document every instance in which an officer points their firearm in the direction of an individual. The department recognizes the seriousness of pointing a firearm at a person and, therefore, all firearm pointing is classified as a force action and reviewed by a supervisor. Officers are not required to document situations where they un-holster their firearm but do not point it in the direction of a person.

In 2020, Roseville officers pointed firearms at subjects 93 times during 58 incidents—some incidents included multiple officers engaging with the same subject(s) or officers(s) engaging with multiple subjects. Of those 58 incidents, the greatest proportion were related to Felony violent crimes (20.7%), followed by stolen vehicle (19.0%), and incidents in which the subject fled in a motor vehicle (13.8%). The “Other” category includes three warrant arrests, two cases in which the subject was armed with a weapon, and other incidents that do not fit any other category.

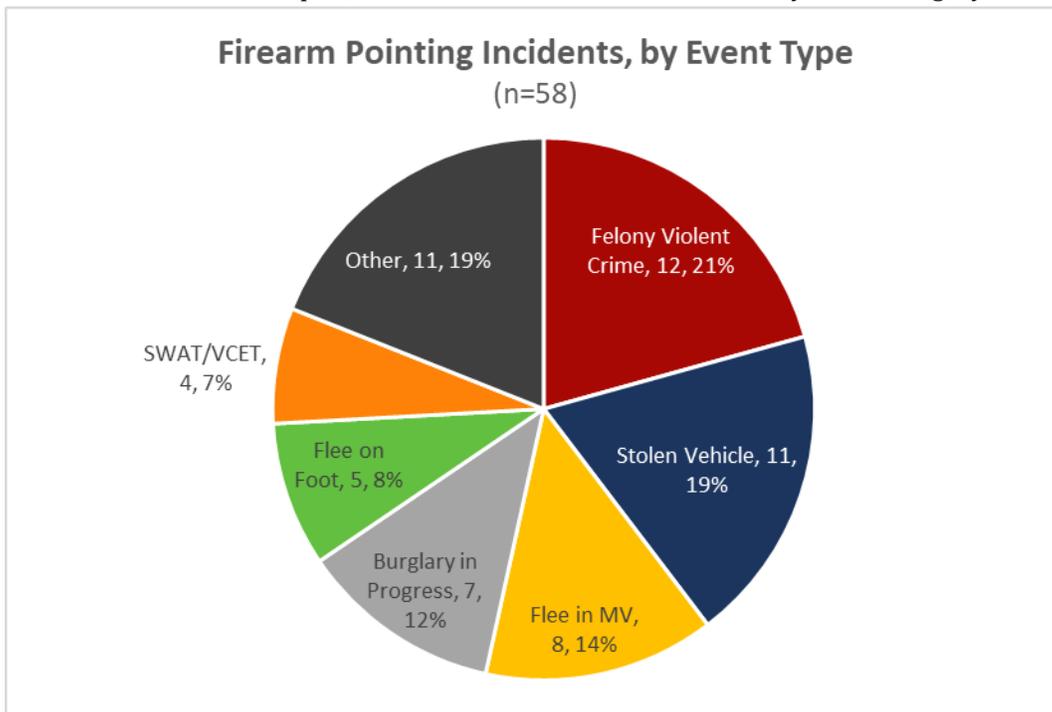


Figure 8 - Non-lethal Firearm Pointing Incidents by Incident Type

Officers used lethal force in one incident in 2020. A Roseville officer assigned to Ramsey County SWAT responded to a hostage situation in a neighboring jurisdiction. A domestic situation had escalated and the suspect was keeping his partner hostage inside their residence. The suspect was armed with multiple firearms and had threatened violence against his partner and himself both verbally and by pointing the weapons. The officer was recovering the hostage outside of the residence when the suspect fired upon them. The officer returned fire, firing twice in the direction of the suspect. After several hours, the suspect was apprehended and was found to be uninjured.

Canine Apprehensions

The Roseville Police Department has two canine teams. Canine officers are required to document both physical apprehensions and presence apprehensions (no physical contact). In 2020, there was one physical canine apprehension. Officers were dispatched to a suspicious vehicle in a residential neighborhood. Upon arrival, they found two individuals passed out in the vehicle from an apparent drug overdose. Both occupants regained consciousness shortly after officers arrived. A canine assisted in the physical apprehension of one of the individuals who officers feared had a weapon and had refused multiple orders to keep his hands in the officers' view.

In 2018, the Roseville Police Canine Policy was reviewed and several changes were implemented. The updated policy dictates a canine may be used to locate and apprehend a suspect only when a canine handler reasonably believes:

- An individual has committed a serious offense.
- The suspect poses an imminent threat of violence or serious harm to the public, any officer, or the handler.
- The suspect is physically resisting or threatening to resist arrest and the use of a canine reasonably appears to be necessary to overcome such resistance.
- The suspect is concealed in an area where entry by anyone other than the canine would pose a threat to the safety of officers or the public.

The updated policy also outlines when canines cannot be used. The use of a canine to locate and apprehend a suspect wanted for a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor crime is prohibited unless the suspect poses an imminent threat to officers or others. Situations include apprehending a person solely because they are a suspect in a theft, shoplifting cases, narcotics sales, human trafficking, and burglary of a vacant building.

FORCE SUBJECTS

Demographic figures vary from other data presented in this report based on what information was captured. In two incidents the force subjects were never able to be identified and no demographic information was known about them. Those two subjects are excluded from Figures in this section.

The Roseville Police Department’s Record Management System presented limitations in supporting this research. Thus, the information below was gathered using a number of different sources. The data summary is the department’s best effort to strive for consistency and provide accurate information on various known demographics of force subjects.

In 2020, four individuals were the subject in multiple different force incidents. Those force subjects are only counted once in the following data.

RESIDENCY OF KNOWN FORCE SUBJECTS

Addresses were collected from the subjects at the time of the incident. Most known force subjects (83.6%) had a reported address outside of Roseville city limits.

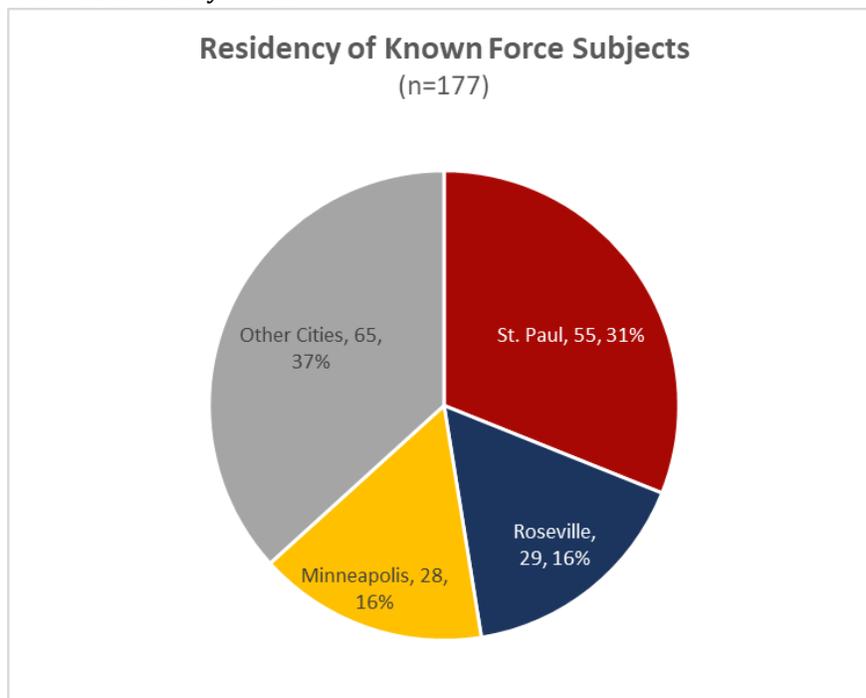


Figure 9 - Residency of Known Force Subjects

Other Cities include: Maplewood (7), Brooklyn Park (4), Coon Rapids (3), White Bear Lake (3), Bloomington (2), Brooklyn Center (2), Eden Prairie (2), Inver Grove Heights (2), Shoreview (2), No Permanent Address (2), Andover, Bemidji, Champlin, Circle Pines, Columbia Heights, Dresser (WI), Duluth, Eagan, Edinburg (TX), Faribault, Farmington, Forest Lake, Fridley, Ham Lake, Jamestown (ND), Lino Lakes, Little Falls, Menomonie (WI), Minnetonka, New Brighton, New Prague, Newport, North Branch, Princeton, Ramsey, Redwood Falls, River Falls (WI), Roseau, Rush City, Saint Francis, Savage, Shakopee, Vadnais Heights, Welch, West St. Paul, and Willmar.

AGE OF KNOWN FORCE SUBJECTS

In 2020, the age of the known force subject ranged from 13 to 67 years old with a median age of 28 years old. All force subjects under the age of 15 were suspects in felony level violent crimes or were armed with a weapon at the time of the force incident.

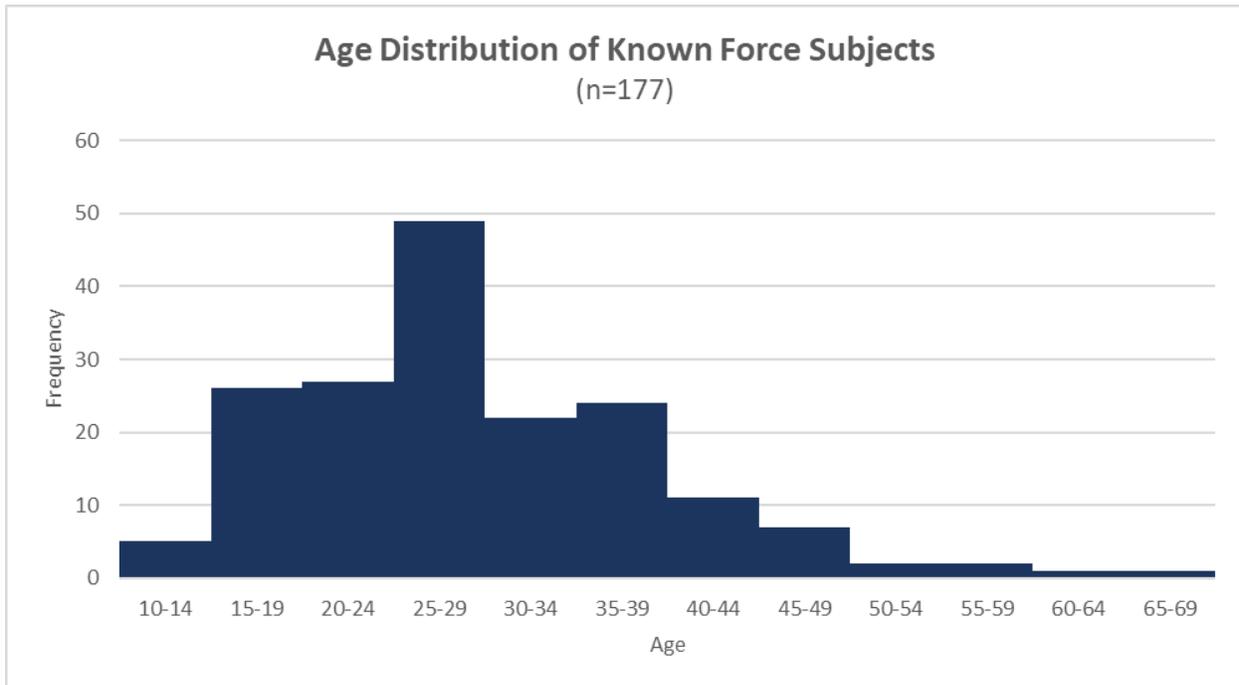


Figure 10 - Age Distribution of Known Force Subjects

RACE OF KNOWN FORCE SUBJECTS

Race coding schemes were modified within Roseville Police Record Management System to the current classifications in 2018. In 2020, 40.7% of force subjects were Black, 36.7% were White, 2.3% were Hispanic, 10.2% were Asian, and 4.5% were American Indian. The race of ten force subjects was unknown (5.6%).

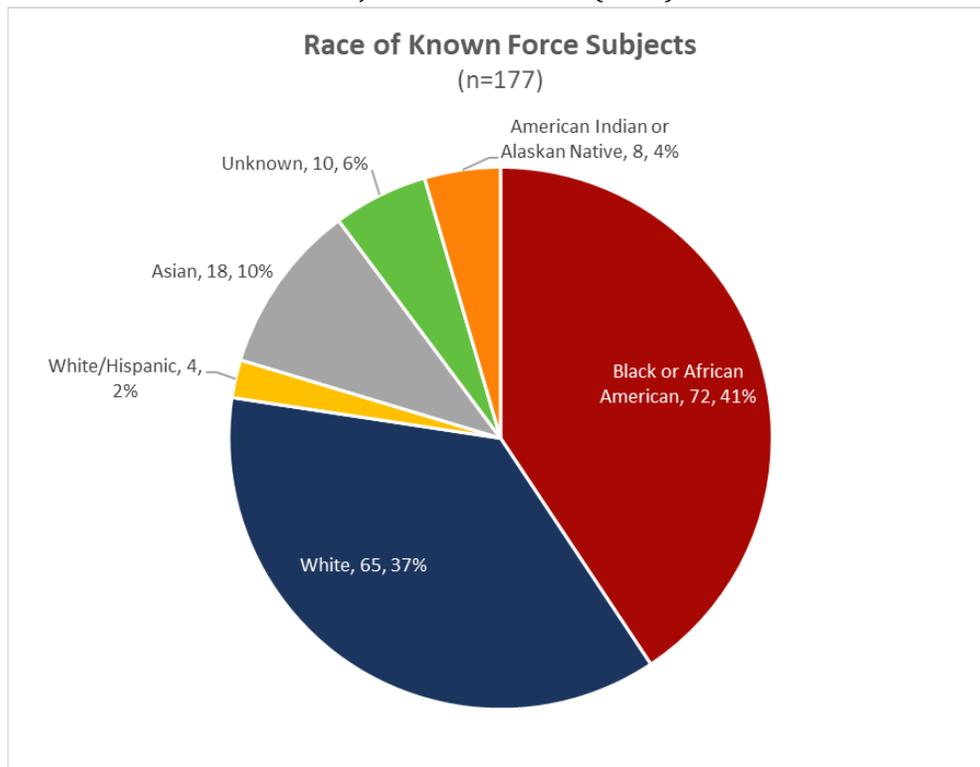


Figure 11 - Race of Known Force Subject

GENDER OF KNOWN FORCE SUBJECTS

In 2020, 27.1% of subjects of force were female and 72.9% were male.

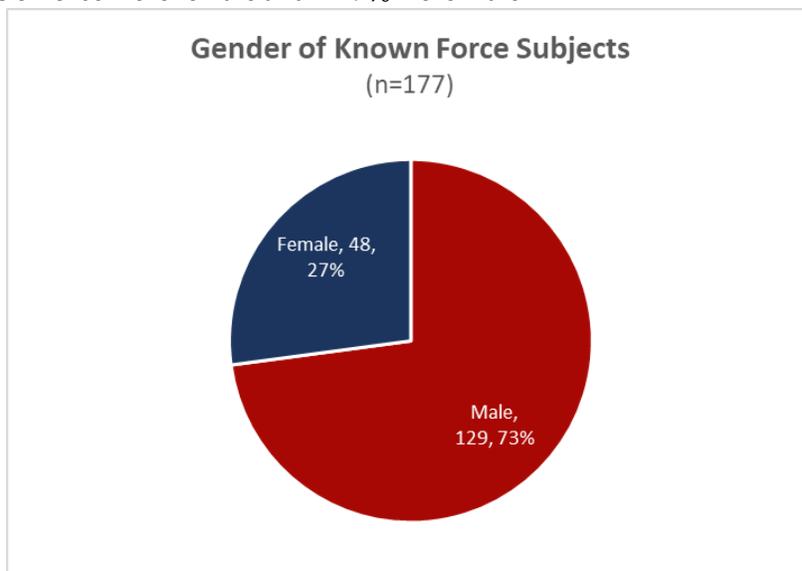


Figure 12 - Force Subjects by Gender

SUBJECT INJURY

On any use of force, officers must document any injury to the subject. Of the 179 total force subjects, 15 (8.4%) sustained some type of injury. None of the force subjects sustained any substantial bodily harm. The most common injuries reported were minor cuts or abrasions.

Department policy requires medical assistance for any person with a visible injury or expressing an injury complaint. All subject injuries resulting from any type of force require a report by the officer and incident review by a supervisor.

DEMOGRAPHICS

ROSEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

The Roseville Police Department strives to create a workforce that embodies a broad range of diversity—including by race, gender, language fluency, life experience, and cultural background—to build greater trust and legitimacy with the community we serve. In 2019, the Roseville City Council adopted a resolution approving the City of Roseville’s Police Department’s [Commitment to Diversity Staffing Program](#), which is focused on increasing the diversity of the department, with an emphasis on creating opportunities for ethnic minorities and women to overcome barriers to employment in the law enforcement field.

In 2020, the Roseville Police Department was awarded a [Pathways to Policing](#) grant through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. The grant helps with tuition expenses for nontraditional community service officers and further supports the department’s mission to recruit nontraditional police officer candidates in an effort to better reflect the community.

The Roseville Police Department currently has a total of 60 full-time and part-time employees. Below is a summary of the Roseville Police Department’s demographics.

Department Demographics	Sworn Officers ²	Civilian Staff	All Police Staff
Total Number of Employees	48	12	60
Race other than/in addition to White	10	2	12
Females	9	9	18

Table 13 - Roseville Police Department Demographics (as of 3/1/2021)

² Authorized strength of force is 54 sworn officers. RPD is in the process of hiring for open positions

CITY DEMOGRAPHICS

The most recent census of Roseville was conducted in 2020; however, the data from that census have not been released at the time of report publication. The 2010 Census showed the City of Roseville had a population of 33,660, with 20.7% of the population being persons of color.³ Since 2000, the City of Roseville has undergone a number of noteworthy changes that have affected the demographics of the city. The current Roseville population is estimated to be 36,457 (74.5% White and 25.5% persons of color)⁴. In addition to Roseville residents, it is estimated that approximately 36,000 people travel into the city daily to work and over 14 million visit Rosedale Center annually.⁵ More details on Roseville's demographics can be found on the [City of Roseville's Economic Development webpage](#).

According to the Roseville Area Schools⁶ [2020 Demographic Report](#), White students constituted 40.6% of the enrollment and 59.4% identified as persons of color. Asian students accounted for 18.7% of the total student body, Black students for 18.2%, and Hispanic students for 13.9%.

USE OF FORCE TRAINING

In President Obama's [Final Report on 21st Century Policing](#), one of the six pillars of effective policing focused on the importance of training and education. The Roseville Police Department places a strong emphasis on continuing education to ensure officers remain proficient in a wide variety of areas, including appropriate use of force, communication, decision making, crisis intervention, procedural justice, and cultural sensitivity.

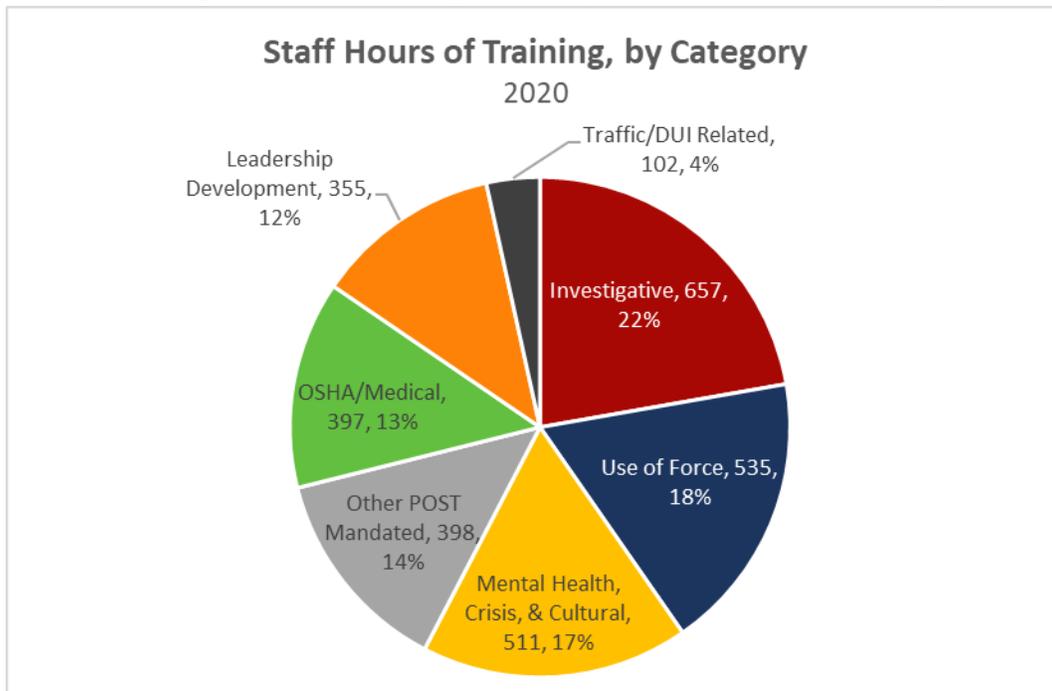


Figure 14 - Training by Category

In 2020, Roseville officers completed nearly 3,000 hours of combined training. Below is a summary of some of the training that officers undergo on a regular and ongoing basis:

- The Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requires agencies conduct yearly training on use of force. Officers must demonstrate proficiency in integrating communication skills when safe and feasible as well as in tactical de-escalation strategies in volatile situations.
- The Roseville Police Department conducts scenario-based training several times throughout the year. The training emphasizes using time and distance to de-escalate situations. Each training includes scenarios that require officers to demonstrate effective communication skills to safely engage with, de-escalate, and gain compliance from subjects who are in crisis or non-compliant.

³ United States Census Bureau <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

⁴ United States Census Bureau <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/rosevillecityminnesota.US/PST045219>

⁵ ESRI, 2017-07-03 <http://www.growroseville.com/roseville/site-selectors/community-profile/>; <https://rosedalecenter.com/about> 3/3/2021

⁶ Roseville Area Schools District boundaries extend into portions of other cities, including Maplewood, Little Canada, Shoreview, & St. Paul.

- [Minn. Stat. § 626.8469](#) requires all police officers complete at least 16 hours of training every three years in crisis-intervention, conflict management, and diversity/implicit bias.
- All Roseville officers have completed a 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training or its equivalent. All new officers are required to attend CIT training after completing their field training program.
- All officers are trained in the use of less-than-lethal launchers, which have been used successfully in the field when deadly force could have been legally justified.
- Department leaders and Roseville use of force instructors participated in the Police Executive Research Forum’s (PERF) [Integrated Communications, Assessment, and Tactics \(ICAT\) training](#).⁷ The mission of the training is to reinforce the core value of the sanctity of human life and promote officer safety by integrating skills and strategies related to decision making, crisis recognition, tactical communications, and safety tactics.
- Starting in 2018, select department staff participated in the [Government Alliance for Racial Equity \(GARE\)](#) program. In 2019, all city staff attended racial equity training based on the GARE model.
- In 2019, all Roseville officers attended the Anti-Defamation League’s [Managing Implicit Bias for Law Enforcement](#) training.
- In 2019, RPD created a six week academy for newly hired officers. Scenario based training is a key component of the academy, focusing on effective communication and de-escalation.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Roseville Police Department values and respects the sanctity of every life—the lives of the people we serve and the lives of police officers. We will continue to ensure that only force that is reasonably necessary to effectively bring an incident under control is used to protect the lives and safety of the officers and members of the public. We will continue to collaborate with community members to develop policies and strategies to ensure we continue to provide impartial and unbiased policing and enforce laws in a fair and equitable manner.

In the wake of George Floyd’s death in Minneapolis, RPD formed the [Multicultural Advisory Committee \(MAC\)](#) in the summer of 2020. The goal of the committee is to bring diverse community representatives together to discuss community-policing concerns, strategize ways for RPD to best engage with the community, and share information about police practices and procedures. The MAC will also review use of force reports annually and provide perspective and feedback on reporting practices.

The Roseville Police Department is committed to transparency and accountability. [Use of Force Summary Reports](#) will be published annually.

⁷ Police Executive Research Forum <https://perf.memberclicks.net/icat-training-guide>