

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



The Kern County Sheriff's Office values the sanctity of human life and the freedoms guaranteed by the United States and California constitutions. The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to work in partnership with our community to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kern County through professional public safety services.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message From the Sheriff	3
Core Values.....	4
Legal Authority & Structure.....	5
Organizational Chart	6
Kern County Demographics	7
Hiring Demographics.....	8-11
Promotions and Workforce Demographics	12-15
RIPA Data	16-22
Subjects Charged with Resisting Arrest.....	23-25
Community Policing	26-31
Community Advisory Council (CAC).....	32-34
Language Access.....	35
Civil Litigation	36
Law Enforcement Bureau	37
Sheriff's Office Call for Service Information.....	38
Use of Force Policy.....	39-45
Use Of Force—Law Enforcement Bureau.....	46
Use of Force— De-escalation and Less Lethal.....	47-50
Patrol Use of Force—By the Numbers	51-53
Injuries—Law Enforcement Bureau	54
Canine Unit	55-57
Officer Involved Shootings	58-59
Violent Crime	60-62
Detentions Bureau	63
Use of Force—Detentions Bureau	64-66
Injuries—Detentions Bureau.....	67
Inmate Stabilization and Assessment Team	68-74
Admission, Evaluation, and Stabilization.....	75-76
Body Worn Cameras	77
BWC Audits.....	78
Join Our Team.....	79

MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

I am happy to present the 2022 Annual Report as a great way for Kern County residents to not only get to know the Sheriff's Office better but also understand how we operate. This document will provide a look into our agency's enforcement data, hiring practices, the crime rates we battle, and much more.

As my staff and I complete the second full year of Department of Justice oversight, I am proud to say we have not waived in our commitment to make our agency a great place to work and grow. This year saw high promotion numbers and collaboration with the county as we worked together to create an environment that will attract the best candidates from our communities. Our relationships with the Monitoring Team and the Community Advisory Counsel continue to develop as our tireless effort to achieve Stipulated Judgement compliance remains a top priority.

I want to encourage our residents, colleagues, staff members, and local business professionals to take a few minutes to read this report. I believe the information contained herein is not only a great snapshot of the amazing work of the entire team at the Sheriff's Office but also an accurate example of the strides made as a result of the work we do with our community partners. Thank you.



Your Sheriff, Donny Youngblood



CORE VALUES

The following core values are vital to the success of the Kern County Sheriff's Office and complement our Mission Statement.

Community Policing

The Sheriff is committed to the philosophy of community policing and problem solving. Members of the Kern County Sheriff's Office should consider themselves as problem solvers. It's easy to point out a problem, but not so easy to find solutions. The phrase, "We can't do it because..." is unacceptable and must be dismissed. Let's figure out how we can.

Integrity

This a noble profession, not a job. Any misconduct that reflects negatively on this organization or the community we serve will be dealt with swiftly and decisively.

Uniformity and Pride

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is built on tradition, pride, and earned respect. Treat the public with respect and never tarnish the badge or good reputation of our organization.

Honesty

We demand honesty. Honesty, credibility, and ethical conduct should describe who we are and nothing less is acceptable.

Accountability

The Kern County community will hold us accountable. We hold each other and ourselves accountable.

Education and Experience

Future leaders should pursue educational opportunities and diversity in experience to become well-rounded and informed.



LEGAL AUTHORITY AND STRUCTURE

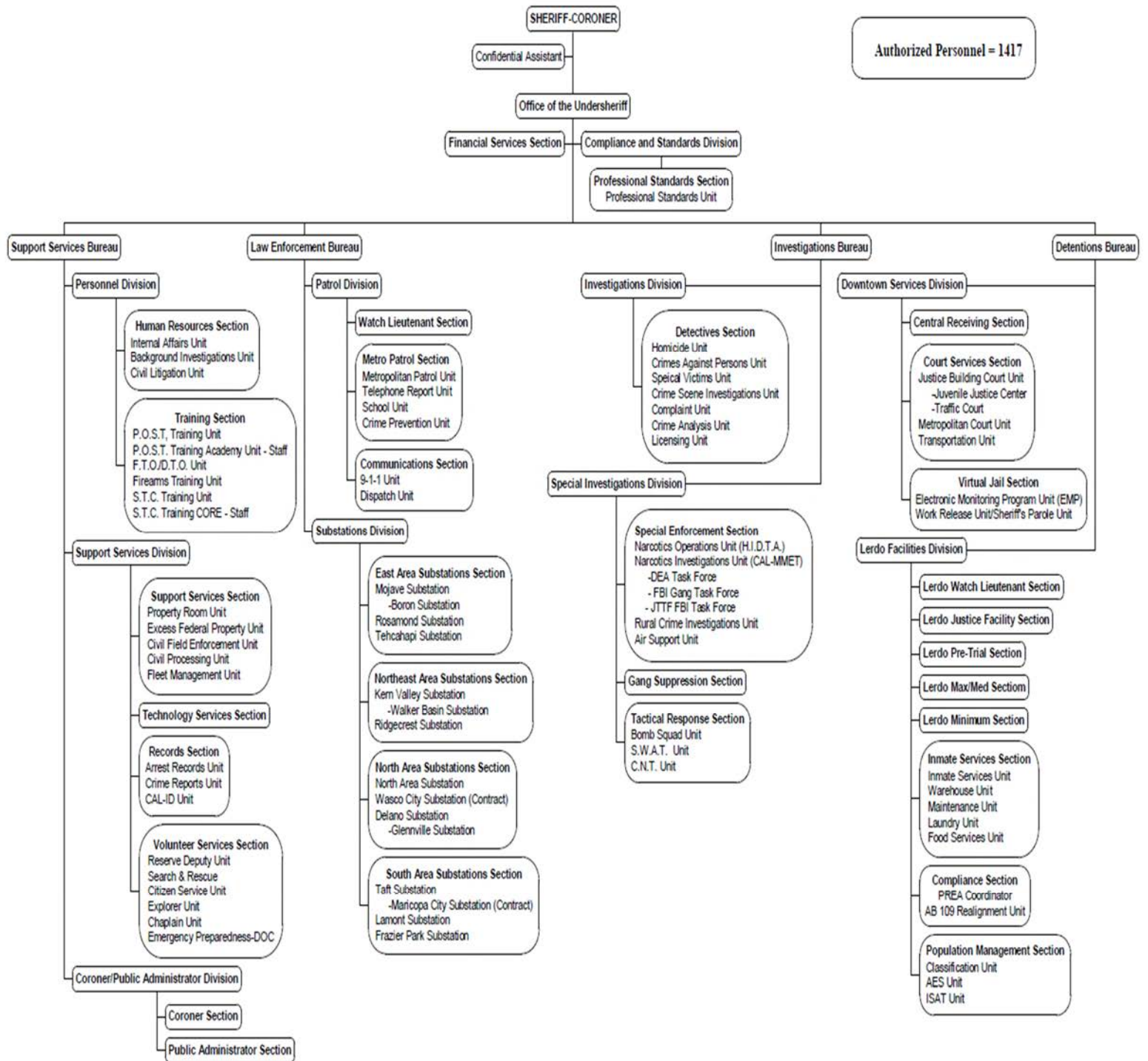
The Kern County Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator exercises original jurisdiction in the unincorporated area of Kern County and provides supportive assistance and mutual aid to local and neighboring agencies for law enforcement duties pursuant to Section 26600 through 26778 of the California Government Code.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is organized and exists to facilitate compliance with the lawfully prescribed duties of the Sheriff-Coroner. Such responsibilities include the preservation of the peace, arrest of offenders, investigation and suppression of public offenses, maintenance of the jail system, endorsement and service of processes and notices, attendance upon Superior and Municipal Courts, search and rescue of lost or endangered persons, and such other duties as may be required by law.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is organized for an optimal chain of command with four bureaus. The Sheriff oversees the Office of the Undersheriff. The Office of the Undersheriff oversees the Financial Services Section and the Compliance and Standards Division. The Office of the Undersheriff includes four bureaus: Support Services Bureau, Law Enforcement Bureau, Investigations Bureau, and Detentions Bureau. Each bureau is managed by a Chief Deputy who employs Commanders to supervise each division.



KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ORGANIZATION CHART



KERN COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS VS. KCSO

As of July 2022, the United States Census Bureau estimated the County population to be approximately 916,108 residents living within a geographical area encompassing 8,163 square miles. Based on current estimates of 916,108 residents, Kern County is California's 11th most populous county.



WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

Employees of Hispanic descent account for the largest ethnic category of employees in the Sheriff's Office, with 513 out of the 1078 total personnel, or 47 percent. The second largest ethnic category is employees of White descent, with 482 out of the 1078 total personnel, or 45 percent. The table below depicts actual Department personnel categories according to ethnicity, along with their respective totals and percentage breakdowns.

Ethnicity	Employees	Workforce Percentage	Kern County Population % **
Asian/Pacific Islander	23	2%	6%
Black	34	3%	6%
Native American	10	1%	3%
Hispanic	513	47%	57%
White	482	45%	30%
Other	16	2%	3 %

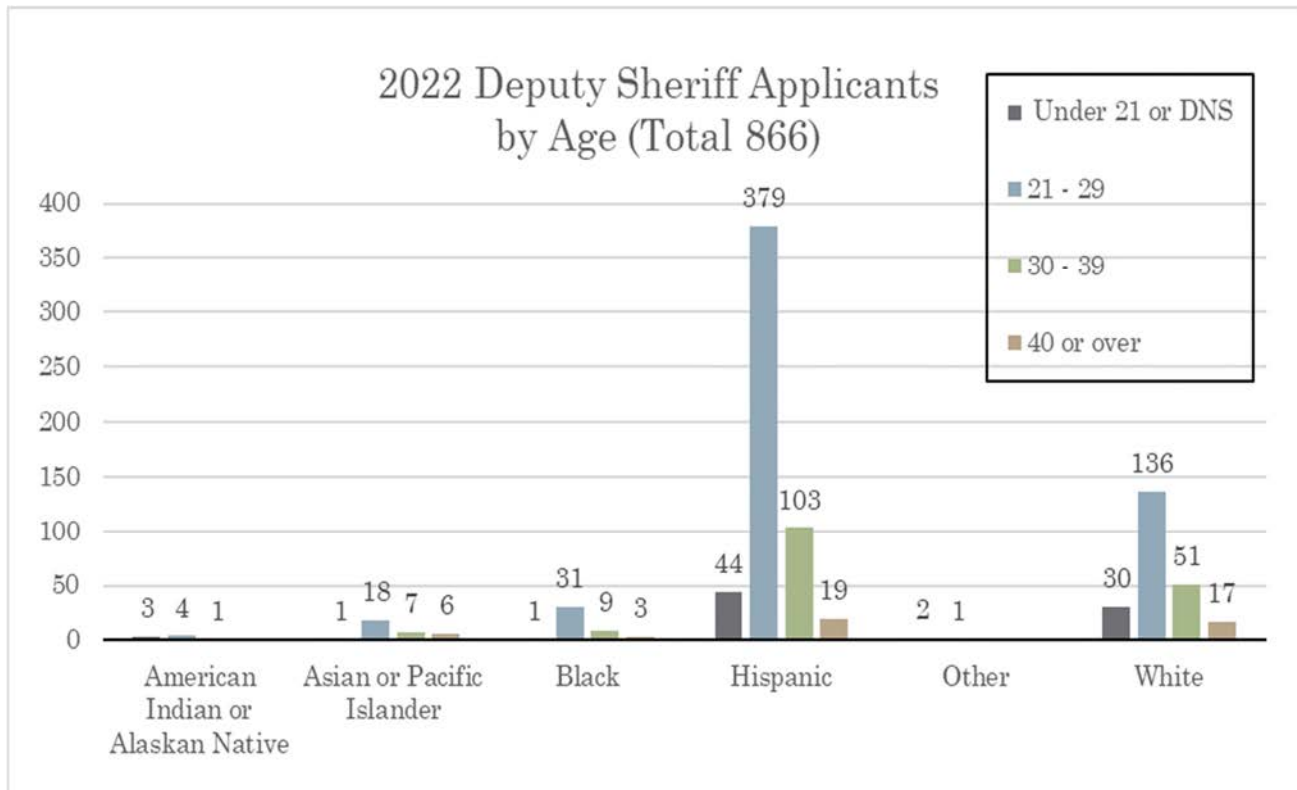
*Other may account for 2 or more races or for race not reported.

**Total is 105% due to United Census Estimates for 2022. Click on the link for more information <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/kerncountycalifornia>

370 Vacant positions within the
Sheriff's Office at the end of 2022

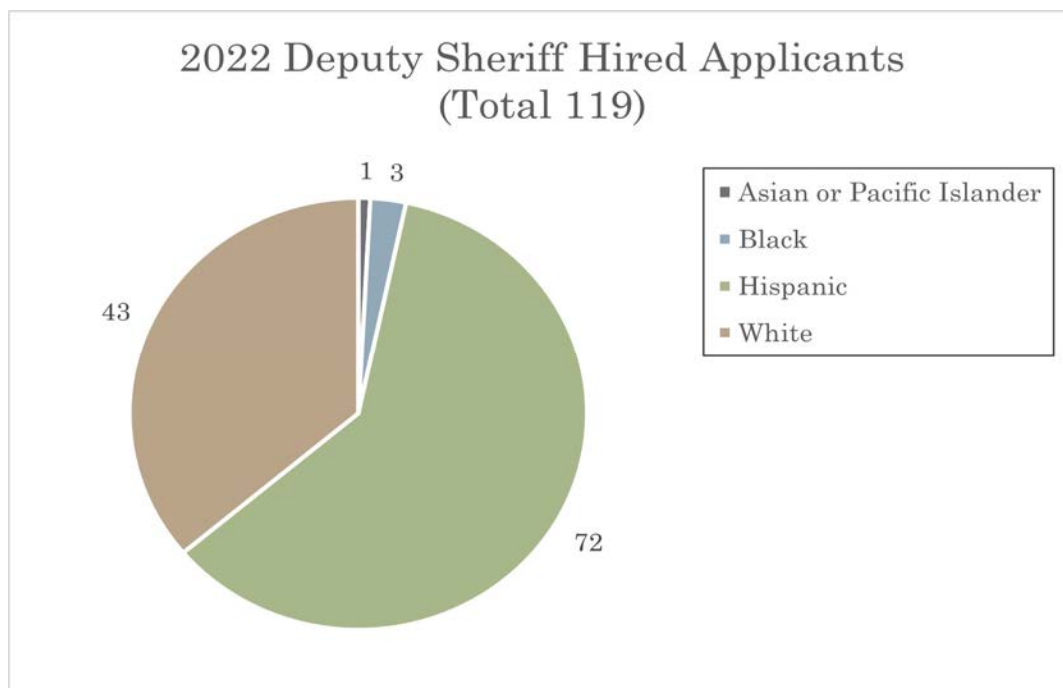
HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS

In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office received 866 applications for Deputy positions. Out of those, 119 applicants were hired. The age ranges and the ethnicities of the applicants are shown below.



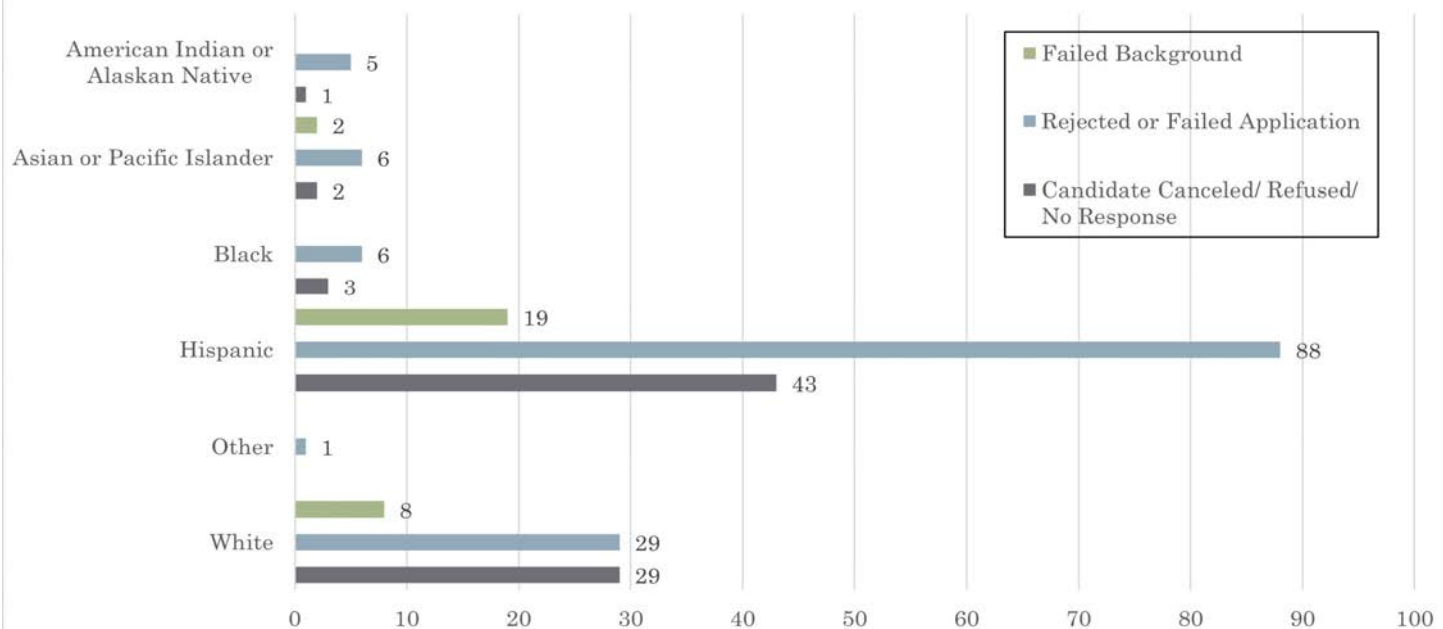
*DNS denotes did not specify

**Other is given as an option to individuals who do not want to specify or have multiple identifications.



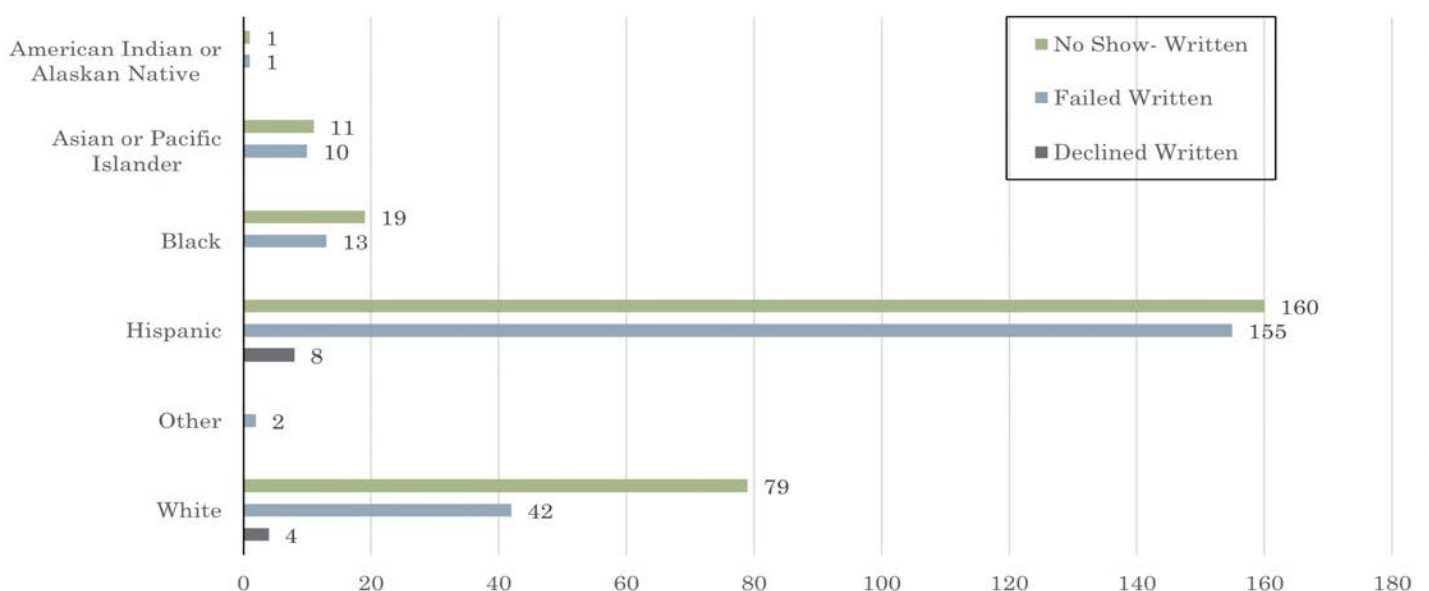
HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS

2022 Deputy Sheriff Application Failures (Total 242)



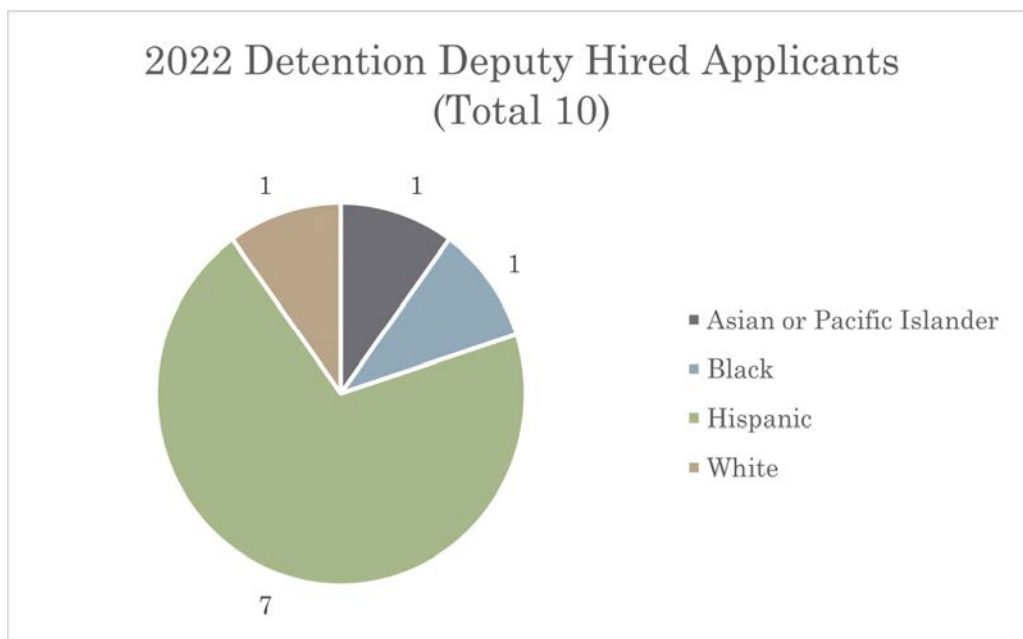
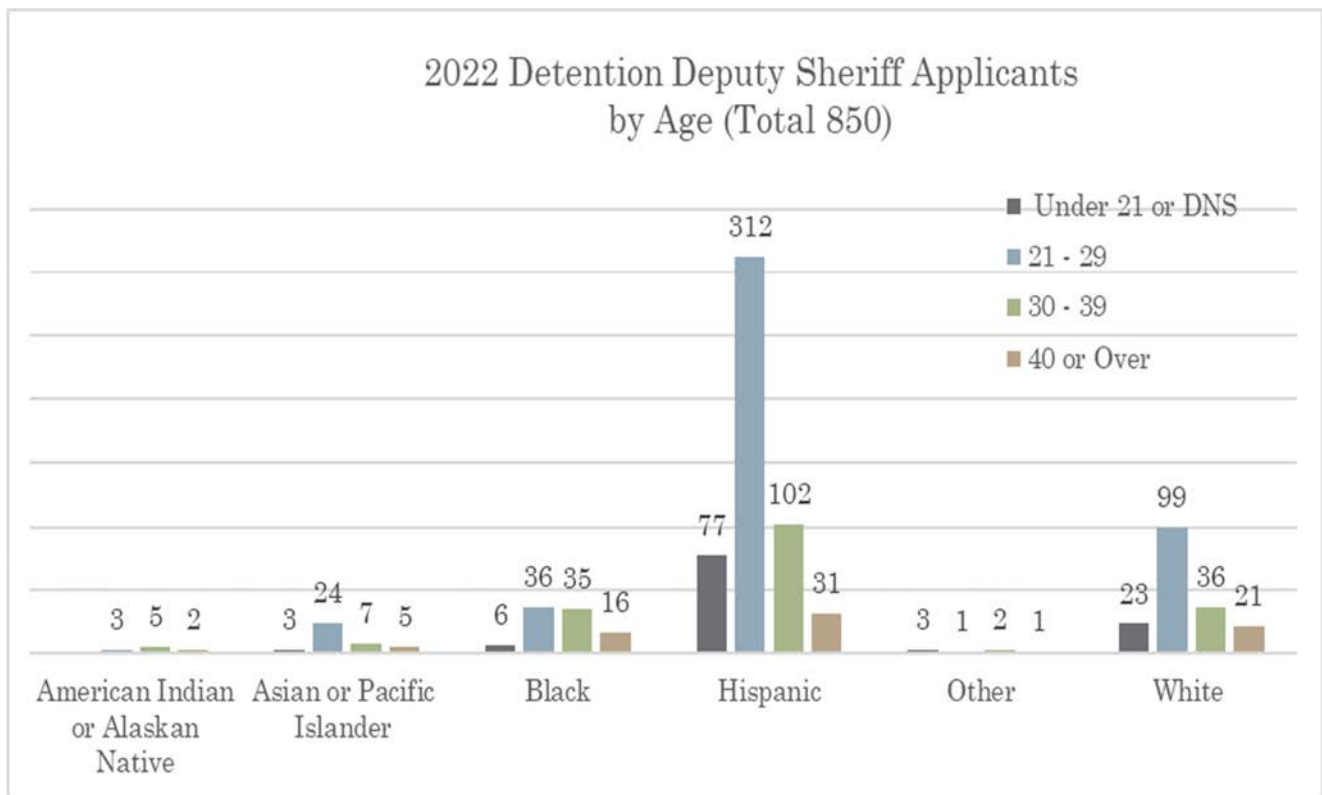
Applicants may fail at various points during the application process. The charts on this page highlight the areas where applicants have failed the application process. The reasons highlighted in the charts include written exam failures, failed background, rejected or failed application, and candidate canceled/refused. There are various reason that applications may fail or get rejected, some examples, include but not limited to incomplete submissions, inaccurate information, or not following submission guidelines.

2022 Deputy Sheriff Applicants
Written Exam Failures (Total=505)

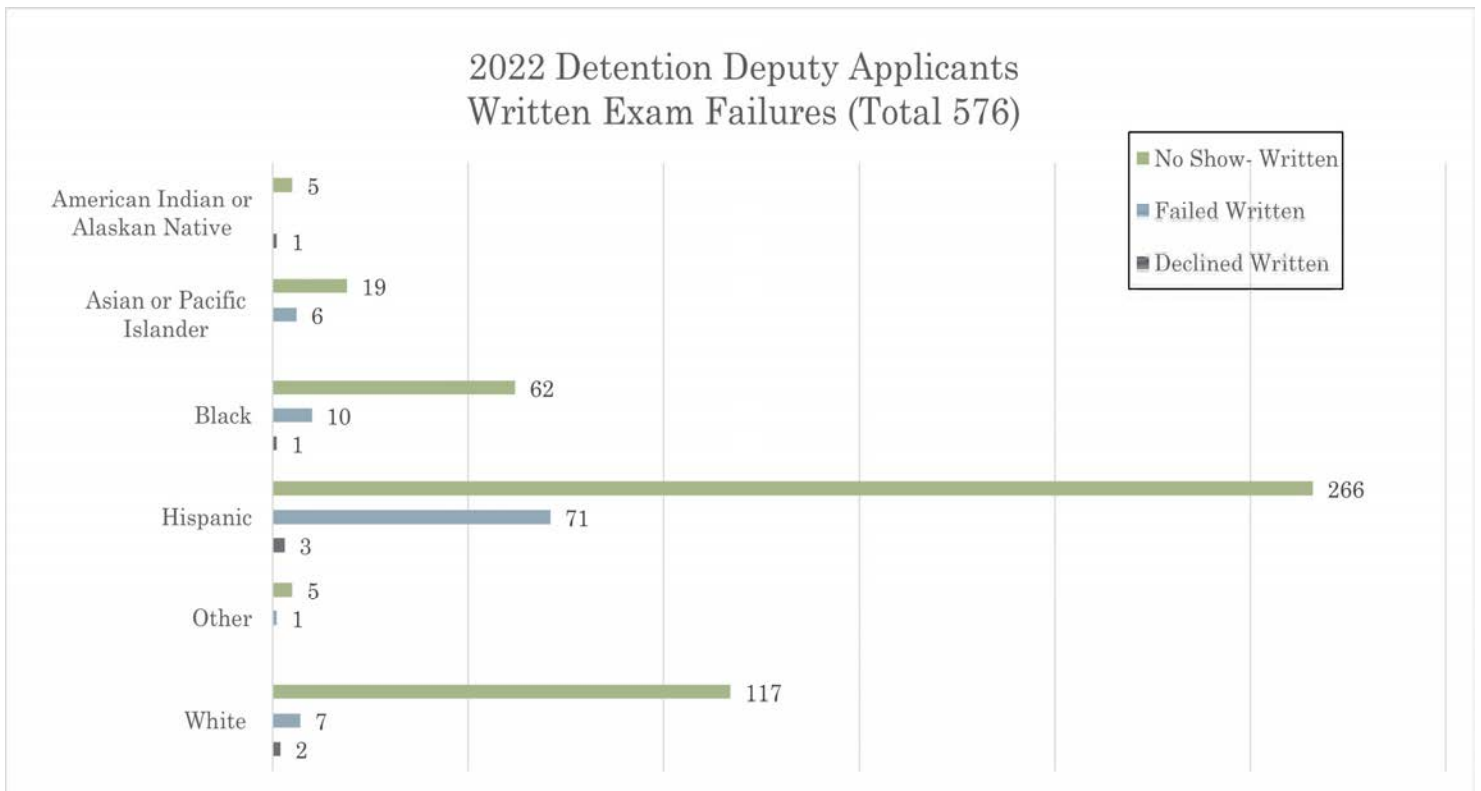


HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS

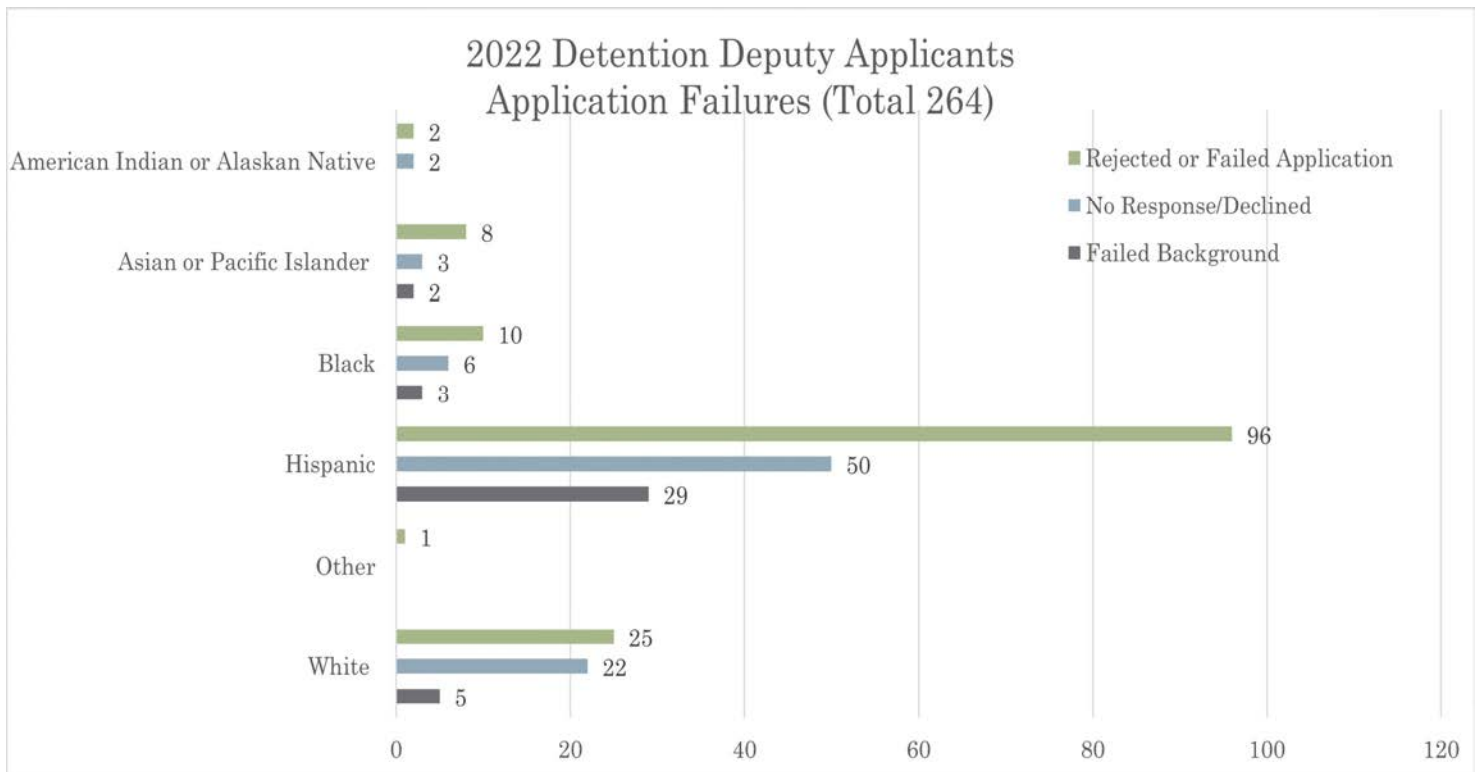
In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office received 850 applications for Detention Deputy positions. Out of those, 10 applicants were hired. The age ranges and ethnicities of the applicants are shown below.



HIRING DEMOGRAPHICS



Applicants may fail at various points during the application process. The charts on this page highlight the areas where applicants have failed the application process. The reasons highlighted in the charts include written exam failures, failed background, failed application/not selected, and candidate canceled/refused.



PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

The Kern County Sheriff's Office has a rich history of dedication and service to the community. As an organization, we continue to evolve and look to improve service, dedication, trust, diversity, and values. Envisioning and adapting to change throughout our organization is at the forefront of our guiding principles. In anticipation of future hiring challenges, the Kern County Sheriff's Office is working collaboratively with the Kern County Human Resources Division to recruit and retain a diverse workforce representing the growing community we serve.

We have had many successes hiring highly qualified, diverse employees in recent years, given the many challenges affecting our society. We have made strides in addressing compensation issues, developing a dedicated Public Safety Recruitment Team within the HR division, and implementing key operational changes. There are many hurdles to overcome, such as distributing recruitment information, recruiting diverse candidates, and retaining qualified applicants, including those from unrepresented areas. This also includes providing information to interested members of the public on career opportunities, compensation, testing, and the hiring process.

We look forward to the future and our continued work with the Kern County Sheriff's Community Advisory Council and other organizations to help overcome these challenges and help us reach out to the members of

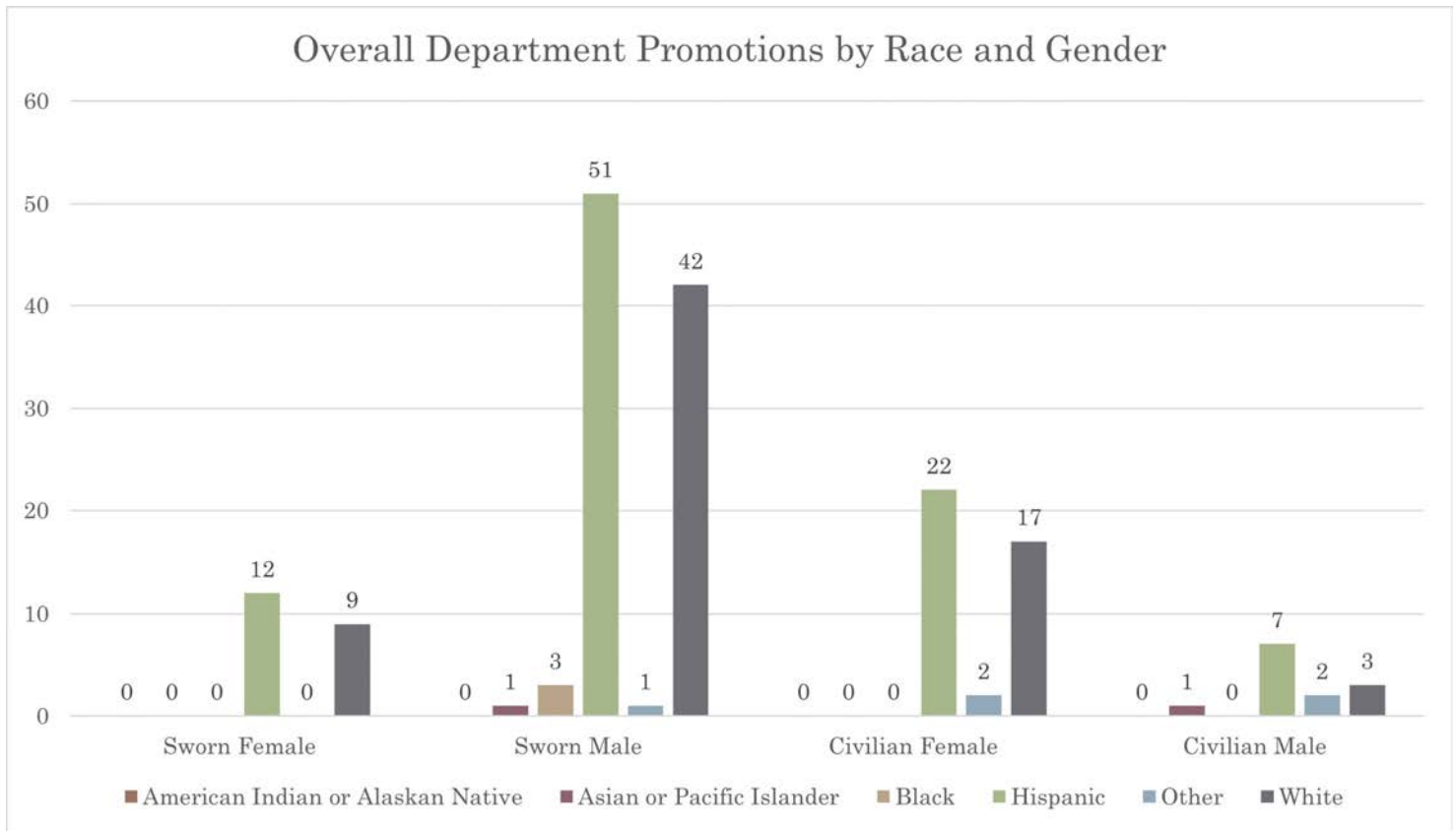


our community. In doing so, we can provide hiring information readily available on multiple platforms, engage with the community we serve at events and other community functions, explore new ideas to ensure safety and accountability, promote trust, and strengthen community policing within Kern County.

We look forward to implementing a promotional and hiring plan to build equitable and inclusive relationships within our organization and ensure our workforce reflects the community. The Kern County Sheriff's Office is hiring and invites community members to apply. For further information about joining our team and the hiring requirements, please visit <https://kcsojobs.org/>.

PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS



Sworn & Civilian Department Promotions	Sworn Female	Sworn Male	Civilian Female	Civilian Male	Total Promotions
American Indian or Alaskan Native	-	-	-	-	-
Asian or Pacific Islander	-	1	-	1	2
Black	-	3	-	-	3
Hispanic	12	51	22	7	92
Other	-	1	2	2	5
White	9	42	17	3	71
Total	21	98	41	13	173

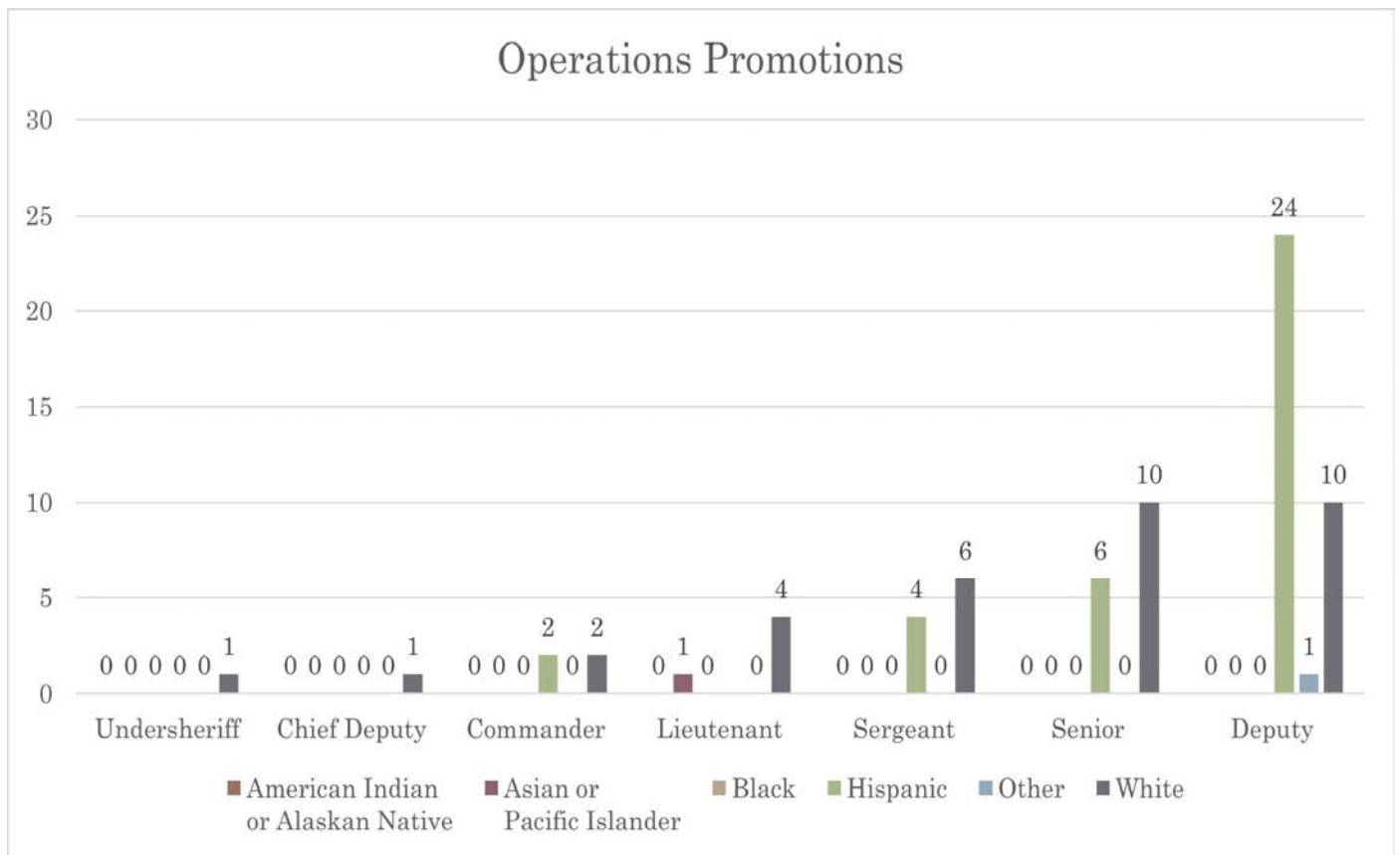
In 2022, the Sheriff's Office promoted 173 uniquely qualified employees to a higher rank. The promoted employees represent the organization's core values and mission statement. Of the 173 promoted employees, 119 were sworn positions and 54 were support staff. Overall, there were 92 Hispanic, 71 White, 3 Black, and 2 Asian or Pacific Islander promotions. Upon initial hire with the Sheriff's Office, an employee can self-identify with race and gender. Other is given as an option to individuals who do not want to specify or have multiple identifications.

PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF OUR PROMOTIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS, BY RANK, IS OUTLINED BELOW.

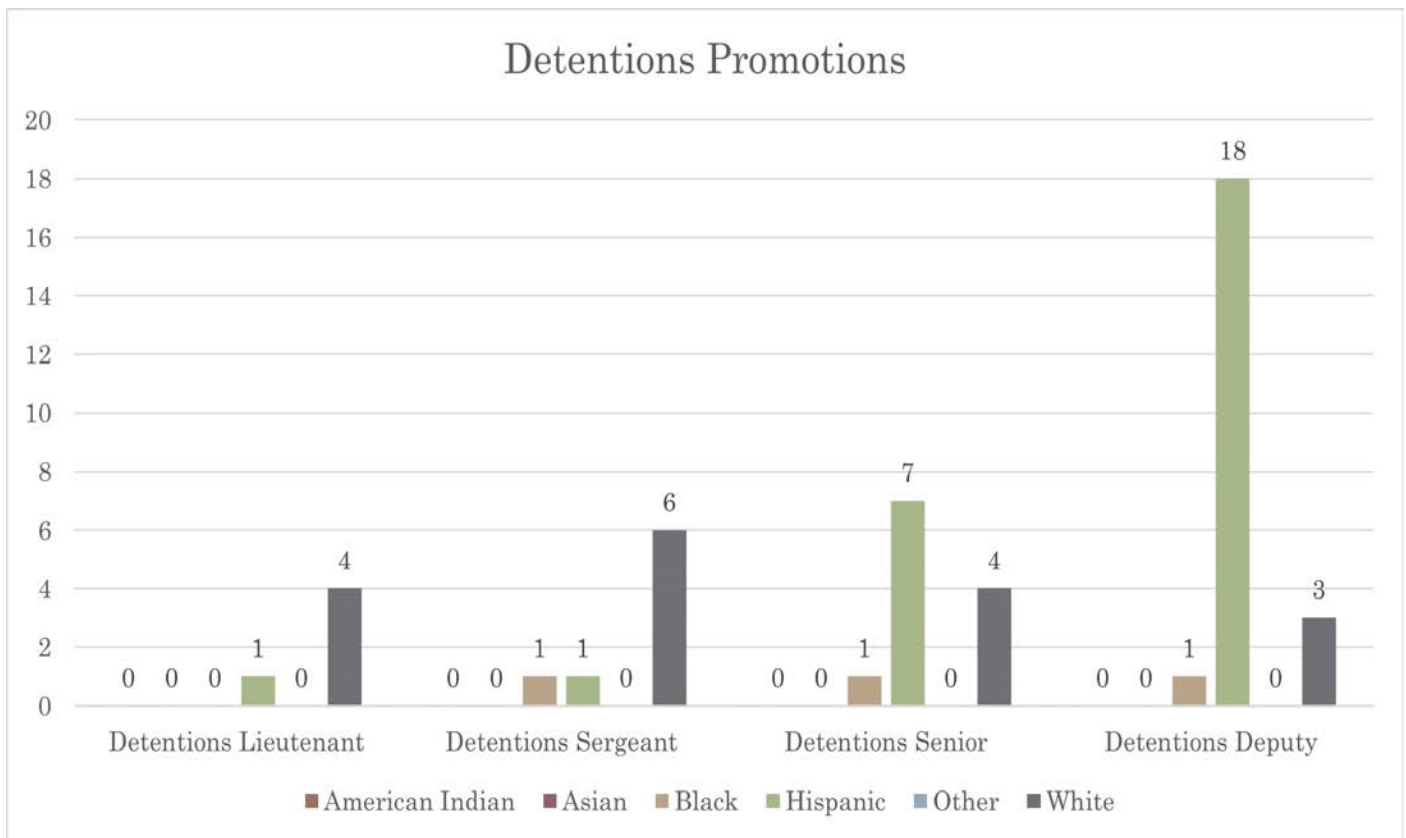
	Undersheriff	Chief Deputy	Commander	Lieutenant	Sergeant	Senior Deputy	Deputy
American Indian or Alaskan Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asian or Pacific Islander	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	2		4	6	24
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
White	1	1	2	4	6	10	10
Total	1	1	4	5	10	16	35



PROMOTIONS

AND WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

	Detentions Lieutenant	Detentions Sergeant	Detentions Senior	Detentions Deputy
American Indian	-	-	-	-
Asian	-	-	-	-
Black	-	1	1	1
Hispanic	1	1	7	18
Other	-	-	-	-
White	4	6	4	3
Total	5	8	12	22



RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

The Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) was formed as part of AB953 (GOV § 12525.5). The Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board* is a diverse group representing the public, law enforcement, and educators across California. At the direction of the Legislature, their charge is to eliminate racial and identity profiling and improve diversity and racial and identity sensitivity in law enforcement. The RIPA Board aims to strengthen law enforcement-community relations in California through collaboration, transparency, and accountability. The California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, primarily oversees the RIPA Board.

Beginning July 1, 2018, law enforcement agencies, starting with the eight largest agencies, began collecting stop data and reporting the information to the DOJ. The Kern County Sheriff's Office was required to collect data on January 1, 2021.

Who is required to report the stop-data?

Article 2 of the Regulation (CCR 999.225 <https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/ripa/stop-data-reg-final-text-110717.pdf>) identifies law enforcement agencies subject to stop-data collection, which includes:

- Only peace officers, as defined in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal Code, as set forth below:
- Probation Officers are not subject to this chapter.
- Peace Officers shall not report stops that occur in a custodial setting. Peace officers who work in custodial settings are subject to this chapter for stops that occur in non-custodial settings.
- DOJ Division of Law Enforcement Special Agent is exempt.
- Peace Officers employed by a reporting agency, except Probation Officers, are subject to this chapter even if the officer makes a stop while assigned or contracted to work for another governmental agency or private entity.
- Peace Officers employed by a "reporting agency," defined as any city or county law enforcement agency that employs Peace Officers, including officers contracted to work at other governmental agencies or private entities. This includes, but is not limited to, Peace Officers assigned to work in cities or other jurisdictions that are not within the original jurisdiction of the city or county law enforcement agency; Peace Officers of a city or county agency assigned to or contracted to work at housing or transit agencies; and school resource officers assigned to work in California state educational institutions.

*<https://oag.ca.gov/ab953/board/reports>

RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

The Racial and Identity Profiling Act of 2021 required all law enforcement agencies to collect and report stop data to the California Department of Justice. A stop is defined as any consensual encounter resulting in a search, any search as a result of a volunteer transport of a person, or any detention. The Kern County Sheriff's Office collected and reported stop information to the California Department of Justice for 2022.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office analyzed stop information to identify trends for community-oriented solutions, inform policy/procedures, and develop ongoing training to improve officer and community safety. Disparities will be noted, but stop data does not provide a reason or explanation for disparities.

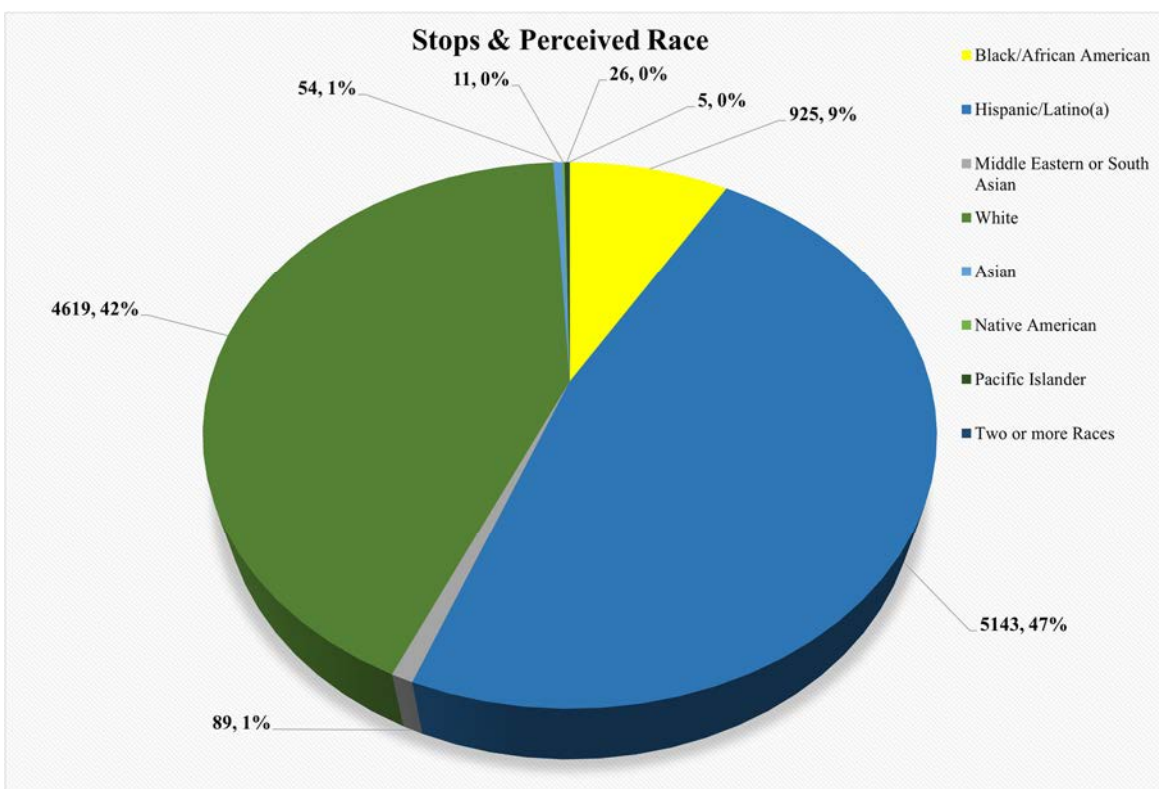
The stop information will be displayed in table and charts. Charts will contain rounded percentages. Please refer to the tables for exact percentages. The following information was required by RIPA:

1. The reporting officer's agency's originating agency identifier, which is a unique identifier assigned by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
2. The date, time, and duration of the stop / The location of the stop.
3. The race or ethnicity of the stopped person as **perceived** by the officer.*
4. The gender of the stopped person as **perceived** by the officer.*
5. Whether the officer **perceived** the stopped person to be LGBT.*
6. The perceived age of the stopped person as **perceived** by the officer.*
7. Whether the officer **perceived** the stopped person as having limited or no English fluency.*
8. The **perceived or known** disability of the stopped person.*
9. The reason for the stop (such as the officer stopping the person for a traffic violation or because the officer had reasonable suspicion that the person committed a crime).
10. Whether the stop was made in response to a call for service.
11. All the actions taken by the officer during the stop (e.g., curbside detention, handcuffed or flex cuffed, firearm pointed at person, firearm discharged or used, whether a search was conducted, and whether the officer asked for consent to search the person or person's property, and whether consent was given).
12. The basis for any search / Whether any contraband of evidence is discovered.
13. The result of the stop (such as the officer arrested the person or took no action).
14. The officer's identification number, which is the permanent identification number assigned by the officer's law enforcement agency to the reporting officer, will be used for all stop data reporting to the Kern County Sheriff's Office.
15. The officer's years of experience at the time of the stop.
16. The officer's assignment at the time of the stop (such as patrol or gang enforcement).

*With respect to the person stopped, the officer must report their **own perceptions** based upon personal observation only (and not through any other means, such as asking the person or referring to identification).

RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office conducted 10,872 stops. A majority of the perceived race of the person stopped was Hispanic/Latino(a) (47%), followed by perceived to be White (42%), and followed by perceived to be Black (9%). Compared to the United States Census Bureau population estimate, which totals 105% due to the nature of population estimates, these three races make up the highest percentage of residents of Kern County (Hispanic: 57%, White: 30%, and Black: 6%), a total of 93%. The greatest disparity by over representation was the number of those persons perceived to be White, 42% of all stops, compared to the population at 30%. The greatest disparity by underrepresentation was those persons perceived to be Hispanic/Latino(a), 47% of all stops, compared to the population at 57%.



All races mentioned in the chart above were perceived by the deputy making the stop.

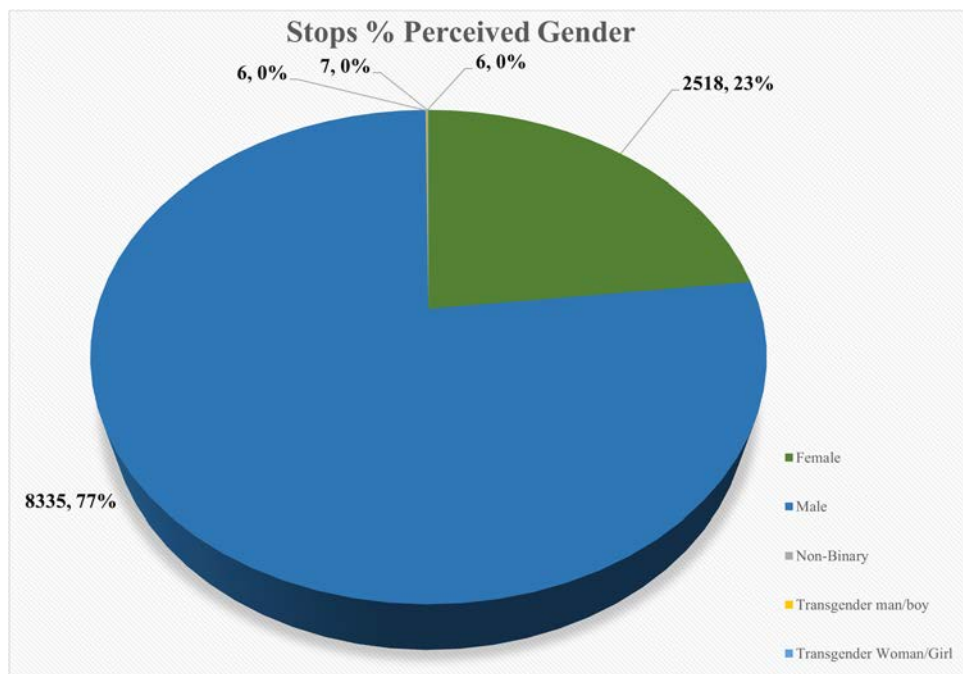
Perceived Race	Stops	Stop Percentage by Race	Kern County
Black/African American	925	8.51%	6%
Hispanic/Latino(a)	5143	47.31%	57%
Middle Eastern or South Asian	89	0.05%	1%
White	4619	42.49%	30%
Asian	54	0.50%	6%
Native American	11	0.82%	3%
Pacific Islander	26	0.10%	1%
Two or more Races	5	0.24%	1%
Grand Total	10872	100.00%	105%

RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

Race Perceived during Stop	2021	2022	Percentage Change
Black/African American	1105	925	17% decrease
Hispanic/Latino(a)	5681	5143	10% decrease
Middle Eastern or South Asian	105	89	15% decrease
White	5385	4619	15% decrease
Asian	103	54	48% decrease
Native American	20	11	45% decrease
Pacific Islander	14	26	86% increase
Total	12413	10867	12% decrease

Of the 10,867 stops by the Kern County Sheriff's Office, 76.66% of persons were perceived as male and 23.16% were perceived as female. Approximately 0.18% were Transgender or Non-Binary. The United States census estimated the male population of Kern County to be 51% and the female population to be 49%. Due to the large percentage of males being stopped compared to females, no further information will be displayed for gender for the following areas below unless percentages were not proportional.

Stops & Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Female	2518	23.16%
Male	8335	76.66%
Non-Binary	6	0.06%
Transgender man/boy	6	0.06%
Transgender Woman/Girl	7	0.06%
Total	10872	100.00%



RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

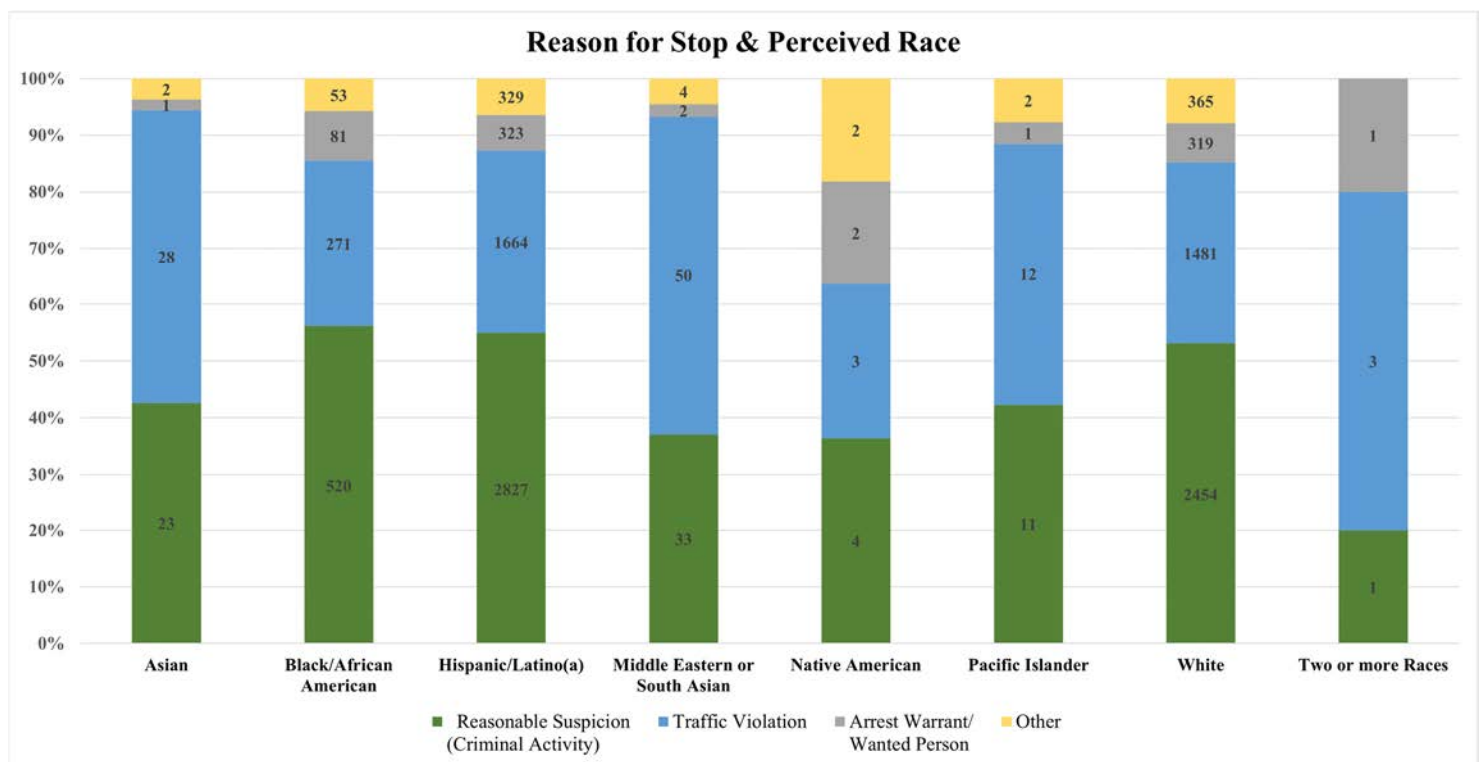
The Kern County Sheriff's Office further analyzed the "Reason for Stop" and "Perceived Race" provided by deputy sheriffs. "Reasonable Suspicion" was the most common "Reason for Stop." "Reasonable Suspicion" can be determined by a deputy sheriff based on information provided by a victim or a reporting party or observations by the deputy sheriff during patrol.

"Traffic Violations" were the second most frequent "Reason for Stop" provided by deputy sheriffs. Throughout a shift, patrol deputies regularly conduct traffic stops after observing a traffic violation. Most of the time, deputies are unable to perceive the race or gender of a driver until the deputy speaks with the driver of the vehicle after conducting a traffic stop. While completing stop entries, deputies will document their perceptions of race and gender based on their observations while speaking with the driver.

The third most frequent "Reason for Stop" by deputy sheriffs was for an arrest warrant. These stops were conducted by deputy sheriffs who had knowledge of a person's arrest warrant before the stop while the person was in public and not in their residence. A stop entry is not required by RIPA when a person is arrested for an arrest warrant while inside their residence.

The remaining "Other" includes "Consensual Encounter" (resulting in a search), "Parole/Probation/PRCS/Mandatory Supervision/Truancy Investigations." The table on the next page will contain this information.

The chart below shows the percentage breakdown of "Reason for Stop" by the "Perceived Race" for 2022. The information contained in the chart is proportional across all perceived races.

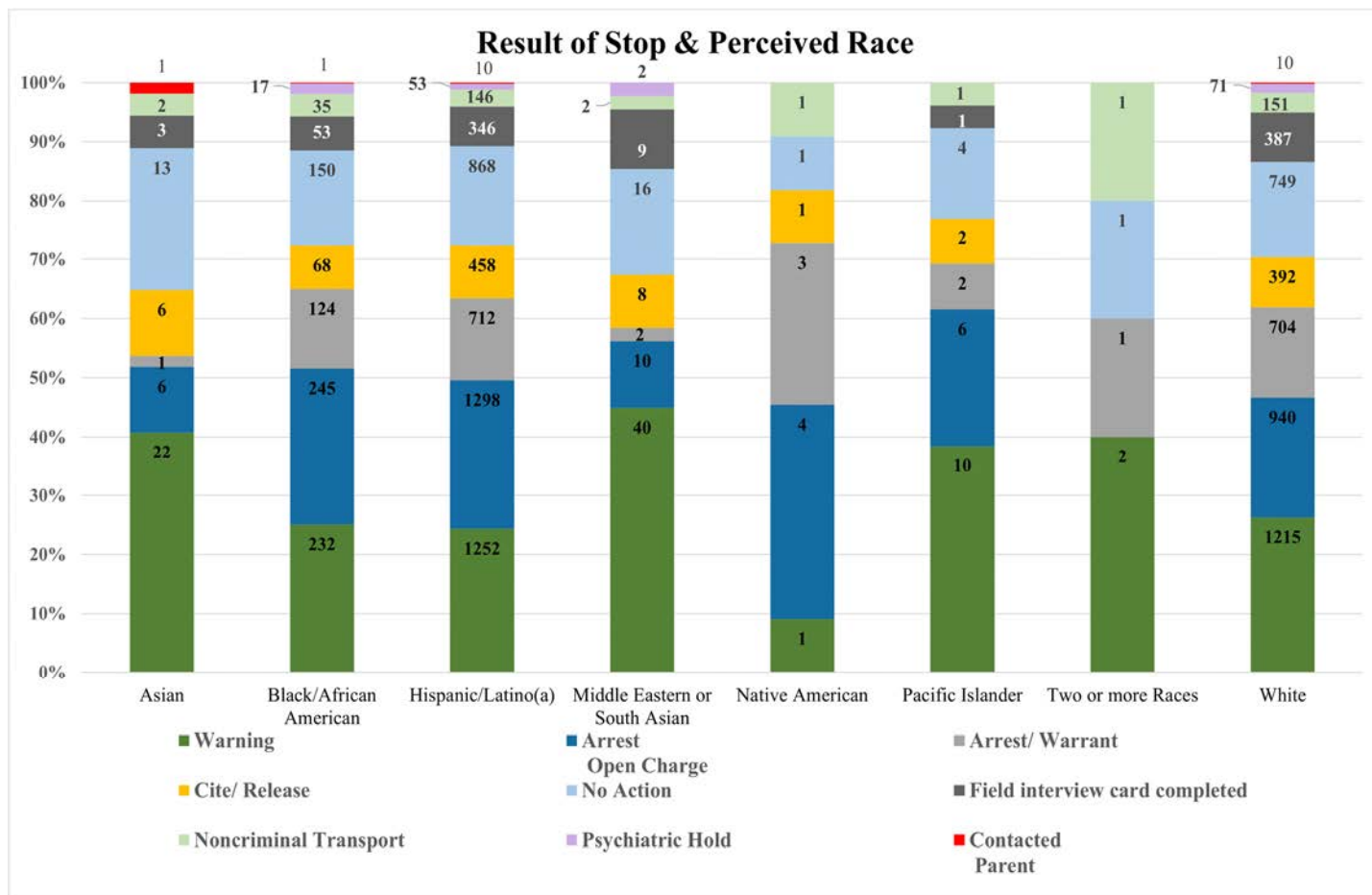


RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

The most common “Result of Stop” in 2022 was as follows in order of the most to least frequent:

“Warning” (26%) / “Arrest/Open Charge” (23%) / “No Action” (17%) / “Arrest/Warrant” (14%) / “Cite/Release” (9%) / “Field Interview Card” (7%). “Non-criminal Transport”, “Psychiatric Hold”, and “Contacted Parent” comprised approximately 5% of the total result of all stops in 2022.

Below is a chart showing the “Result of Stop” by “Perceived Race”. The only disparities were Asian, Middle Eastern or South Asian, and Pacific Islander with over 40% of results: “Warning” compared to Black/African, Hispanic/Latino(a), and White with approximately 25%. A majority of the “Result of Stop” were proportional across all perceived races. Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino(a), and White, which make up a majority of all stops in 2022, were proportional to one another. While other disparities exist, as evidenced by the chart below and the table on the following slide, the low number of stops for Asian, Native American, Pacific Islander, and “Two or more Races” explain the disparities.



RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT (RIPA)

Below is the chart for Result of Stop and Perceived Race as discussed on the previous page.

Result of Stop & Perceived Race

Race	Warning	Arrest Open Charge	Arrest/ Warrant	Cite/ Release	No Action	Field interview card completed	Non-criminal Transport	Psychiatric Hold	Contacted Parent
Asian	22	6	1	6	13	3	2	-	1
Black/African American	232	245	124	68	150	53	35	17	1
Hispanic/ Latino(a)	1252	1298	712	458	868	346	146	53	10
Middle Eastern or South Asian	40	10	2	8	16	9	2	2	-
Native American	1	4	3	1	1	-	1	-	-
Pacific Islander	10	6	2	2	4	1	1	-	-
Two or more Races	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
White	1215	940	704	392	749	387	151	71	10
Grand	2774	2509	1549	935	1802	799	339	143	22
Percentages	25.52%	23.08%	14.25%	8.60%	16.57%	7.35%	3.12%	1.32%	0.20%



SUBJECTS CHARGED WITH RESISTING ARREST

In 2022, The Kern County Sheriff's Office made 831 arrests related to resisting arrest. The Kern County Sheriff's Office is now publishing the adjudication information connected to these offenses. The adjudication process primarily lies with the court system. The court system includes the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, and the Judicial authorities appointed by the State of California (judges).

It is important to note Kern County Sheriff's Office deputy sheriffs must establish probable cause before making an arrest or obtaining an arrest/search warrant. Probable cause for an arrest is a set of facts that would cause a person of ordinary care and prudence to entertain an honest and strong belief that the person to be arrested is guilty of a crime. Probable cause is required before an arrest is made and is based on the totality of the circumstances. Beyond a reasonable doubt is a higher standard of proof used in criminal trials, which requires evidence so convincing that no reasonable doubt exists in the minds of a jury of the defendant's peers of a defendant's guilt.



As with any other arrest offense, some charges may be submitted by the arresting agency but not filed by the District Attorney's Office. Other times, the District Attorney's Office will file the charge(s) but later dismiss it for various reasons, including civil remedies, plea deal negotiations, the furtherance of justice, or a perceived lack of evidence. Therefore, it is common that even filed offenses fail to reach an adjudication status of guilty, not guilty, or nolo contendere.



Further, a deputy may have probable cause to believe a crime has occurred, but not all reports are submitted to the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. This often happens in our Detentions Bureau. When the Kern County Sheriff's Office creates

an Incident Report, a criminal charge is included if the necessary elements are present. However, even if a report is not submitted for prosecution or if force is used, the incident is documented for future reference and investigative purposes. Some reports are not submitted to the District Attorney's Office if the inmate is already in custody serving a long sentence, as adding an additional charge may overwhelm the court system. If prosecuted, the charges will usually run concurrently with their existing sentence in such cases.

SUBJECTS CHARGED WITH RESISTING ARREST

The Kern County Sheriff's Office analyzed the frequency and nature of uses of force. The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to transparency, especially regarding resisting-arrest-type charges. To accomplish this, we compiled arrest data for the following Penal Codes:

PC 148(a)(1)

Every person who willfully resists, delays, or obstructs any public officer, peace officer, or an emergency medical technician, as defined in Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 1797) of the Health and Safety Code, in the discharge or attempt to discharge any duty of his or her office or employment, when no other punishment is prescribed, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

PC 243 (b)

When a battery is committed against the person of a peace officer, custodial officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, lifeguard, security officer, custody assistant, process server, traffic officer, code enforcement officer, animal control officer, or search and rescue member engaged in the performance of their duties, whether on or off duty, including when the peace officer is in a police uniform and is concurrently performing the duties required of them as a peace officer while also employed in a private capacity as a part-time or casual private security guard or patrolman, or a nonsworn employee of a probation department engaged in the performance of their duties, whether on or off duty, or a physician or nurse engaged in rendering emergency medical care outside a hospital, clinic, or other health care facility, and the person committing the offense knows or reasonably should know that the victim is a peace officer, custodial officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, lifeguard, security officer, custody assistant, process server, traffic officer, code enforcement officer, animal control officer, or search and rescue member engaged in the performance of their duties, nonsworn employee of a probation department, or a physician or nurse engaged in rendering emergency medical care, the battery is punishable by a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars (\$2,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

PC 69

(a) Every person who attempts, by means of any threat or violence, to deter or prevent an executive officer from performing any duty imposed upon the officer by law, or who knowingly resists, by the use of force or violence, the officer, in the performance of his or her duty, is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170, or in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

(b) The fact that a person takes a photograph or makes an audio or video recording of an executive officer, while the officer is in a public place or the person taking the photograph or making the recording is in a place he or she has the right to be, does not constitute, in and of itself, a violation of subdivision (a).

PC 245(c)

Any person who commits an assault with a deadly weapon or instrument, other than a firearm, or by any means likely to produce great bodily injury upon the person of a peace officer or firefighter, and who knows or reasonably should know that the victim is a peace officer or firefighter engaged in the performance of his or her duties, when the peace officer or firefighter is engaged in the performance of his or her duties, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for three, four, or five years.

SUBJECTS CHARGED WITH RESISTING ARREST

Adjudication Results

Dismissed	Pled Guilty/No Contest	Not Filed	Pending	Plea Deal	Not Submitted	Sealed	Total
81	275	145	171	94	25	0	831

Of the 831 cases documenting a resisting offense, 9.7% were dismissed , 33.1% pled guilty/no contest, 17.4% were not filed, 20.6% are currently pending, 11.3% took a plea deal, 3% were not submitted, and none were sealed during this timeframe. Additionally, there were 40 detentions cases that were not submitted.

Adjudication Types and Definitions:

Dismissed: The court or prosecutor has decided that the charge against the subject should not be pursued, terminating the case.

Guilty/No Contest: Subject pleads guilty to the charges filed and admits to the allegations or is found guilty after trial. No Contest/Nolo Contendere means the defendant agrees to accept conviction but does not admit to being factually guilty when entering a plea. A No Contest Plea typically has the same legal effect as a guilty plea with the following exception—a No Contest plea to a misdemeanor cannot result in a lawsuit against the defendant. In certain civil cases, it is as evidence of criminality.

Not Filed: The District Attorney's (DA) Office did not file the charges; sometimes, due to further investigation needed, incorrect filing, lack of evidence, civil remedies, or filed more serious offenses.

Pending: The court case has yet to reach a verdict of guilty, not guilty, dismissed, or a plea deal. The court case still has pending hearing dates.

Plea Deal: The Prosecution may offer the defendant a plea deal to avoid trial and perhaps reduce their exposure to a more lengthy sentence. A defendant may only plead guilty if they actually committed the crime and admit to doing so in open court before the judge. Some charges may be dismissed as long as the plea stays in effect.

Not Submitted: Refers to a situation where law enforcement officers have investigated an incident or crime and have created a report documenting their findings but have chosen not to submit the report to the DA's Office for prosecution. This decision may be based on various factors, such as insufficient evidence to support a prosecution, the perpetrator already in custody for other crimes, victims deciding no prosecution or are not cooperative, and/or other reasons that may make it impractical or unnecessary to pursue prosecution. However, even in cases where the report is not submitted to the DA's Office, it is typically still documented in law enforcement records for future reference and investigative purposes.

Sealed: Record sealing is a legal process involving sealing criminal records to the public. The records cannot be viewed or accessed by the general public, although they could still be available to certain government agencies or individuals with a court order.

COMMUNITY POLICING

The *Crime Prevention Unit (CPU)* serves the community by providing services that reduce crime and improve the quality of life through mutually beneficial partnerships in the county's communities. The primary function of the unit is to increase safety through awareness. CPU offers safety programs, presentations, resources, public events, and more. CPU's goal as a community liaison is to initiate an open dialogue with all members of the community. CPU is dedicated to educating the public on safety steps to improve the security of neighborhoods and businesses by appearing less desirable to criminals, making the public more resistant to crime, and ultimately enhancing the safety, security, and quality of life for all residents and visitors of Kern County.

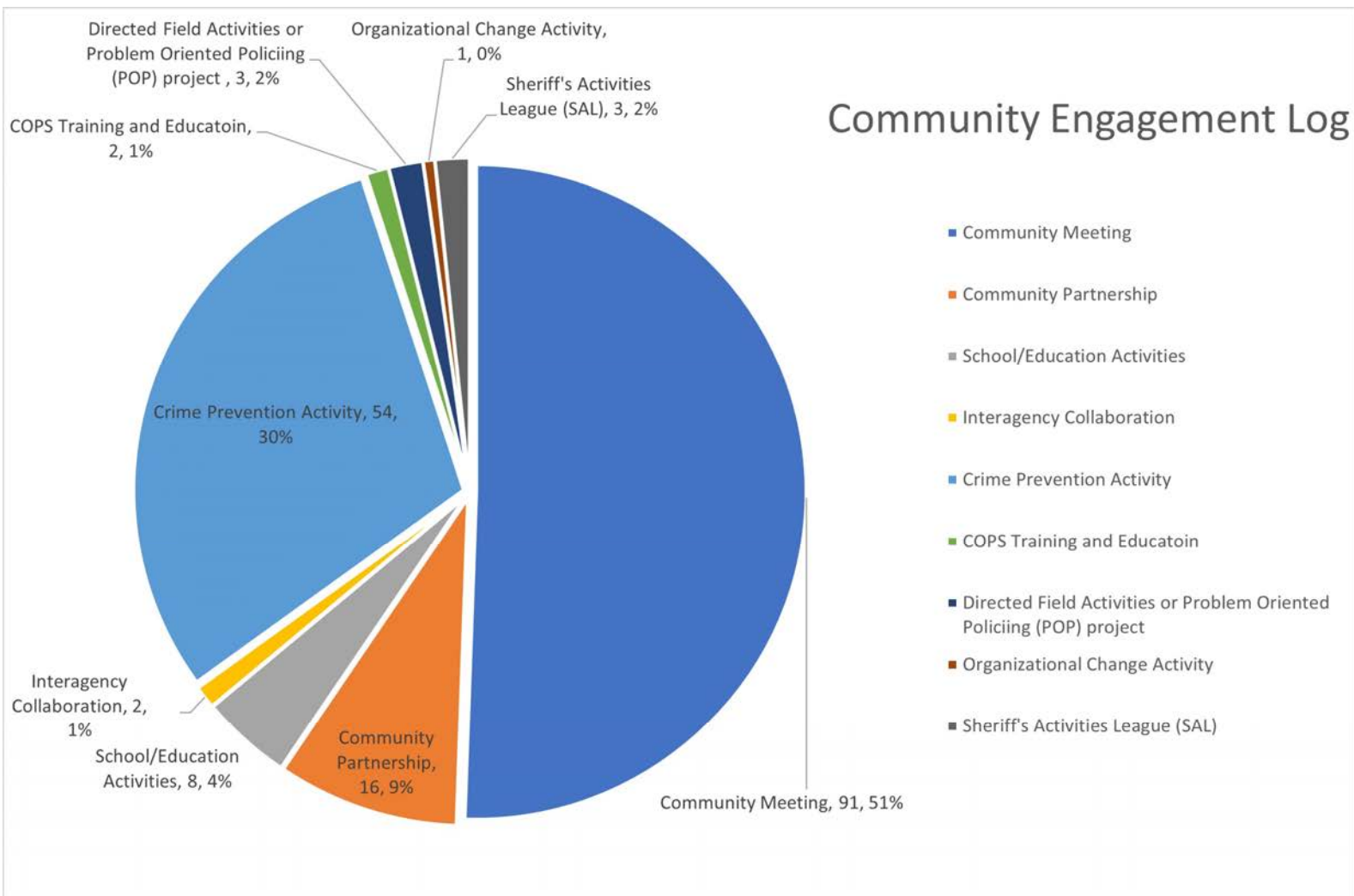
The *Community Oriented Policing (COPs)* Log shown on the next page includes community events where CPU was present. These events also include sworn personnel who may have attended community events where employees field questions for community stakeholders about KCSO activities, identify issues facing the county, and crime trends in the area. Furthermore, KCSO meets with local businesses to address security concerns and threat assessments, attend neighborhood watch meetings, and attend school assemblies about safety and how to report crimes. In addition, *Canine Unit* demonstrations are held to discuss how canines are trained and handled, which drugs canines are trained to detect, and the importance of canines in our agency. KCSO holds Q&As in schools that allow students to ask questions and show how the canines bite using the bite suit. Some other events include Trunk or Treat events where candy is handed out to the community, guest speakers for children to learn about gun safety, distributing food baskets, and giving stuffed toys to needy families.

In 2022, CPU fulfilled more event and program requests than in previous years. The Kern County Sheriff's Office hopes to tackle issues identified by the community by developing new partnerships, holding more community events, and prioritizing recruitment for hiring. Programs offered by the CPU include resource fairs, media interviews, internet safety training, bullying information meetings, neighborhood watch programs, drug awareness for parents, human trafficking presentations, and senior scams and frauds. The CPU is constantly developing more programs and events that align with the needs and wants of the community based on feedback that they might receive from the community or deputies in the field.



COMMUNITY POLICING

For each event listed in the Community Engagement Log, please refer to the glossary on the next page for further details regarding each Community Log event.



The Kern County Sheriff's Office was able to serve 9,017 members of the community in 2022. There were 100 requests fulfilled, and 27 were declined. The declined requests were attributed to either a lack of available staff or a scheduling conflict with another event taking place during the same date and time. There were a total of 127 requests for events and programs. KCSO attended at a rate of 79%. There were of 89 "Deputy Assists" where a deputy assisted the Crime Prevention Unit at the event or program.

COMMUNITY POLICING

Attended/Participated in Community Meeting/Event – When a member(s) of the Kern County Sheriff's Office attends any community activity or event and represents the Kern County Sheriff's Office by their attendance, whether or not they are an active participant, they promote and strengthen the relationship between the community and the Kern County Sheriff's Office. The events or activities would include marching in a Christmas Parade, attending a service organization meeting such as the Rotary Club, manning a booth at a community event, etc.

Community Partnerships – When Kern County Sheriff's Office members actively participate in meetings, events, or activities, which may include being a permanent board member on an advisory committee as the Sheriff's representative, being a member of any community collaborative, etc. *Examples of Community Partnerships:* Parents Helping Parents, Network for Children, Friends of Jawbone, and faith-based like Catholic Charities Association, including non-profit community organizations like Sheriff's Activity League (SAL), Boy-Girl Scouts, Community Action Partnership, Stop the Violence; includes community business partners like a small business association, Lions Club, Rotary Club, etc.

Community Partnerships also include activities that may help build a new community partnership and activities that strengthen or enhance current partnerships. Building future partnerships includes activities such as contacting business owners, soliciting feedback from members of the community, conducting customer service surveys, etc. Also, when a problem-oriented policing (POP) need is identified any group or organization, KCSO seeks to work with the group to improve/resolve the issue or link people with services. These are two examples of building partnerships with the service agency and/or the community group.

COPS Training/Education – Any training or educational activity provided to members of this organization that promotes the COPS philosophy, community service, problem-oriented policing strategies, etc.

Crime Prevention Activities - Any meeting, event, or activity that is intended to promote or educate any group of public members on crime prevention strategies. This would include, but not be limited to, community clean-up activities, senior citizen safety events, neighborhood and business watch meetings, school safety activities, organized safe recreational activities for families and youths, etc.

Interagency Collaboration – When any member works with any agency, local, State, or Federal, whether on a full-time, or on a single operation, the relationship between the Sheriff's Office and the other agencies improves. Such activity may include being a member of a multi-agency task force, attending a meeting to discuss common issues, participating in a multi-agency operation, etc.

Organizational Change Activity – Any organizational change that promotes or enhances the COPS philosophy within the Sheriff's Office, with the goal of improving our agency's delivery of services, our relationship with, and our responsiveness to our community's needs. Such change may include developing a system for tracking COPS-related activity department-wide, promoting customer service at all levels, developing methods for feedback from the community, etc.

School/Education Activities – When a representative of the Sheriff's Office participates in any school or educational activity such as reading to children, giving a gang or narcotics lecture, truancy prevention, school resource activities, etc.

Sheriff's Activities League (SAL) - Any activity involving the Sheriff's Activity League.

Directed Field Activities or Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Project – When a problem in the community is identified, the Sheriff's Office directs its resources, and possibly the resources from other governmental agencies or community service organizations toward the problem with the intent of eliminating it. The problems may include crime-related issues, public nuisance issues, quality-of-life issues, etc.

COMMUNITY POLICING

In addition to the Crime Prevention Unit offering events and activities for community engagement, the Kern County Sheriff's Office maintains a social media presence to connect to the greater community. Although the Kern County Sheriff's Office recognizes that not everyone uses social media or has fair access to the Internet, social media is an integral form of communication.

<https://twitter.com/kerncosheriff>



<https://www.tiktok.com/@kerncosheriff>



<https://nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ca/kern-county/kern-county-sheriffs-office/>

Social Media Goals:

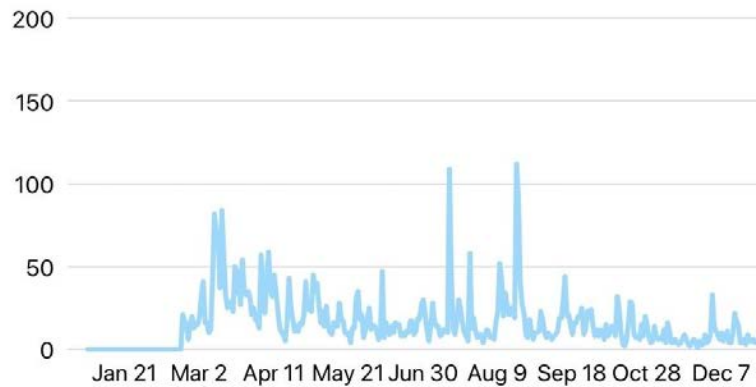
- Increase awareness of community-oriented policing strategies.
- Increase genuine engagement with community members by providing relevant information.
- Generate traffic to our external web page as well as a recruitment web page.
- Increase following of Sheriff's Office social media venues by community members (vs. viral interaction).
- Create an interactive platform to serve as a liaison for necessary departments/units.
- Promote employment opportunities available.
- Build a foundation for the *3 Pillars of Communication*
 1. Demonstrate Community Oriented Policing.
 2. Recruitment and Hiring: communicate the availability of opportunities.
 3. Provide information and clarity on the processes within the organization that are necessary for public/community interaction, awareness, prevention, and other FAQs.

COMMUNITY POLICING

New likes and follows

Facebook Page new likes ⓘ

5,513 ↑ 100%

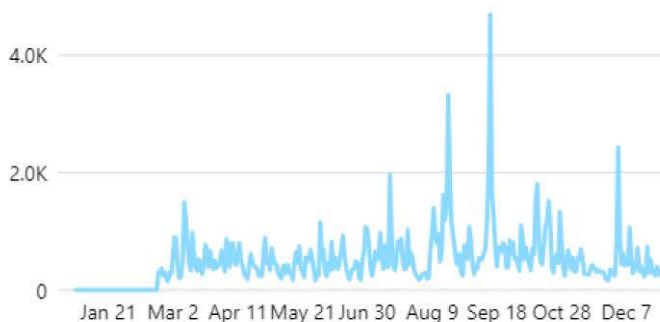


Facebook and Instagram both have significant social media followings. In 2022, there were 5,513 total Facebook Page likes and 180,957 total Facebook Page visits. Instagram had a total of 63,509 profile visits, which is 117,448 less than Facebook Page visits. This is significant as it shows the Kern County community wants to stay informed about their community. Social media does have some shortfalls, as it tends to leave out certain demographics, like the young and the elderly. However, the data indicates the public is accessing our content during serious events such as the search for an escaped inmate in downtown Bakersfield (August 9th) and the non-fatal shooting of a deputy (December 2nd) in Rosamond. Data also indicates interest with the news release of 9/11 patches for uniforms (September 11) and on National Police Women's Day (September 12).

Visits

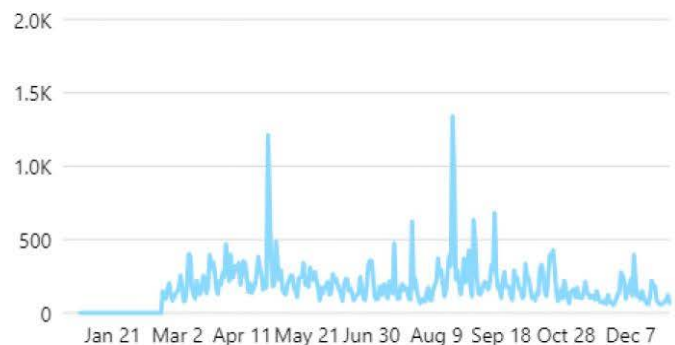
Facebook visits ⓘ

180,957 ↑ 100%



Instagram profile visits ⓘ

63,509 ↑ 100%

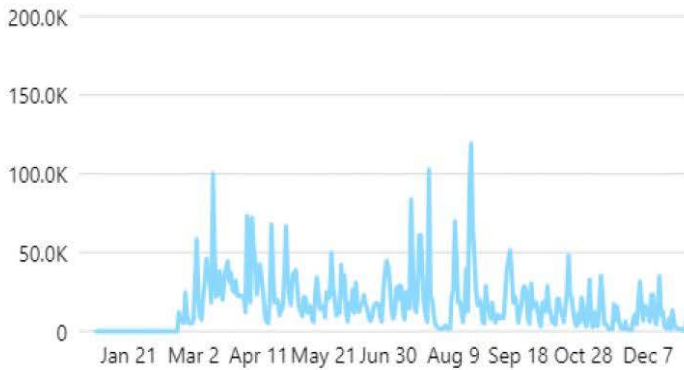


COMMUNITY POLICING

Reach

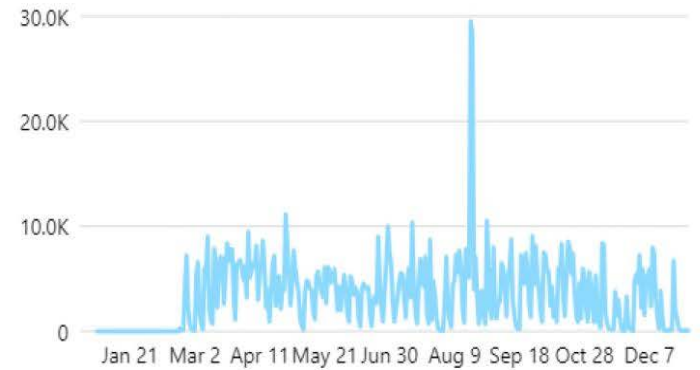
Facebook reach ⓘ

1,953,874 ↑ 100%



Instagram reach ⓘ

120,681 ↑ 100%



A reach is the number of times an article or video has been shared across the web while using other social media apps, emails, or reposting to websites. Our Facebook Page reached 1,953,874 individuals, while Instagram reached 120,681 individuals.



<https://www.facebook.com/kernsheriff/>



<https://www.instagram.com/kernsheriff/>

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

CAC Mission

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) will work collaboratively with the Kern County Sheriff's Office to bridge the gap between the diverse communities of Kern, as envisioned in the Stipulated Judgment. The CAC will provide input into policy and procedure, provide insight into the community's concerns, educate the community about the KCSO, and work to build a safer community for all people.

CAC Vision

Our vision for the community is strengthening communication, generating mutual trust, and promoting understanding for a more cohesive and safer Kern County.

CAC Structure

The CAC provides community input to the Kern County Sheriff's Office about crime, culture, relationships, and quality of life issues. The Council offers new plans for community policing efforts, provides input for policy from a community perspective, attends community meetings, and proposes and facilitates activities that strengthen trust between the community and the Kern County Sheriff's Office. We built the CAC on the principles of improving community relations and efficiency with law enforcement. To meet these goals, the CAC has created three subcommittees to focus on distinct, but related areas:

- Policy & Education Subcommittee
- Communications & Engagement Subcommittee
- Community Policing Subcommittee



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL HISTORY

The CAC was officially established in November 2020 and described itself as “a group of concerned Kern County residents working to improve the relationship between the community and the KCSO.” This group was motivated to action by George Floyd. This incident prompted Kern County community members to commit to being a part of a community-organized effort to be the community's voice. The community stakeholders were concerned with the relationship between law enforcement and the public, specifically with the relationship between law enforcement and African Americans in Kern County.

This tragic event prompted law enforcement agencies to examine their policing efforts, and KCSO was no exception. This group met with the Sheriff and other KCSO staff to discuss their concerns and create a path toward improving police legitimacy in the eyes of different communities in the county. It is important to note that these meetings occurred before the Stipulated Judgment (SJ) was signed and made public. On December 18th, 2020, KCSO agreed to the Stipulated Judgment issued by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of California. As a part of this agreement, KCSO redoubled its efforts to engage the public in initiating equitable community policing practices. What had begun as informal meetings coalesced into the community-led CAC we have today.

Specifically, the SJ required that KCSO establish a Community Advisory Panel (CAP). However, KCSO had already partnered with the community by launching the CAC. The CAC's mandate is to be a general and broad representation of Kern County as a whole and not focused on any particular group or one segment of the community. The CAC takes its role very seriously, intending to maintain focus on what brought the CAC together.

The CAC is a group of community stakeholders working with the Kern County Sheriff's Office to organize, build mutual trust, and enhance community policing efforts. The current CAC members are all residents of Kern County and represent various walks of life, representing most of the area KCSO serves. Many members volunteer for this service in addition to their careers, educational pursuits, and family commitments.

At the advent of the CAC, most members were not experts in law enforcement engagement. A natural learning curve increased each members' knowledge of KCSO policies and practices and local, state, and federal laws about law enforcement. A natural learning curve also occurred with KCSO staff regarding their reach, engagement, and understanding of true community relationships.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL PURPOSE

The CAC is community-policing at its core and serves to provide current knowledge, critical thinking, and insights to aid the Kern County Sheriff's Office in making operational changes.



If you are interested in joining this team and participating in this intentional effort, please apply at:

<https://kerncac.org/>

For more information, please email:

kernsheriffcac@gmail.com

LANGUAGE ACCESS

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is working to establish policies to monitor language access. It works in conjunction with the Kern County's Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). The CAC has members who have experience in language access. The Kern County Sheriff's Office is exploring services to better help deputy sheriffs in the field.

Currently, deputy sheriffs who have bilingual certificates are available to translate. If this access is not available, deputy sheriffs may ask for help from community members. The Kern County Sheriff's Office has recognized this is an area of concern and plans improvements for the future. The Kern County Sheriff's Office was awarded a grant from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services to use translation services paid for by the state during a 9-1-1 call.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office uses Voiance and LanguageLine Solutions, third-party interpretation providers, to assist with field, station, and detention facility translation services. These services allow a deputy in the field to call for assistance to facilitate communication with a person with limited English proficiency (LEP). However, this will only resolve some challenges encountered, such as when the deputy cannot discern the language with which a person needs interpretation assistance. Issues may also arise if the person with LEP speaks a language not commonly provided by the general interpretation service.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office, the County of Kern, and the CAC will continue to make progress toward compliance with the Stipulated Judgment, which consists of four main components: (1) creation of a language access policy in meaningful collaboration with the CAC; (2) training in the language access policy for all KCSO deputies, communication supervisors, call-takers, and dispatchers; (3) designation of a language access coordinator; and (4) development and implementation of a language access audit protocol.



CIVIL LITIGATION

Civil litigation does arise against the County, the Kern County Sheriff's Office, and individual deputy sheriffs and/or employees. Such litigation can arise from law enforcement incidents, traffic accidents, or incidents involving incarcerated persons. Civil lawsuits may be filed in state or federal district courts. Before a lawsuit can be filed, a litigant must comply with the claims statute by filing a Government Tort Claim pursuant to California Government Code § 900, et seq. The laws governing federal lawsuits are different than those governing state law matters. Claims and lawsuits must be served to the Kern County Clerk of the Board as the governing body of the County of Kern.

In a civil case, an alleged use of force refers to a claim that one party used physical force against another party. This can include actions such as hitting, pushing, or restraining someone.

The term "alleged" is used because the claim of force is still being investigated or has not been proven in a court of law. In a civil case, the burden of proof is generally lower than in a criminal case. The standard for proving an alleged use of force is often based on a standard of preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing evidence, meaning that it is more likely than not that the force was used or the evidence leaves you with a firm belief or conviction that it is highly probable that the factual contentions of the claim or defense are true.

If the alleged use of force is proven in a civil case, the victim may be entitled to damages such as compensation for medical bills, lost wages, or pain and suffering. However, it is important to note that civil cases are separate from criminal cases, and a finding of liability in a civil case does not mean that the person who used force committed a crime or will face criminal charges.

Lawsuits involving the Sheriff's Office are handled by the County Counsel's Office. The Sheriff's Office works closely with County Counsel to defend the County, the Sheriff's Office, and involved employees. Extensive discovery efforts occur between the parties in lawsuits. Discovery is the exchange of records and information and the taking of sworn testimony from witnesses and experts. Discovery is an essential part of litigation because it assists the litigants in determining the extent of damages or uncovering mitigating (defending) factors in lawsuits. Lawsuits are a long, slow process, often taking several years to go from the claim stage to the conclusion. Lawsuits may be concluded by a court judgment on a dispositive motion, settlement of the issues, or jury trial.

2022 Pending Cases —

- Jon-Erik Roosevelt Bolds, Jr., v. Luevanos, et al. —USDC Case No.: 1:21-CV01668—*Use of Force: Physical Force*

Pre-2022 Pending Cases—

- Alejandro Ochoa v. County of Kern et al.—USDC Case No: 1:18-CV-01599—*Use of Force: K9, Impact Munitions*
- C.R. & U.R. (Reyes) v. County & Philippe Tampinco – USCD Case No.: 21-CV-01593—*Use of Force: OIS*
- Lewis, Jr., Mickel CC202117742 – USDC Case No.: 1:21-CV-00378—*Use of Force : OIS*
- Roberts, Willie CC202117942 – USDC Case No.: 1:21-CV-00725—*Use of Force: OIS*

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

The Law Enforcement Bureau is comprised of all uniformed patrol staff throughout the county, as well as several primarily civilian units that directly support patrol functions. It has two Divisions: the Patrol Division and the Substations Division.

The Patrol Division includes the Metro Patrol Section, the Watch Lieutenant Section (responsible for on-duty management of Sheriff's Office operations after regular business hours), and the Communications Section. The Metro Patrol Section is divided into four Zones in the unincorporated areas of Bakersfield.

The Substations Division includes East Area Substations, Northeast Area Substations, North Area Substations, and South Area Substations. These sections are responsible for uniformed patrol throughout the county.

EAST AREA SUBSTATIONS

Boron Substation
Mojave Substation
Rosamond Substation
Tehachapi Substation

NORTHEAST SUBSTATIONS

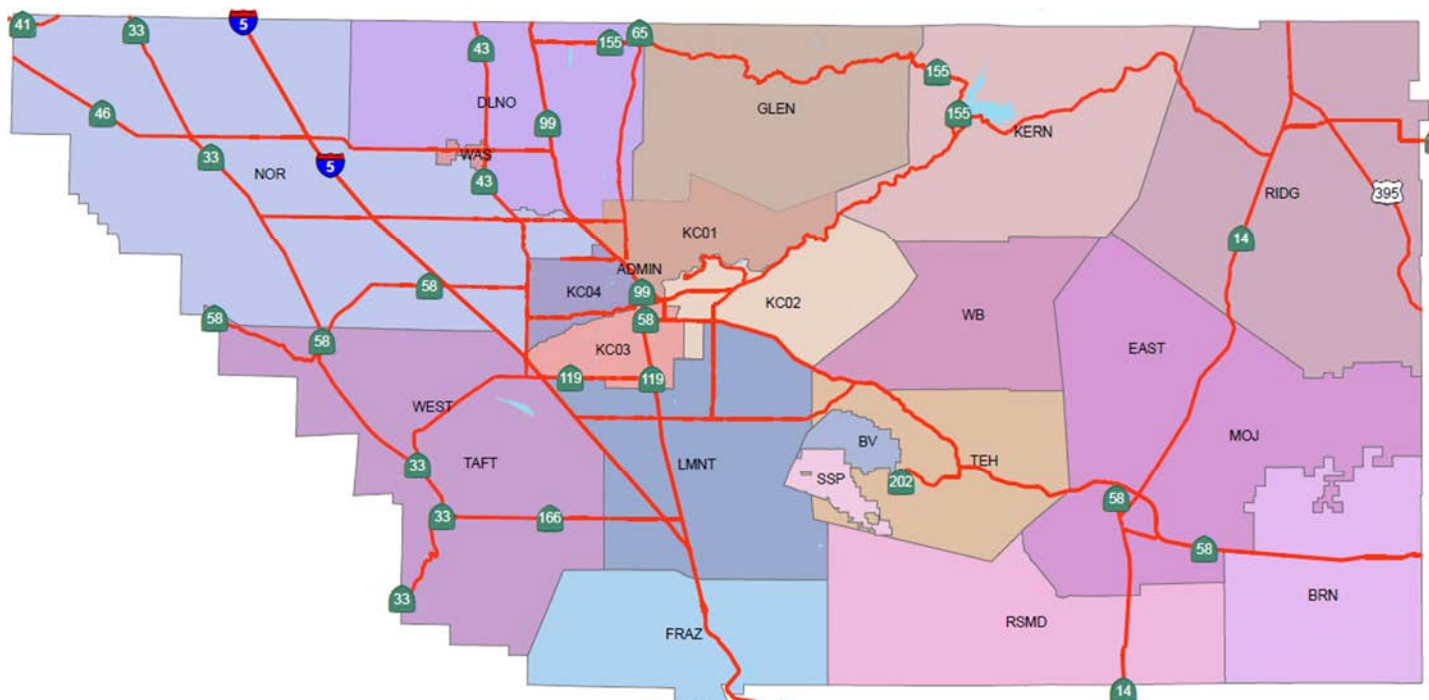
Kern Valley Substation
Ridgecrest Substation
Walker Basin Substation

NORTH AREA SUBSTATIONS

Buttonwillow Substation
Delano Substation
Glennville Substation
Wasco Substation (Contract City)

SOUTH AREA SUBSTATIONS

Frazier Park Substation
Lamont Substation
Taft Substation



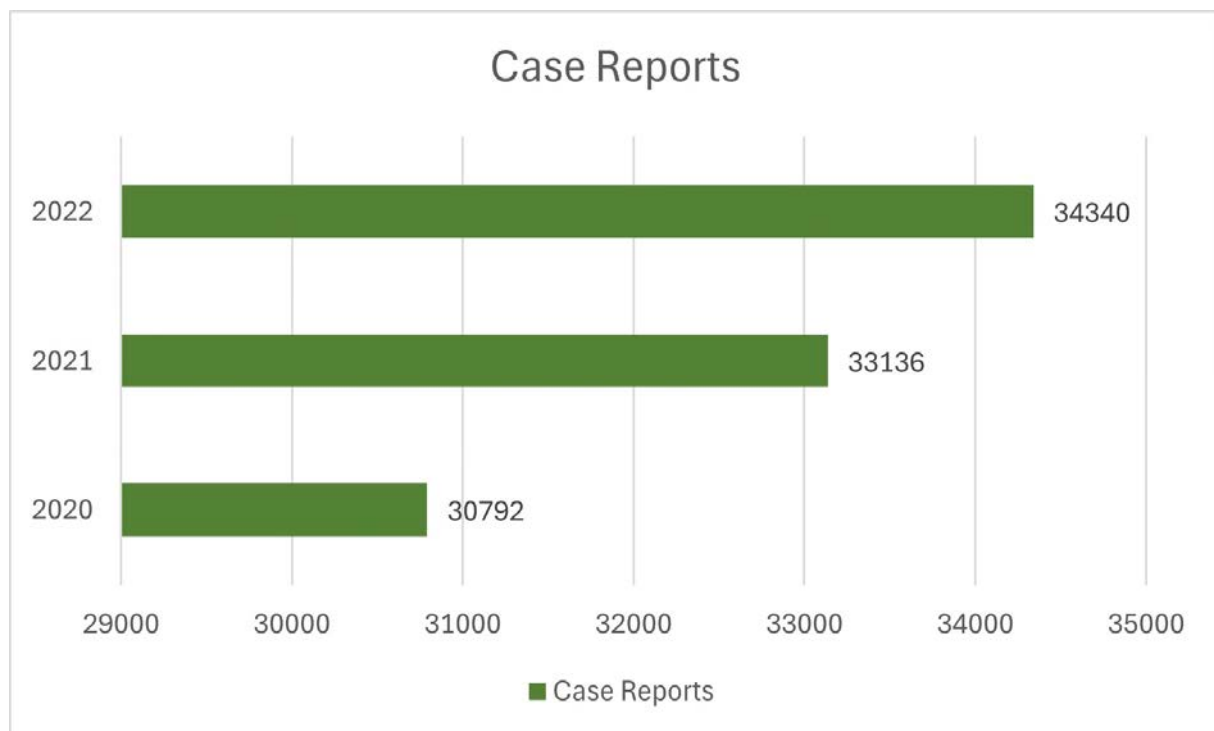
SHERIFF'S OFFICE CALL FOR SERVICE INFORMATION

In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office received 578,860 calls to the Communications Center. The Communications Center answered 191,809 9-1-1 calls and 1,317 Text-to-911 messages. This resulted in 197,294 calls for service. Of the 197,294 calls generated, Deputies responded to and arrived at 133,832 events and contacted 10,872 subjects who met RIPA reporting requirements.

The remaining calls for service (32%) were handled by the Telephone Report Desk, were cancelled prior to our arrival, or were transferred to another agency. These figures are based on information from the Kern County Sheriff's Office database and population demographics were retrieved from the United States Census Bureau American Community Survey for 2022.*

In 2022, the Metro Patrol area accounted for the most calls for service, with 120,681 of the total 197,274, representing 61.2% of all calls for service generated for the Kern County Sheriff's Office's 15 response areas. The Lamont Substation accounted for the second highest call for service count, with 14,653, or 7.4%, of the total calls for service. The Kern Valley Substation had the third highest radio call count, with 13,669 calls, or 6.9% of the total calls for service.

From these calls for service, Kern County Sheriff's Office deputy sheriffs wrote 34,340 incident reports, an increase of 1,204 reports compared to 2021.



*<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/news/data-releases.2022.html>

UNDERSTANDING KCSO USE OF FORCE POLICY AND THE LEGAL STANDARD

LEGAL STANDARDS

Federal and State law defines general use of force policy standards and practices for all law enforcement agencies. The Department's prescribed policies and procedures can be more restrictive when compared to the broader legal guidelines. Therefore, officer-involved shooting (OIS) incidents and other applications of force utilized by Department personnel can be adjudicated as Out of Policy, regardless of the lawfulness of an officer's decisions or actions. Force used within the Kern County Sheriff's Office facilities shall never be for the purpose of maliciously or sadistically causing harm [(Johnson v. Glick (1973) U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit) and (Whitley v. Albers (1986) U.S. 312)]. Deputy sheriffs shall never be "deliberately indifferent" to inmates' rights, health, or safety. The 8th and 14th Amendments of the United States Constitution protect inmates against cruel and unusual punishment.

FEDERAL LEGAL STANDARDS

The United States (U.S.) Constitution and extensive case law dictate how all law enforcement organizations across the nation establish and maintain their UOF policies. The federal legal standard used to determine the lawfulness of a UOF is the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In *Graham v. Connor*, the U.S. Supreme Court determined that an objective reasonableness standard should apply to a civilian's claim that law enforcement officials used excessive force when making an arrest, investigatory stop, or other "seizure" of his/her person. Graham states in part: The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer at the scene rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments in tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving circumstances. The test of reasonableness is not capable of precise definition or mechanical application. The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling established that the force used must be reasonable under the circumstances known to the officer at the time. Therefore, the Department examines all use of force incidents from an objective, rather than a subjective, reasonableness standard.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA LEGAL STANDARDS

In accordance with California Penal Code Section 835a, law enforcement personnel may only use the amount of force that is "objectively reasonable" to:

- Effect an arrest;
- Prevent escape; or,
- Overcome resistance.



KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE USE OF FORCE POLICY

A deputy sheriff who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from his efforts by reason of the resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested, nor shall such officer be deemed an aggressor or lose his right to self-defense by the use of reasonable force to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. On August 19, 2013, the California State Supreme Court held, in the case of *Hayes v. County of San Diego*, that under California negligence law, liability can arise from tactical conduct and decisions employed by law enforcement preceding using deadly force. In 2019, the signing of Assembly Bill 392 reinforced this and Senate Bill 230 established training requirements in support of the same. As such, a Deputy Sheriff's tactical conduct and decisions leading up to the use of deadly force are evaluated to determine the objective reasonableness of an incident.

POLICY

The Kern County Sheriff's Office's use of force policy is to provide deputy sheriffs with guidelines on the objectively reasonable use of force. It is the policy of the Kern County Sheriff's Office that deputy sheriffs, in the performance of their duties, shall use objectively reasonable force, given the facts and circumstances known or reasonably believed by the deputy sheriff at the time of the event, to effectively prevent escape, overcome resistance, or effect arrest.

"The decision by a peace officer to use force shall be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time, rather than with the benefit of hindsight, and the totality of the circumstances shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force" (Penal Code Section 835a(a)(4)).

In addition to Penal Code Section 835a, law enforcement officers in a custodial assignment may use reasonable force in establishing and maintaining custody of prisoners to maintain the safety and security of the facility. The use of such force by officers shall conform to Penal Code Section 831.5(f) and the policies, procedures, and any applicable sections in the Kern County Sheriff's Office Detentions Bureau Manual.

Nothing in the Kern County Sheriff's Office use of force policy is intended to hinder or prevent a deputy sheriff from using deadly force immediately to protect or defend themselves, another deputy, or any other person from a significant threat of death or serious bodily injury.

California Penal Code Section 835a provides in part:

Any peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use objectively reasonable force to effect the arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance.

A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from their efforts by reason of resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested; nor shall such officer be deemed an aggressor or lose their right to self-defense by the use of objectively reasonable force to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. "Retreat" does not mean tactical repositioning or other de-escalation tactics.

California Penal Code Section 831.5 (f) provides that:

A custodial officer may use reasonable force in establishing and maintaining custody of persons delivered to the custodial officer by a law enforcement officer.

No policy can realistically predict or cover every possible situation deputies might encounter. Each deputy, therefore, must be entrusted with discretion in determining the force necessary in each incident. While it is the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter to minimize injury to everyone involved, nothing in this policy requires a deputy to actually sustain physical injury or allow physical injury to any other person before using reasonable force.

DEFINITIONS

"Law enforcement officers" or "officer" shall include Kern County Sheriff Office deputies and detentions deputies.

"Force" means physical contact with a person by hand or instrumentality to gain control of that person when verbal command is unavailing, inappropriate, or futile in the circumstances.

- Force shall not mean or include routine or incidental physical contact with a person as is necessary to take the person into actual, physical custody during a routine arrest situation when the arrestee does not offer physical resistance. Similarly, force does not mean or include the application of a wrist lock or control hold to handcuff an inmate, prior to movement for security reasons, when there is no physical resistance by the inmate.

"Deadly force" means any use of force that creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily injury, including but not limited to, the discharge of a firearm (Penal Code 835a(e)(1)).

The term "Deliberate Indifference" means the conscious or reckless disregard of the consequences of one's acts or omissions. It entails something more than negligence, but something less than acts or omissions intended to cause harm or undertaken with knowledge that harm will result (18 U.S.C. § 242).

RELATIONSHIP WITH LAW

The KCSO policy does not have the effect of law and is not intended to have the effect of law. Law is contained in the federal and state constitutions, statutes, and court decisions. The ultimate liability of law enforcement officers under law can only be determined by the courts. Violation of this policy does not and is not intended to mean that the involved law enforcement officers are liable under the law.

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PHILOSOPHY

The use of any force, including deadly force, by law enforcement officers is a matter of critical concern to the Kern County Sheriff's Office and the public. Deputy sheriffs are involved daily in numerous and varied human encounters and, when warranted, may use objectively reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

Deputy sheriffs must understand the extent of their authority, particularly with respect to overcoming resistance from and gaining/maintaining control over those with whom they come in official contact.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office recognizes and respects the sanctity of human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. It is also understood that deputy sheriffs have the authority to use objectively reasonable force, including deadly force when necessary, to protect the public and carry out their duties.

Any use of force, including deadly force, by a Kern County Sheriff's Office member must be judged by the standard of "reasonableness." When determining whether to use force and evaluating whether an officer has used reasonable force, several factors should be considered. Those factors include, but are not limited to:

- The conduct of the individual being confronted (as reasonably perceived by the officer at the time).
- Officer/subject/inmate factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injury/exhaustion, number and location of officers vs. subjects).
- Influence of drugs/alcohol (mental capacity).
- Proximity of weapons of any kind.
- Whether or not the subject/inmate has been searched.
- Whether the subject/inmate poses an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others and the seriousness of the threat.
- Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual.
- Whether the subject/inmate is resisting arrest by force.
- Whether the subject/inmate is evading arrest by flight.
- Whether efforts were made to temper the severity of the force used.
- Training and experience of the officer.
- Potential for injury to public members, officers, subjects, and inmates.
- Number of subjects/inmates involved in the event.
- How organized the subjects/inmates in the disturbance appear to be.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office values the sanctity of human life and the freedoms guaranteed by the United States and California constitutions. Use of force by a deputy sheriff is an important concern to the community. The role of law enforcement is to safeguard the life, dignity, and liberty of all persons without prejudice to anyone. Deputy sheriffs shall carry out duties, including using force, in a fair and unbiased manner.

At times, deputy sheriffs are called upon to make split-second decisions. In such cases, the time available to evaluate and respond to changing circumstances may impact a deputy sheriff's decision. When judging a deputy sheriff's decision, this fact shall be given due consideration and weight. Each deputy sheriff is expected to use objectively reasonable force under the circumstances at the time to prevent escape, overcome resistance, effect arrests, restore order, and maintain the safety and security of the facility and inmates. The decision to use force rests with each deputy sheriff. In the following section, "officer" applies to deputy sheriffs in the State of California.

SB230 Section 1 (b) - Law enforcement officers shall be guided by the principle of reverence for human life in all investigative, enforcement, and other contacts between officers and members of the public. When officers are called upon to detain or arrest a suspect who is uncooperative or actively resisting, may attempt to flee, poses a danger to others, or poses a danger to themselves, they should consider tactics and techniques that may persuade the suspect to voluntarily comply or may mitigate the need to use a higher level of force to resolve the situation safely.

A deputy sheriff shall consider the principles of proportionality in looking at the totality of the circumstances by weighing the severity of the offense, the reasonably perceived level of resistance, and the need for apprehension before using force. A deputy sheriff may only use force they reasonably believe is proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance. A deputy sheriff shall continually evaluate their tactics when determining the appropriate use of force response. If necessary, a deputy sheriff shall render medical aid pursuant to DPPM Section P-0600 (Emergency Care for Individuals Under Sheriff's Office Care or Control) as soon as reasonably possible.

A deputy sheriff shall employ de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques when feasible and when doing so does not increase the risk of harm to officers or another person. When making use of force decisions, a deputy sheriff should be mindful that subjects may be physically or mentally incapable of responding to police commands due to a variety of circumstances including, but not limited to, alcohol or drugs, mental impairment, medical conditions, or language and cultural barriers.

Deputy sheriffs shall use deadly force only when reasonably necessary in defense of human life or serious bodily injury. The decision by a deputy sheriff to use force shall be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time rather than with the benefit of hindsight. The totality of the circumstances shall account for occasions when deputy sheriffs may be forced to make quick judgments about using force. The Kern County Sheriff's Office shall evaluate the use of force by deputy sheriffs to ensure the use of such force is lawful and consistent with this policy.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office will continue to regularly review and update the use of force policy with developing practices and procedures.

To view the KCSO Policies and Procedures, please visit <https://www.kernsheriff.org/Policies>.



TACTICAL DE-ESCALATION

**Planning / Assessment / Time
Re-Deployment & or Containment
Other Resources / Lines of Communication**

Tactical de-escalation involves the use of techniques to reduce the intensity of an encounter with a suspect and enable an officer to have additional options to gain voluntary compliance or mitigate the need to use a higher level of force while maintaining control of the situation.



**De-escalation
Options**

**Asking Open-Ended
Questions**

**Giving Clear & Direct
Orders**

Defusing / Empathy

Persuasion / Redirecting

**Building Rapport /
Deflection**

**Verbal Warnings /
Advisements**

THE TACTICAL FOUR C'S

Control

Communicate

Coordinate

Contain

COMMAND & CONTROL

IS THE USE OF ACTIVE LEADERSHIP TO
DIRECT OTHERS WHILE USING
AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO
COORDINATE A RESPONSE
ACCOMPLISH TASKS & MINIMIZE RISK

ACTIVE LEADERSHIP

USING AVAILABLE RESOURCES

ACCOMPLISHING TASKS

MINIMIZE RISK

REVERENCE FOR HUMAN LIFE

The safety of the
deputies and the
public are
considerations in
developing tactics and
strategies to resolve
critical incidents.



THE CRITICAL DECISION-MAKING MODEL

Act

Review

Re-Assess

Identify Options & Determine
Best Course of Action



Assess Situation
Threats & Risks

Collect Information

Consider Police Powers & Agency Policy

USE OF FORCE IN PERSPECTIVE

LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

In 2022, deputy sheriffs responded to 197,273 calls for service. During these calls for service, deputy sheriffs contacted an average of two members of the public, totaling 394,543 contacts for the year. As a result of these contacts, 5,564 arrests were made and 648 use of force incidents occurred (5 of which were officer involved shooting incidents). Those arrested do not include those cited and released, court remands, and court ordered commitments.



Over 394,546 public contacts.



5564

Arrests occurred in 1.4% of documented public contacts.



648

Use of Force Incidents (11.65% of all arrests, .0016% of all public contacts)



5

Officer Involved Shooting incidents occurred in .000008% of known contacts.



USE OF FORCE: DE-ESCALATION

The Kern County Sheriff's Office's guiding value when responding to a potential use of force incident is the sanctity of human life. Once a deputy sheriff has developed reasonable suspicion of criminal activity by a member of the public, they may detain that person while conducting a criminal investigation. Additionally, deputy sheriffs may develop probable cause during an investigation and arrest a public member suspected of committing a crime. With the sanctity for human life in mind, deputy sheriffs use the most current de-escalation techniques to safely detain or arrest members of the public who are suspected of committing a crime.

When feasible, deputy sheriffs use their uniformed presence and communication to peacefully detain and/or arrest members of the public who are suspected of committing a crime. These de-escalation techniques, among others, detailed on the next page, have the goal of calming a chaotic situation to gain voluntary compliance and/or lower the need for deputy sheriffs to use force and/or force which has a higher likelihood of causing injury to a member of the public or the deputy sheriff.



When a suspect resists a detention or an arrest, deputy sheriffs may use objectively reasonable force, as stated in the federal law, state law, and Kern County Sheriff's Office policies in the pages above, to overcome their resistance. The totality of the circumstances will determine the appropriate force option for the deputy sheriff to overcome the suspect resistance. Refer to the factor list on page 42 for most details. Most notably, the severity of the crime being investigated, whether the suspect poses an immediate threat, whether the suspect is actively resisting, or trying to escape are key determining factors for deputy sheriffs making split second use of force decisions. When possible, deputy sheriffs warn the suspect that they will use force in an effort to gain compliance before using force.

Deputy sheriffs have a variety of less-lethal force options to safely detain or arrest a resisting suspect with minimal injury to the suspect and deputy sheriffs. When possible, less-lethal options which have a lower likelihood of causing injury are used. The Sheriff's Office currently has a variety of less-lethal devices available to personnel for daily field operations and other tactical situations.

40-MILLIMETER (MM) LESS-LETHAL LAUNCHER

The Defense Technology tactical single launcher model 1425LA 40mm Less-Lethal Launcher is a single shot, 40mm launcher configured with a yellow stock, a rifled barrel, a Picatinny rail mounting system, and an approved optic. The yellow coloring of the launcher is consistent with the KCSO color code system for less-lethal devices and signifies the 40mm launcher is for the less-lethal 40mm round only. The 40mm round is a point-of-aim, point-of-impact, direct fire round consisting of a plastic body and a sponge nose. It can be identified by its silver metal case and blue sponge material nose. These sponge rounds are designed to be non-penetrating and, distribute energy over a broad surface area upon striking a target. Due to the smokeless powder propellant, it has exceptionally consistent velocities. The 40mm less-lethal launcher is approved for deployment by patrol personnel, the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team, and the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT).



FN-303 LESS-LETHAL LAUNCHER

The FN-303 less-lethal launcher is a semi-automatic, shoulder fired device that fires non-lethal munitions and liquids. It is powered by compressed air to fire the projectiles, which are loaded into an attached 15-round drum magazine. The Kern County Sheriff's Office approved the FN-303 less-lethal launcher for SWAT and SERT use.



OLEORESIN CAPSICUM SPRAY

Oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray is a chemical agent that is either extracted from cayenne pepper plants or produced by synthetic means. OC spray primarily affects the eyes, the respiratory system, and the skin by generating an intense burning sensation. The mucous membranes may swell, causing uncontrollable coughing, gagging, and/or gasping. OC spray can be an effective tool for law enforcement but has proven to have varying degrees of effectiveness on individuals, with some even being unaffected or immune. Additionally, OC spray may contaminate enclosed areas, is susceptible to wind and other weather factors, and can have unintended effects on officers and/or the public in close proximity.



BATON



A baton is an impact and/or control device used to push, move, or strike individuals who exhibit unlawful or hostile behavior. Currently, the Sheriff's Office authorizes three versions of the baton for department-wide use: a collapsible baton, a 29-inch baton, and a 36-inch baton (only deployed during civil unrest situations).

TASER

The Electronic Control Device (ECD), commonly referred to as a Taser, is a conducted electrical device that has the ability to cause the neuro-muscular incapacitation (NMI) of

a subject. Neuro-muscular incapacitation is the involuntary stimulation of both the sensory and motor nerves, causing uncontrollable muscle contractions that inhibit a subject's ability to perform coordinated movement, thereby reducing the subject's ability to harm themselves or others. The Kern County Sheriff's Office issued TASER which features a yellow body and removable black cartridge, which houses the probes and wires. The yellow coloring is consistent with the Sheriff's Office color code system for less-lethal devices and signifies that the TASER is a less-lethal device. The current model of ECD deployed by the Kern County Sheriff's Office is the model X26P manufactured by Axon. This model has the following additions from the previous generation:

- Consistent performance and complete data capture due to a new all-digital architecture
- Improved ergonomics
- Yellow color coding for easy identification by officers and the community

The TASER has three activation techniques, listed below:

Probe Mode:

This is the most effective way to deploy the TASER and allows deputies to maintain distance from the intended target. This method utilizes the TASER cartridge to deploy two metal probes attached to wires. Once both probes make contact with the subject, NMI is possible.



Drive-Stun/Direct-Stun:

This method is used in close quarters situations and requires the device to be brought into direct contact with the subject's body or clothing. As soon as the TASER is moved away from the subject's body, the energy being delivered to the subject ceases. This feature may be used with or without a cartridge in place. If a cartridge is in place, the probes will deploy into the subject when the TASER is activated. The drive-stun mode generally will not cause NMI and is primarily a pain compliance option.

Three-Point Drive-Stun:

This is a technique where a drive-stun is applied with a cartridge in place. After deploying the probes from the cartridge into the body of the subject at a minimum of two inches, the deputy sheriff applies a drive-stun to an area of the body away from the probe impact site. The spread between the deployed probes and the area of the applied drive-stun is used to create NMI. All uniformed deputies assigned to the Patrol and Detentions must carry a TASER on their person while working any field assignment.

STUN SHIELD

The Stun Shield is a concave Lexan shield coated with energy conductor strips. These strips, which resemble duct tape in appearance, are attached to an electronic, battery-operated stun unit. The Stun Shield may be operated as a standard riot shield, without activating the stun unit, or with the stun unit activated as an electronic immobilization and takedown device.



RESTRAINT CHAIR

The restraint chair consists of a sturdy frame, padded seat and padded reclining back, arm rests, a foot rest, and a set of back wheels. Straps secure the individual at the ankles, wrists, shoulders, and waist in an upright sitting position. Specific policies and procedures are in place for the deployment and use of a restraining chair.

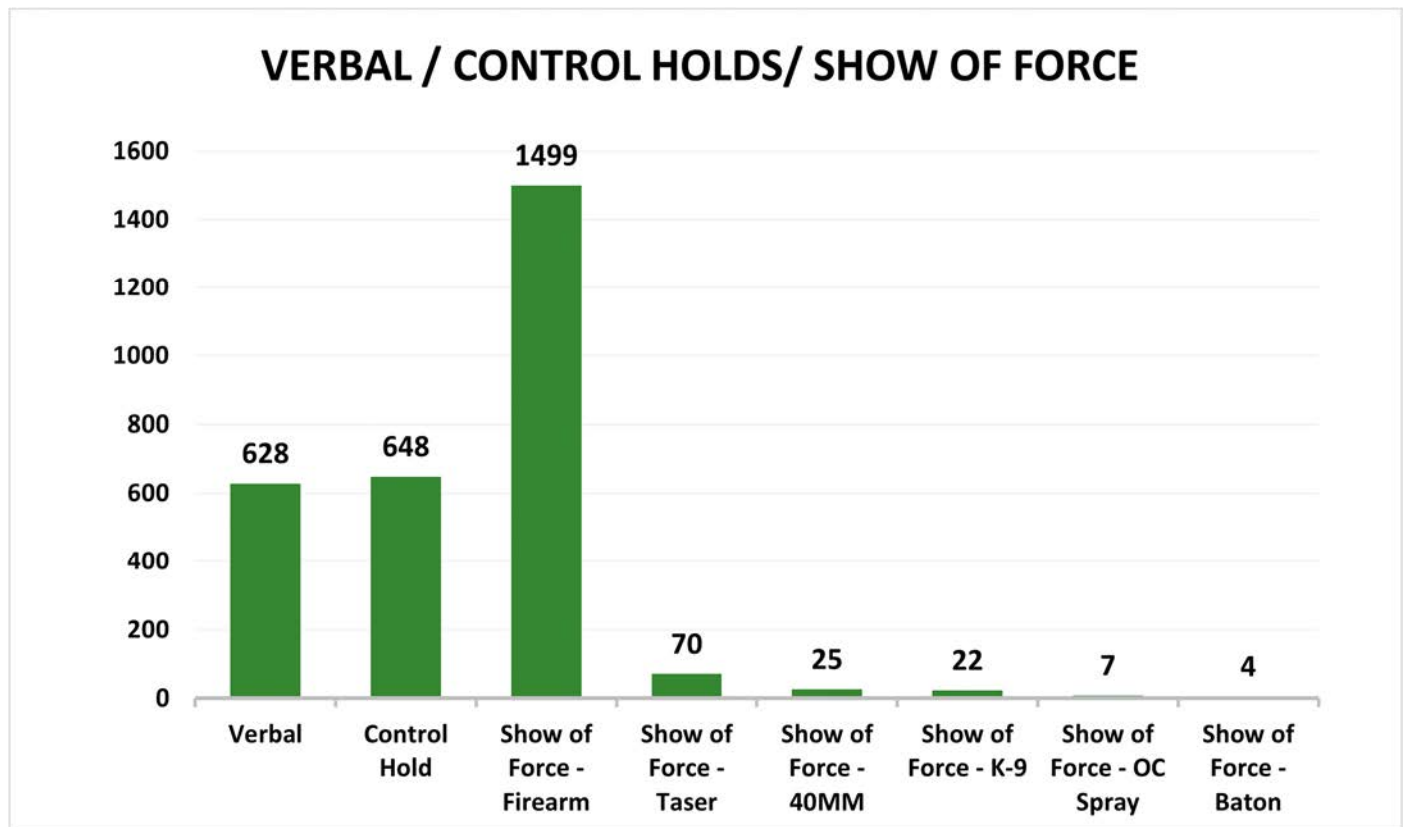
PEPPERBALL LAUNCHER

Pepperball Launcher is a semi-automatic, shoulder fired device that fires non-lethal munitions. The device is powered by compressed air to fire the projectiles, which are loaded into a hopper. The projectiles are plastic spheres that are filled with Oleoresin Capsicum II (OC) PAVA powder is designed to burst on impact. The Kern County Sheriff's Office approved the Pepperball Launcher to be utilized by SERT and is available to detentions deputies.



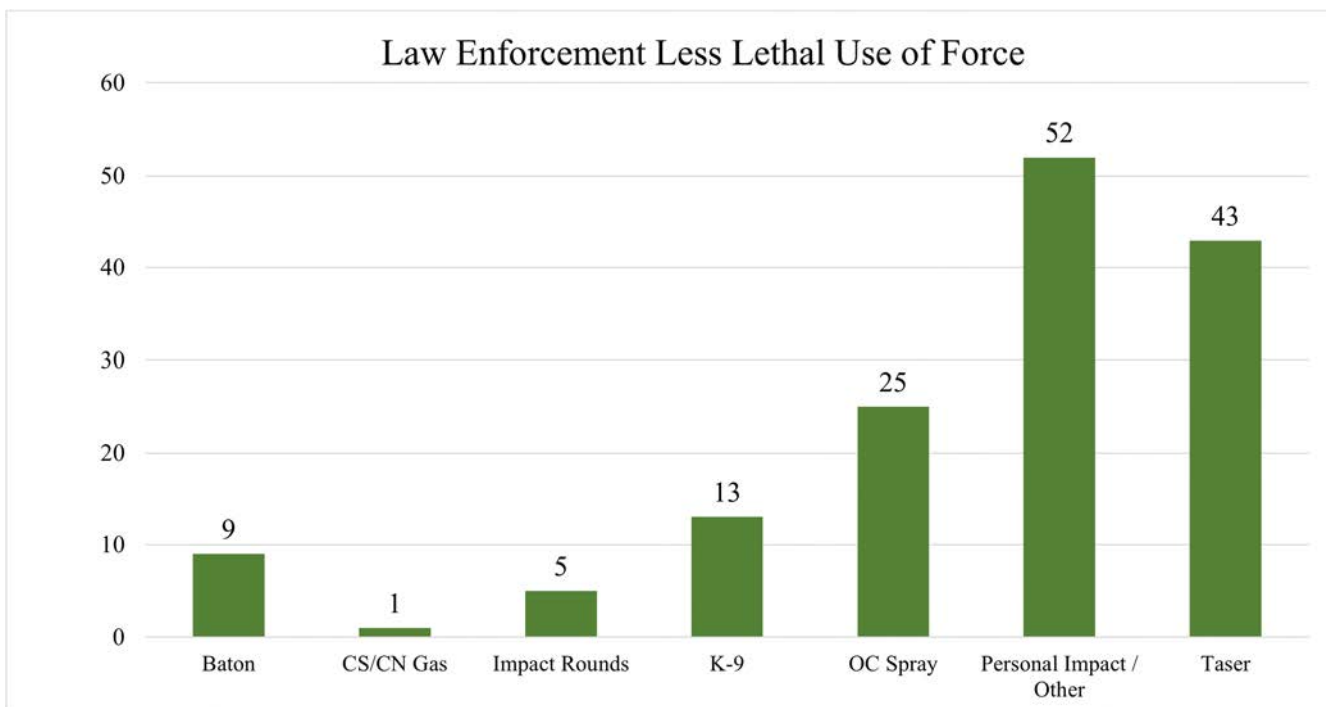
PATROL USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

Data analysis changed for 2022 compared to previous years. In previous years, use of force was tracked by the incident, counting each incident in which a deputy sheriff used force instead of the individual force options used during the incident. The new method for tracking use of force includes documenting every deputy sheriff using individual force options during the incident. In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office began tracking show of force as a use of force category to document de-escalation techniques. Show of force categories will be displayed with verbal and control holds due to the lower possibility of injury due to this use of force. In 2022, deputy sheriffs used force in 648 incidents throughout the year to overcome the resistance of suspects. In those incidents, deputies frequently gave commands, when given the opportunity by the suspect, to attempt to de-escalate the situation and not use force. The chart below shows the results of those attempts to gain compliance through communication, displaying force, and gaining compliance with a control hold.



PATROL USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

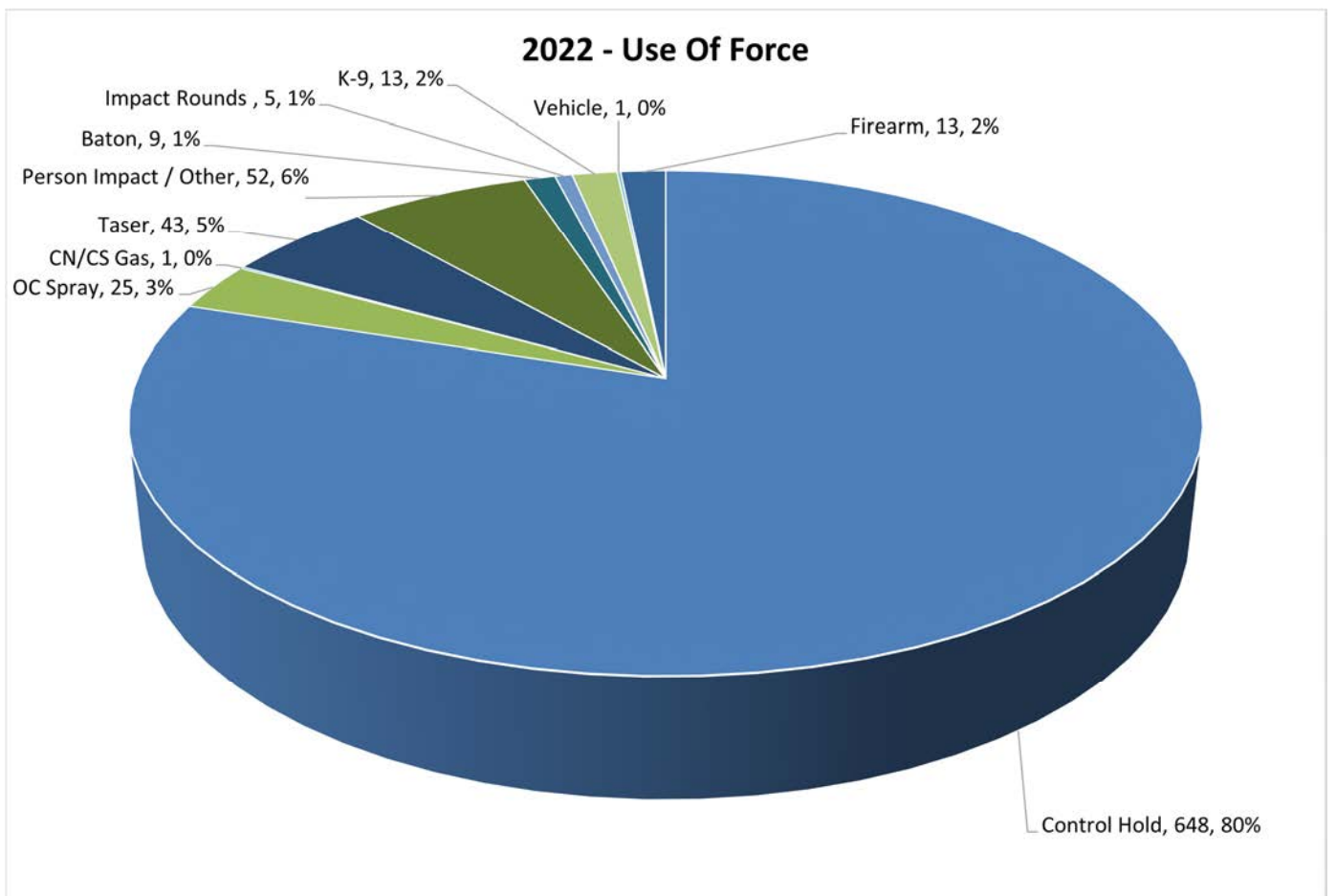
In those incidents where a suspect still resisted a deputy sheriff's efforts to make a detention or an arrest, deputy sheriffs used force to gain compliance. The chart below shows the usage of less-lethal force options used in 2022. The "Personal Impact / Other" category includes strikes such as punches, kicks, and the use of body weight to overcome a suspect's resistance. The Taser or "Personal Impact / Other" categories were used by deputy sheriffs a majority of the time to attempt to overcome resistance compared to other less-lethal force options displayed on this chart. The use of Personal Impact / Other made up 35% of all use of force in 2022. The use of Taser made up 29% all use of force while OC spray was 17% of all use of force.



PATROL USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

Deputy sheriffs are authorized to use deadly force only when the deputy sheriff reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that deadly force is necessary against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury. The following table and charts display the use of deadly force compared to less-lethal force options. The firearm category records 13 deputy sheriffs using firearms as deadly force in 5 separate incidents. The vehicle category shows 1 deputy sheriff using their patrol vehicles as deadly force.

Use of Force	Number
Control Hold	648
OC Spray	25
CN/CS Gas	1
Taser	43
Baton	9
Personal Impact / Other	52
Impact Rounds	5
K-9	13
Vehicle	1
Firearm	13 (in 5 incidents)



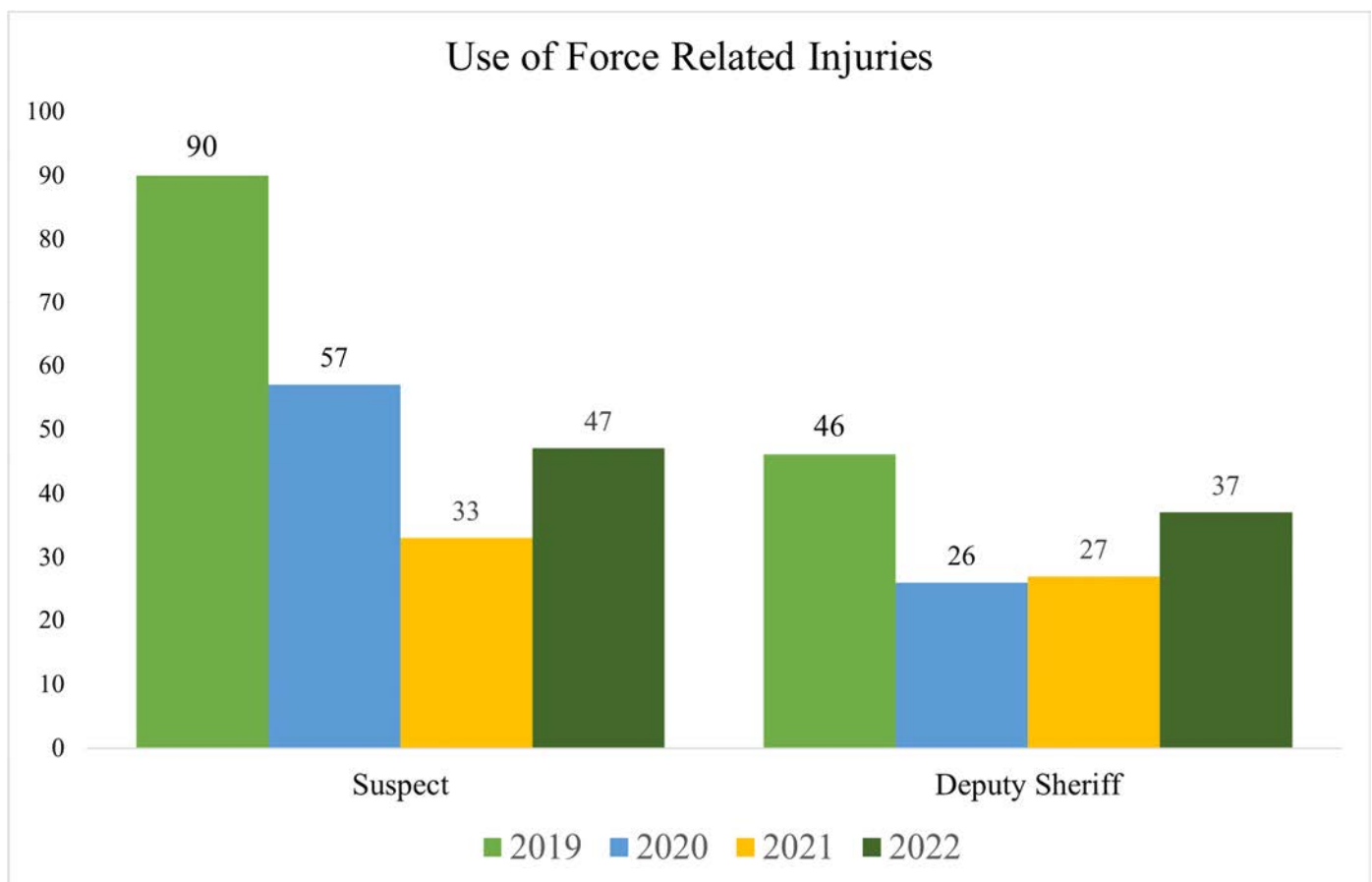
LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

INJURIES RESULTED FROM SUSPECT OR UOF

The Kern County Sheriff's Office works closely with the Kern County Fire Department and various ambulance companies throughout Kern County to provide immediate care and treatment of individuals injured during a use of force incident. When injuries are sustained due to the use of force or injuries are reported to the arresting officer, the individual is examined on scene by medical personnel. For more serious injuries, medical personnel will determine the safest mode of transportation. For minor injuries, the individual will be transported to the local hospital for medical clearance by the deputy sheriff. Once released from the hospital, the suspect's medical treatment continues in custody by the nurses and doctors contracted by the Kern County Sheriff's Office.

An offense report documents all injuries to both suspects and deputy sheriffs. Each use of force incident is reviewed for compliance with Federal and State law, and Kern County Sheriff's Office policy. For those incidents found not to meet that standard, the incident is referred to the Internal Affairs Unit or the Professional Standards Unit for investigation.

Data analysis changed for 2022 compared to previous years. In previous years, use of force related injuries were tracked by incident, counting each incident in which a suspect or a deputy sheriff was injured instead of the individual (as seen in the chart below for years 2019, 2020, and 2021). The new method for tracking injuries includes documenting each individual suspect and each individual deputy sheriff who was injured during a use of force incident. This change accounts for the increase in injuries for both suspects and deputy sheriffs in 2022.



SHERIFF'S CANINE UNIT 2022 UPDATE

In 2022, the Sheriff's Office Canine Unit comprised five deputy and dog teams. Four teams are certified in narcotics detection, while one is certified in detecting explosives and dangerous materials. They are supervised by a Metro Patrol Section Sergeant who is trained and departmentally approved to coordinate all matters related to canine use. Members of this highly specialized unit service all 8,163 square miles of Kern County and are on call at all times.

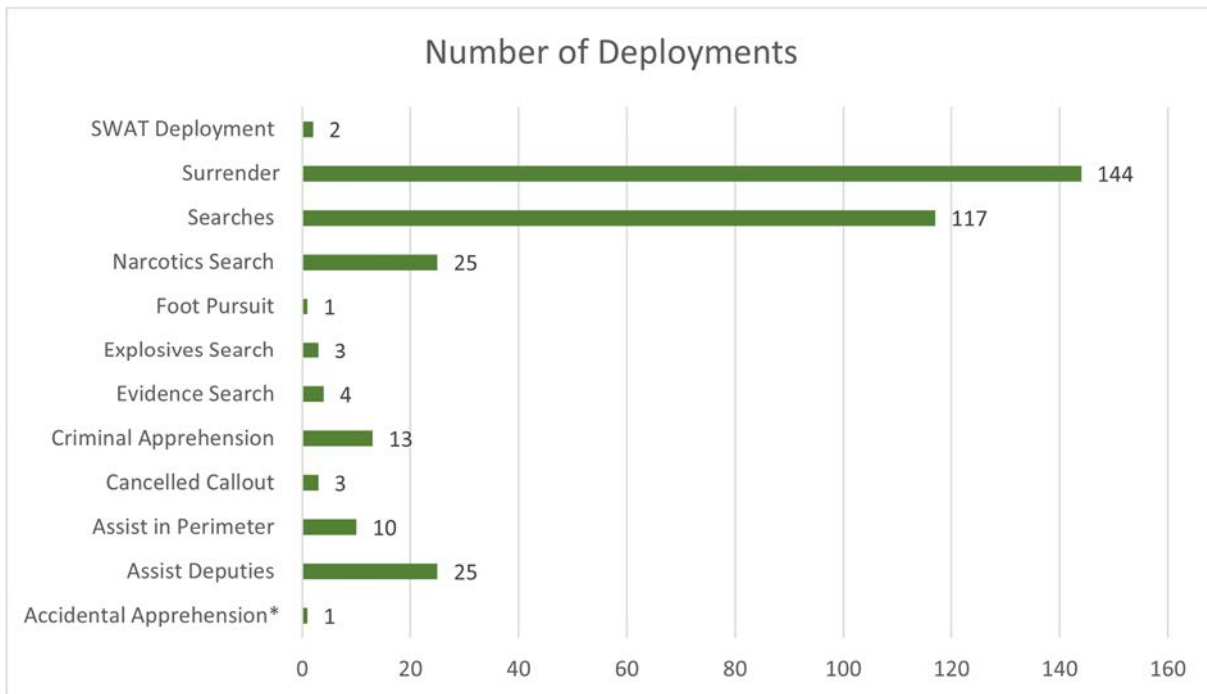
The Canine Unit's primary purpose is to support members of the Sheriff's Office during searches for suspects, narcotics, items of evidence, dangerous materials, and the arrest of actively resistive and dangerous persons. Canine teams are used most commonly at vehicle pursuits, narcotics searches, violent felony crime scenes, and area searches.

Our canine partners are indispensable to the mission and are valued members of the Kern County Sheriff's Office family. Each dog's intelligence, handler relationship, and incredible training can be enjoyed by the public during any one of our many annual demonstrations, both at the Kern County Sheriff's Office Headquarters and off-site locations.



CANINE TEAM BY THE NUMBERS

Sheriff's Canine Teams responded to 5,698 calls for service and were involved in 348 deployments during 2022. Of the 348 deployments, 144 were incidents where a suspect was located but surrendered without being apprehended by the dog. A canine physically apprehended a suspect and used force on 13 occasions. The remaining 191 deployments did not involve any individuals.



*Canine accidentally apprehended KCSO staff member

Hannes' End of Watch: Thursday, August 18, 2022

Canine Hannes began his watch on April 24, 2021. For the next year, Hannes served Kern County and its residents by successfully locating numerous violent suspects and pounds of illegal narcotics. Hannes truly enjoyed demonstrations with the community and children. Without fear, Hannes entered several dangerous situations to ensure the deputy sheriffs of Kern County went home safely to their families and loved ones. Tragically, on Thursday, August 18, 2022, Hannes died in the line of duty due to heat exhaustion.



Hannes



Viktor



Hero

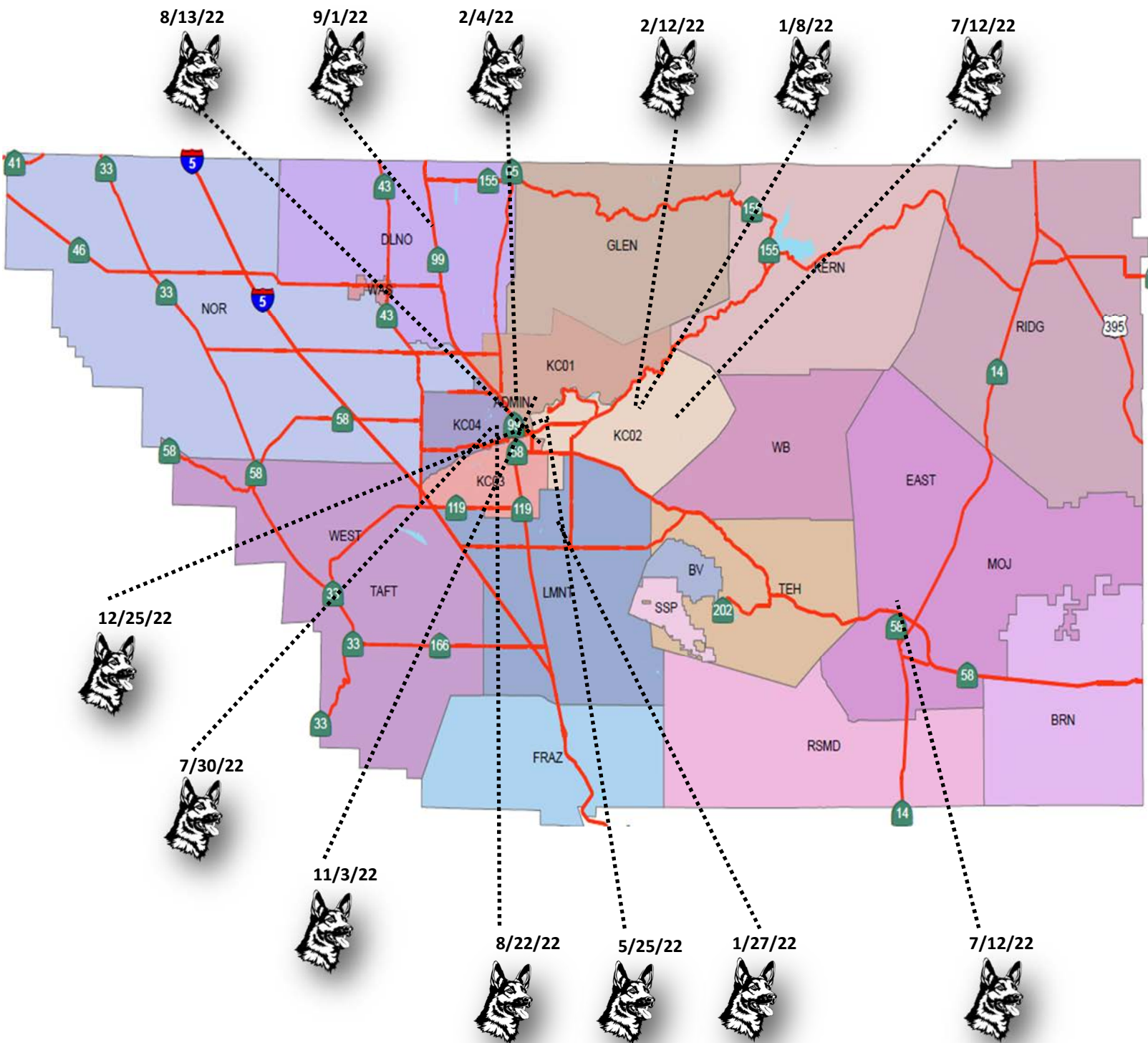


Drogo



Rico

CANINE APPREHENSIONS MAP



OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING INCIDENTS

In 2022, there were five incidents during which deputies discharged their firearms at a person. We experienced three such incidents in 2021. All five shooting incidents were found within policy and California law. Each incident was independently reviewed by the Kern County District Attorney's Office as well. Critical incident videos and additional statistics can be found online at <https://www.kernsheriff.org/Transparency>.



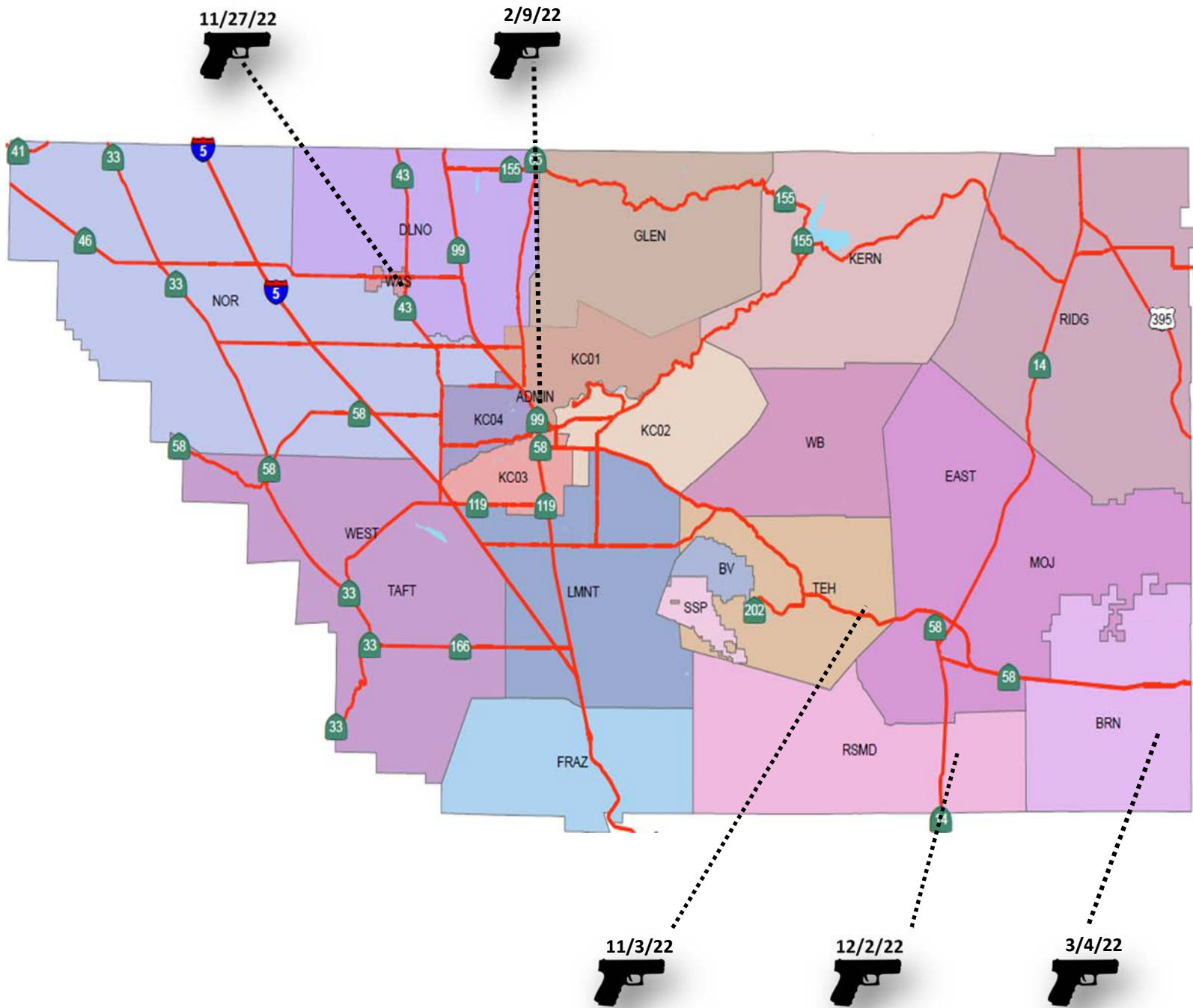
Suspect Weapon	No. of Incidents	Percentage
Handgun	2	40%
Long Gun	-	0%
Officer's Weapon	-	0%
Knife	2	40%
Bow & Arrow	1	20%

Suspect Ethnicity	No. of Individuals	Percentage	County Population
Black	-	0%	6.3%
Hispanic	2	40%	56.8%
White	3	60%	30.4%
Other	-	0%	6.5%

**SUSPECTS WERE ARMED WITH
EITHER A FIREARM, KNIFE, OR A
BOW AND ARROW**



OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING MAP

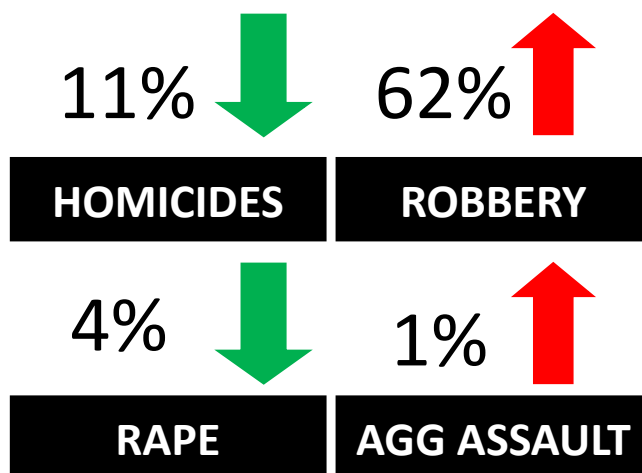


VIOLENT CRIME IN PERSPECTIVE

In 2022, there were a total of 2,969 violent crimes reported in Kern County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction, which accounted for an increase of 284 more violent crime occurrences, or 10 %, compared to 2,684 in 2021. Of 2,969 violent crimes, 2,268 suspects and 2,969 victims were identified.

A review of the four violent crime categories revealed rape experienced a 4% decrease while robbery experienced a 62% increase in 2022, compared to the prior year. Homicides decreased by 6 incidents, or 11% when compared to the prior year. Aggravated assaults increased by 20 incidents, or 1% in 2022, compared to the prior year.

	2019	2020	2021	2022
HOMICIDE	36	75	57	51
RAPE	152	172	196	188
ROBBERY	453	479	451	730
AGG ASSAULT	1062	1331	1980	2000
TOTAL	1703	2057	2684	2969



COUNTY CRIME STATISTICS

Violent Crime

Of the 2,969 violent crimes reported in unincorporated Kern County, 51 were homicides, which was a decrease of 6 incidents, or 11%, compared to the 57 homicides in 2021.

In 2022, a total of 1,126 out of the 2,268 suspects, or 50%, involved in violent crime were Hispanic. During the same period, 717, or 32%, of the suspects involved in violent crime were White. Black suspects involved in violent crime, accounted for 218, or 10%. Lastly, 207 suspects, or 9%, were classified as Other, Asian, or Unknown ethnic origins.

Part I Crime

Part I Crime, 15,215 incidents (consisting of homicides, rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries, burglaries/thefts from motor vehicles, personal/other thefts, arson, and auto thefts) occurred throughout the county. The Part I Crime total had a 2% increase, compared to 14,964 incidents in 2021.

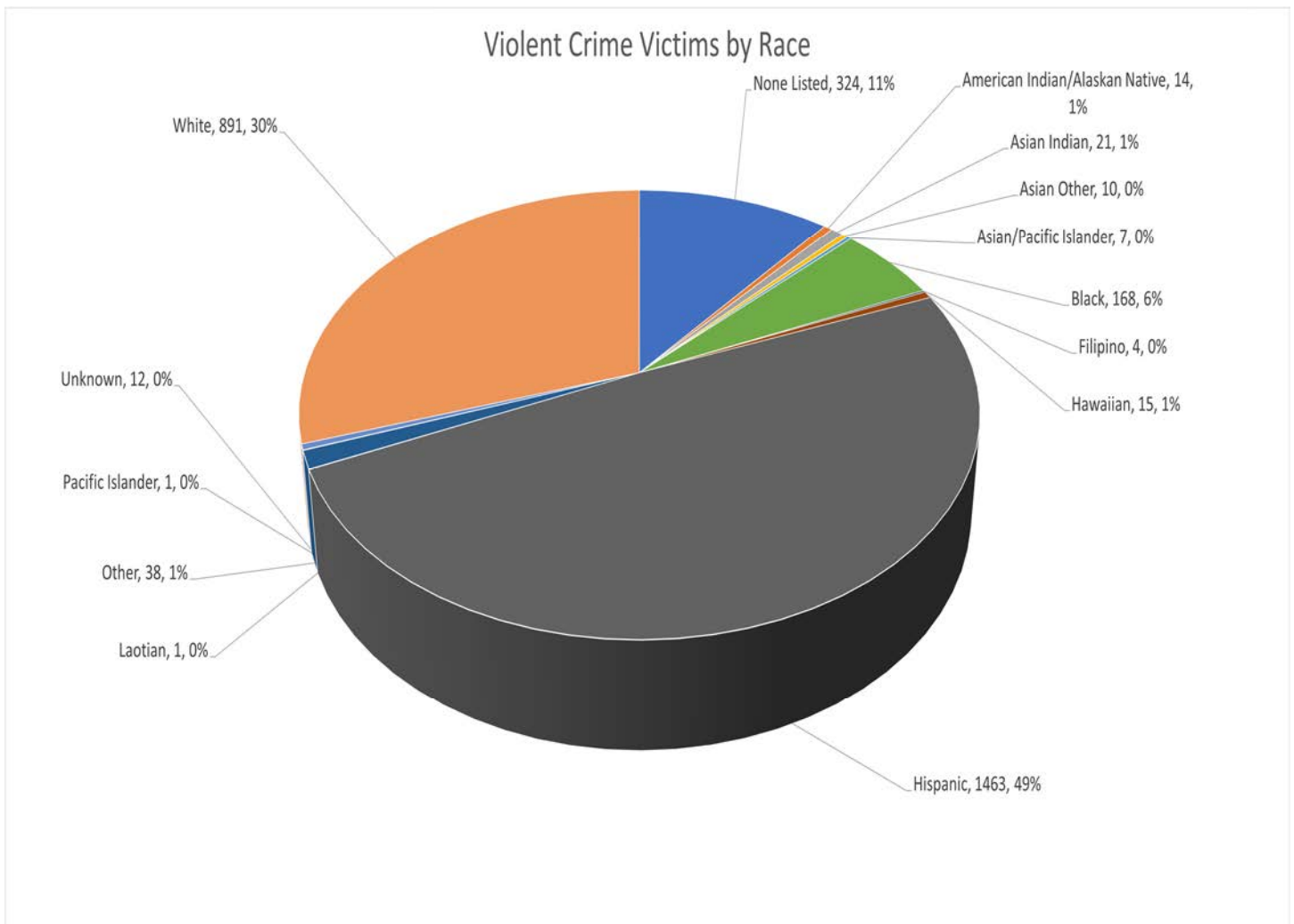
Part II Crime

Part II Crime 10,028 incidents (kidnap, other sex crimes, simple assaults, crimes against family/children, weapons violations, identity theft, fraud, forgery/counterfeiting, embezzlement, prostitution, disorderly conduct, and vandalism) were reported to KCSO. The 2022 Part II Crime total was 10,028 incidents, or 15.4%, less than the 11,854 incidents in 2021.

KERN COUNTY VIOLENT CRIME

VICTIMS BY REPORTED RACE

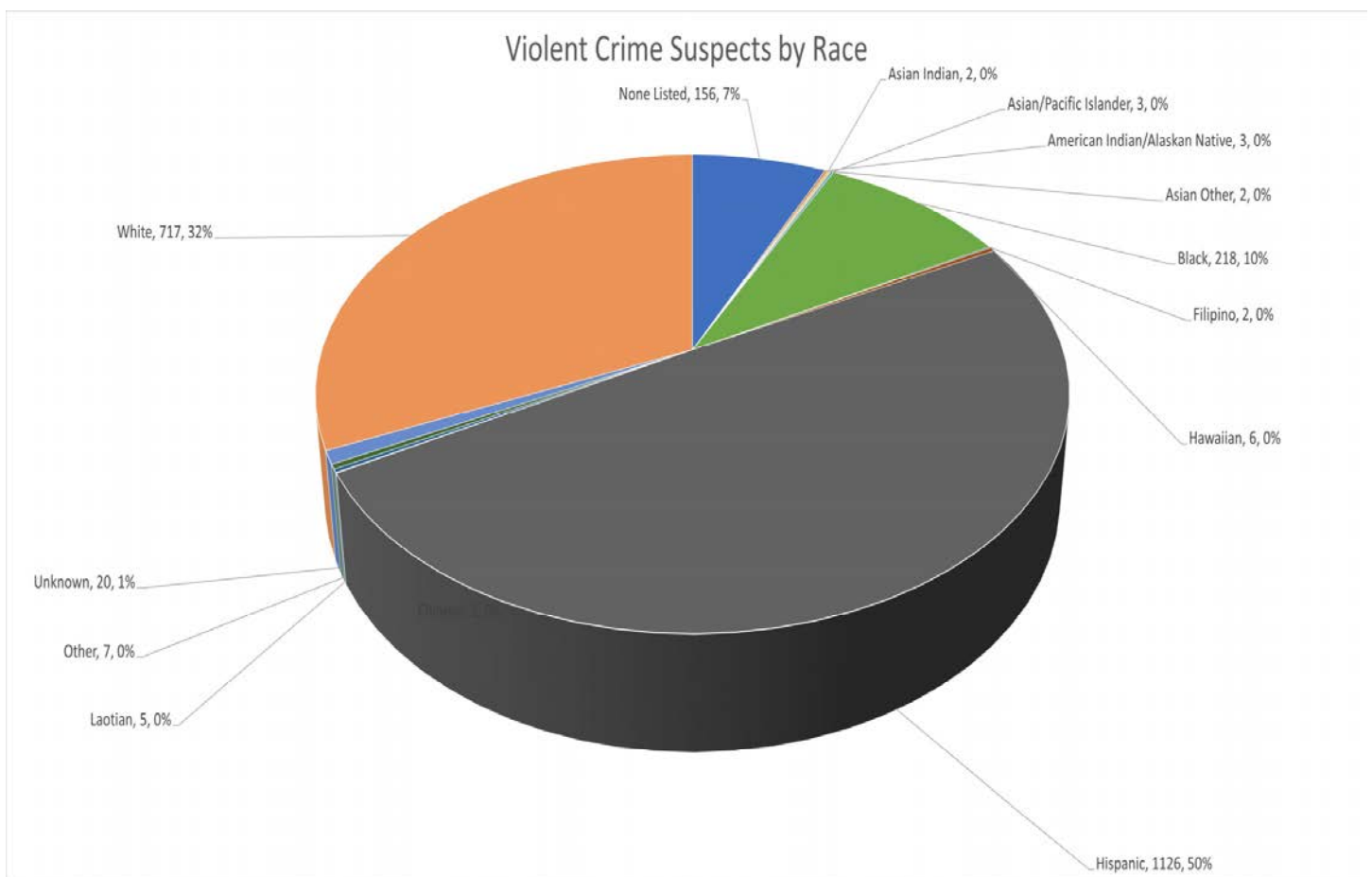
Hispanic victims accounted for 1,463 of the four cumulative violent crime categories, which represented 49.3% of the 2,969 violent crime victims identified in 2022. White victims accounted for the second highest group, with 891 victims at 30% of the total. Black victims accounted for this third highest count, with 168 victims, or 6 percent of the total. “None Listed” victims had 324 entries, or 11% of the total.



KERN COUNTY VIOLENT CRIME

SUSPECTS BY REPORTED RACE

Hispanic suspects accounted for 1,126 of the four cumulative violent crime categories, which represented 49.6% of the 2,268 total violent crime suspects identified in 2022. White suspects accounted for the second highest group, with 717 suspects, or 31.6% of the total. Black suspects had the third highest count with 218 suspects, or 9.6% of the total. Race was not reported for 176 suspects, or 7%. Given the data and percentage for race and violent crime, the percentages align with RIPA data trends. Compared to 2021, violent crime has increased by 9.5%, homicides have decreased by 11%, rape has decreased by 4%, robbery has increased by 62%, and aggravated assault has increased by 1%.



The Sheriff's Office seized 1,012 firearms in 2022.

Kern County Sheriff's Office Seized Firearms	
2019	844
2020	928
2021	1027
2022	1012

DETENTIONS BUREAU

The Kern County Sheriff's Office is legally obligated to manage the needs of persons incarcerated within the Kern County Jail System. The Kern County Sheriff's Office operates a system of professionally staffed detention facilities designed to manage the complex process of providing for each of those needs. The Kern County Jail accepts approximately 46,000 new arrests annually. Each arrestee must be processed into a limited system of jail beds (just over 2,800).

The Detentions Bureau is responsible for providing various services within the scope of jail and court security. Foundational duties within the Detentions Bureau include jail security, court security, inmate processing, inmate transportation, and inmate classification. Other functional duties include activities associated with maintaining the welfare of those incarcerated (medical & mental health treatment, education, support services, and recreation). These obligations are managed by approximately 600 dedicated employees within the Detentions Bureau.

The Lerdo Facilities Division is comprised of the following Sections: the Pre-Trial Facility, the Justice Facility, the Maximum-Medium Facility, the Minimum Facility, the Compliance Section, the Population Management Section, and the Inmate Services Section.



The Downtown Services Division is comprised of the following Sections: Central Receiving Facility, the Court Services Section, and the Virtual Jail Section. The Virtual Jail was conceived as a mechanism to offset the growing numbers of persons entering the local jail system. The Virtual Jail features several alternatives to conventional incarceration, such as Electronic Monitoring, Sheriff's Parole, and Work Release.

The Kern County Sheriff's Office currently partners with the State of California to provide for the security of numerous Superior Court facilities. The Transportation Section provides logistical support for the many movements required within the Detentions Bureau. The Transportation Section facilitates the movement of thousands of inmates monthly.

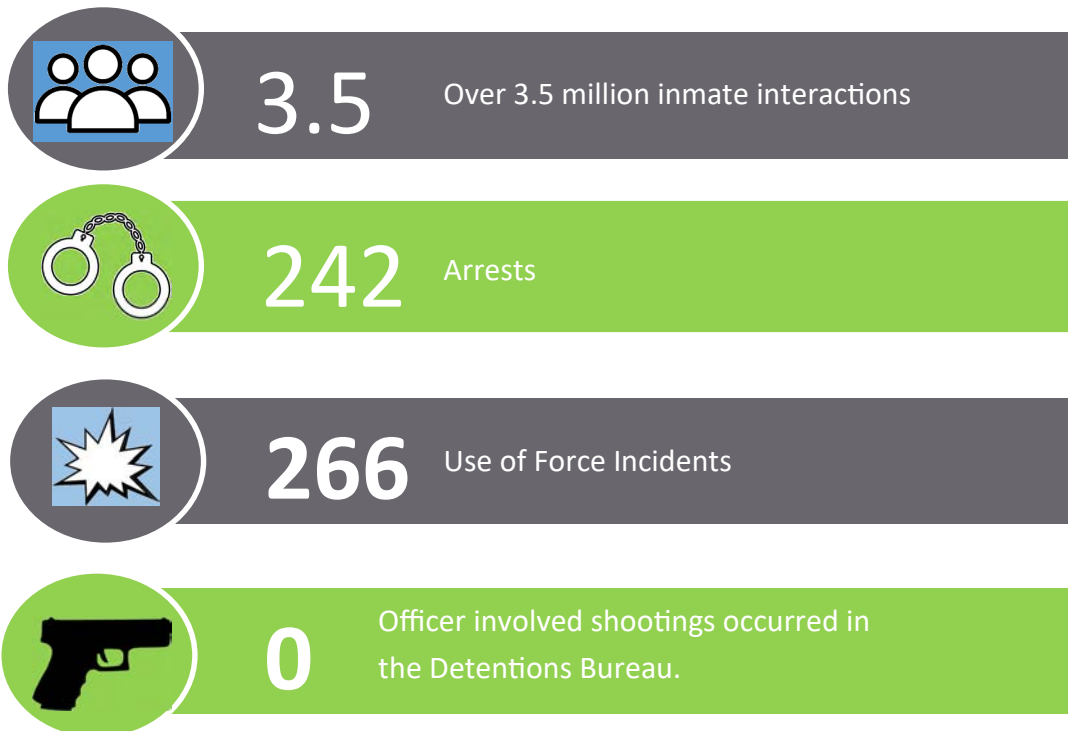
The Detentions Bureau works in partnership with our community to provide inmate labor and inmate education. It utilizes alternative programs to reintroduce inmates into our community with the goal of significantly reducing the underlying causes that have historically contributed to recidivism.

Members of the Detentions Bureau remain committed to providing the highest levels of service and professionalism. Our commitment to the community remains foundationally predicated on the principles of service and duty. Those driving principles support the primary mission of the Kern County Sheriff's Office, which is to enhance the quality of life for those in Kern County.

USE OF FORCE IN PERSPECTIVE

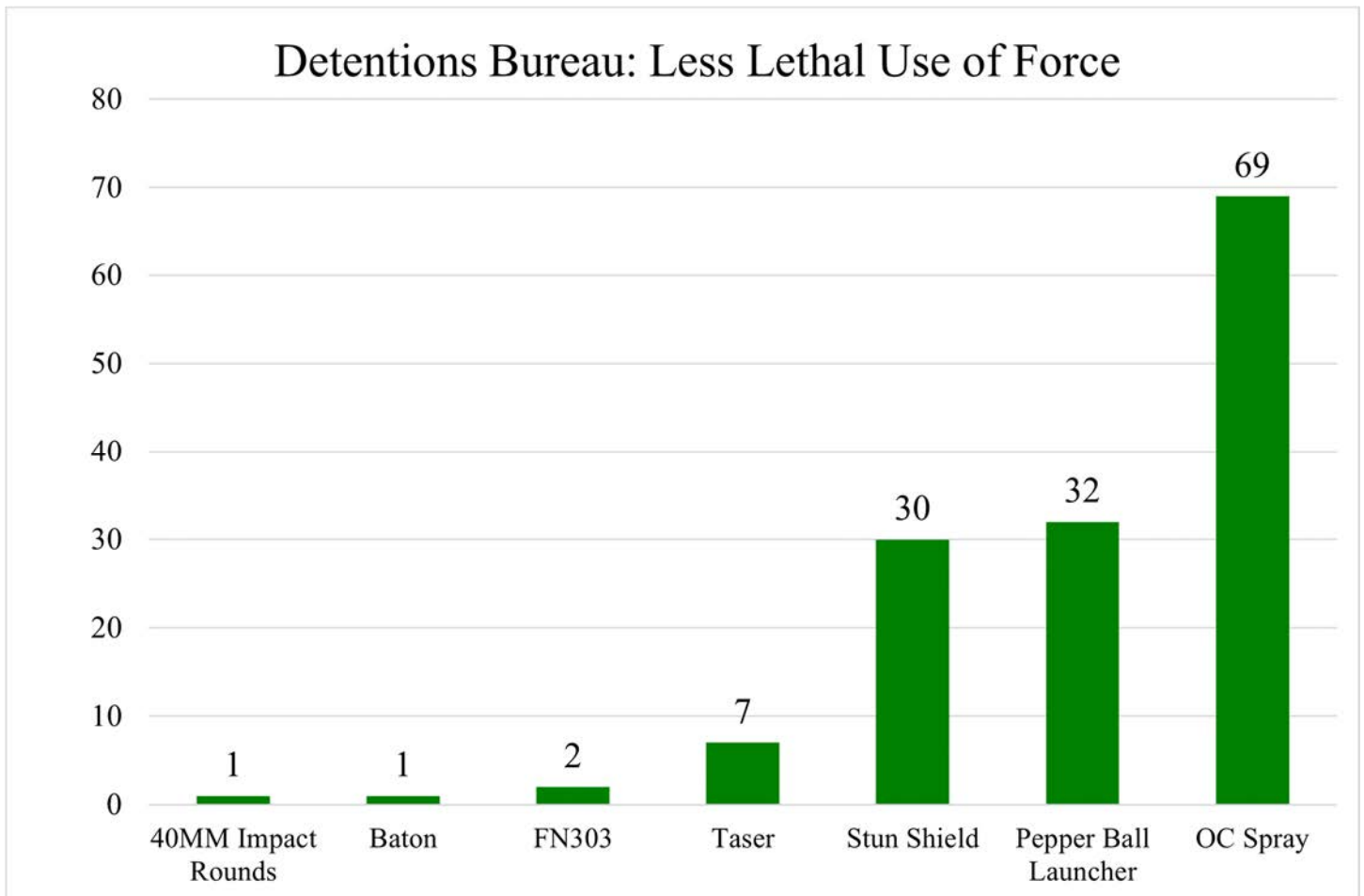
DETENTIONS BUREAU

It is important to note that a vast majority of detentions staff interactions with individuals in custody do not result in a use of force. In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office had over 3.5 million inmate interactions. During those contacts, 242 arrests were effected, and 276 use of force incidents occurred (0 of which were OIS incidents).



DETENTIONS BUREAU USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

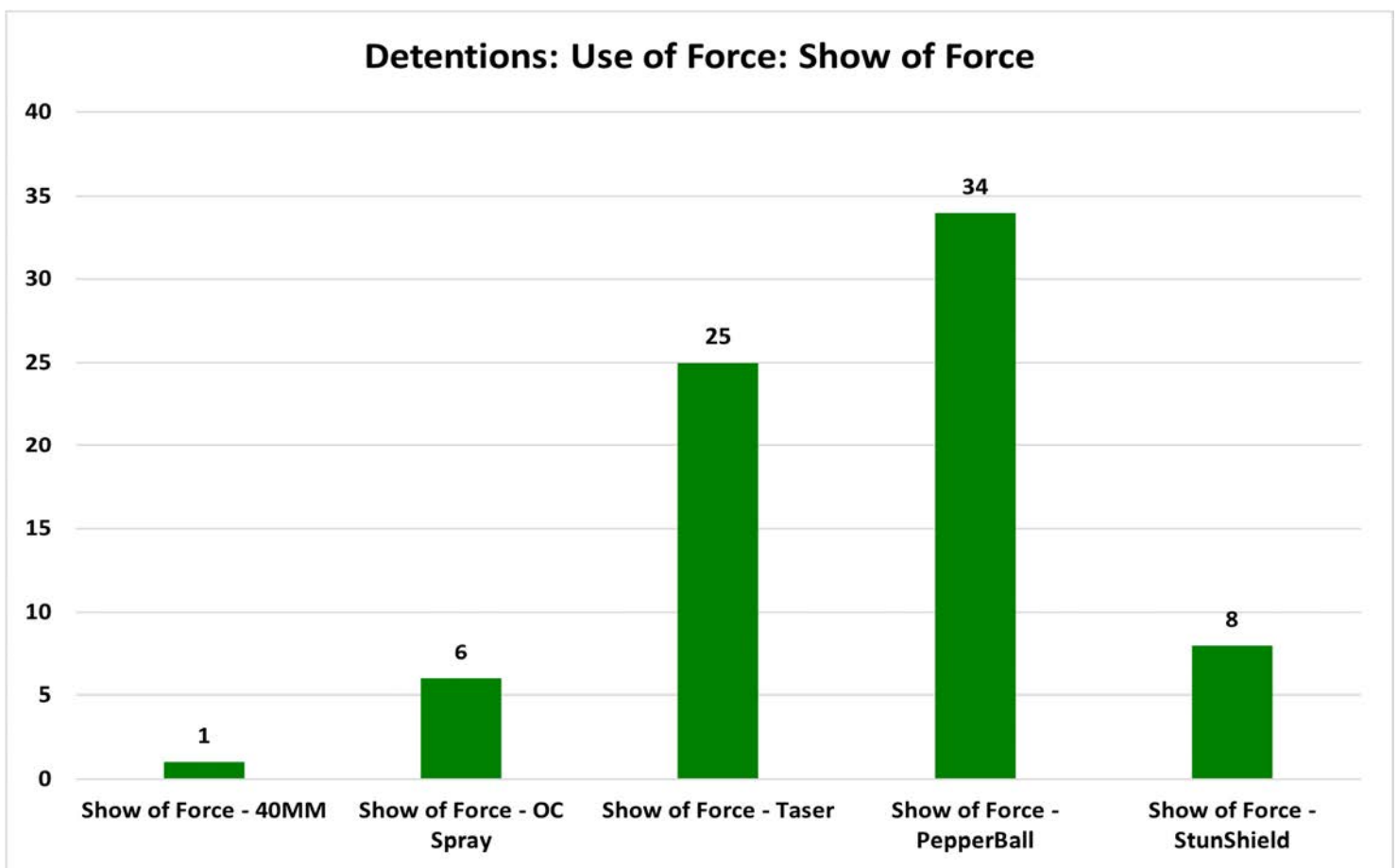
In 2022, the daily occupancy averaged 1,669 inmates for a total annual occupancy of 609,185. This was a decrease from the 1,784 inmate daily average in 2021. In 2022, the Detentions Bureau had over 3.5 million interactions with individuals in custody. Interactions include the booking process, daily counts, investigations, inmate movements, releases, transporting inmates to and from court, and the interactions court bailiffs and guards have with the public. The Kern County Sheriff's Office Detentions Bureau wrote 20,805 reports from incidents that occurred in the correctional facility in 2022, increase of 6,855 investigations from 2021. Of the 20,805 documented incidents, 1,538 reports involved a use of force incident, or 7.4 percent.



1,538 reports documented 667 use of force incidents within the Detentions Bureau of the Kern County Sheriff's Office. In these incidents, OC spray was used 69 times. The use of OC spray was significantly greater than other force options due to detention deputies using OC spray on multiple subjects who are fighting one another, occasionally in large groups. Each subject sprayed was counted within this number. No other force option allows a single detention deputy to attempt to gain compliance from groups of subjects fighting without using force which might lead to injury to the deputy and/or the subjects.

DETENTIONS BUREAU USE OF FORCE—BY THE NUMBERS

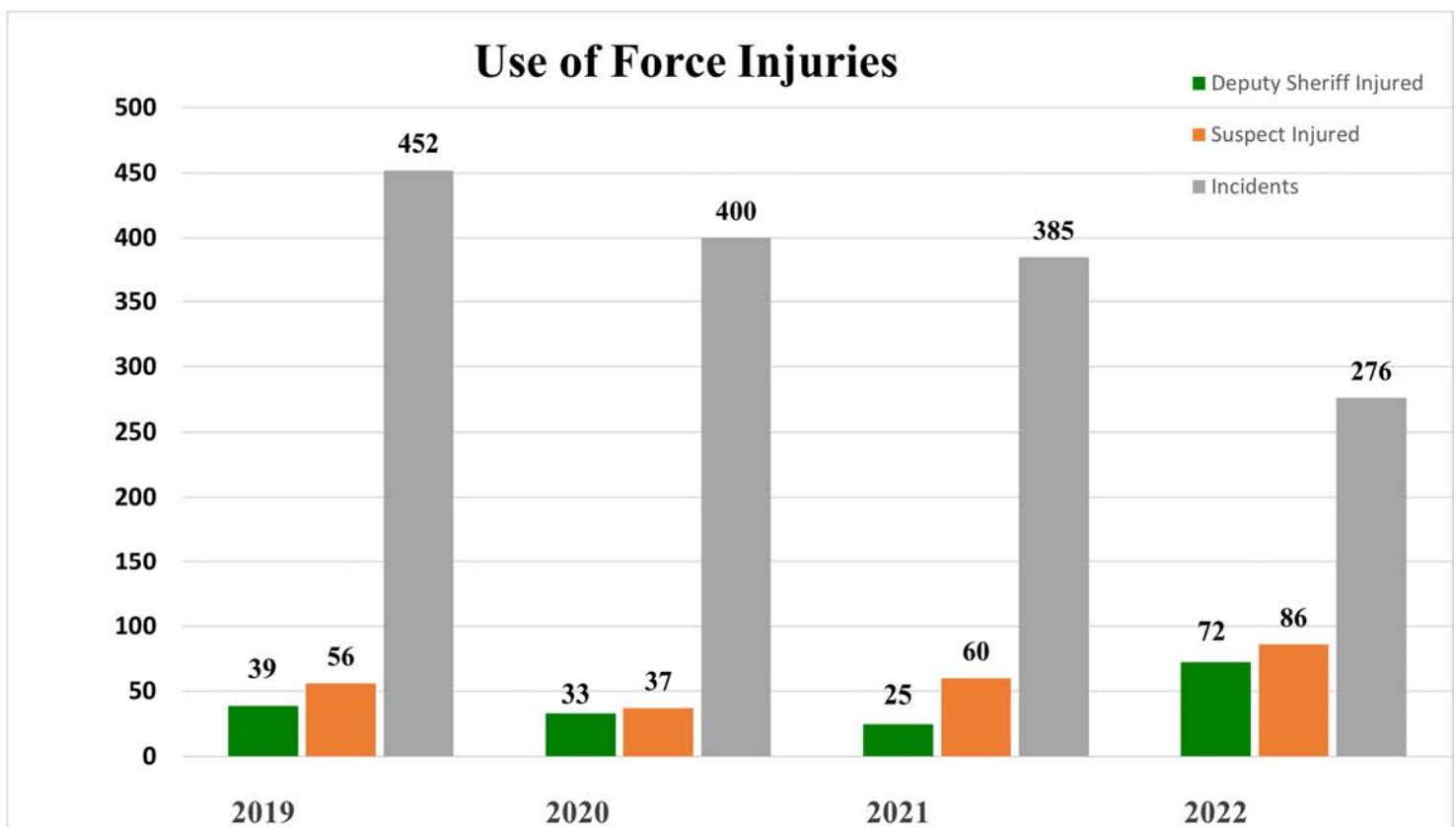
In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office began documenting "Show of Force." A "Show of Force" is intentionally pointing or presenting a use of force options, but not using or firing the use of force option. The chart below displays the "Show of Force" of various force options. The Pepperball launcher, the most used less-lethal force option, was displayed most frequently as a "Show of Force," followed by the Taser.



DETENTIONS BUREAU USE OF FORCE—INJURIES

The Kern County Sheriff's Office works closely with Kern Medical and the various ambulance companies throughout Kern County to provide long-term and immediate care and treatment of injured individuals in custody. When injuries are sustained due to a use of force, or they inform a detentions staff of an injury, the individual will be examined on scene by medical personnel. The individual will be moved to the infirmary for medical clearance for minor injuries. For serious injuries, medical personnel will determine the safest mode of transportation to the hospital for treatment.

All use of force-related injuries are documented in an incident report. Each use of force is reviewed for compliance with policy and state law. For those incidents found not to meet that standard, the incident is referred to the Internal Affairs Unit or the Professional Standards Unit for investigation. Suspect and detentions staff injuries increased in 2022 due to how injuries are traced by the Kern County Sheriff's Office. In previous years, injuries were tracked by the incident. In 2022, the Kern County Sheriff's Office began tracking injuries by individual suspects and detentions staff.



The overall trend shows that use of force incidents in detention facilities have decreased over time. Use of force numbers shows increased detentions staff and suspect injuries due to how injuries are tracked. Previous years tracked incidents in which a person was injured; however, they did not track how many people were injured. 2022 is the first year in which both injuries to individual detentions staff members and individual suspect(s) were tracked, even if the injuries occurred in the same incident.

INMATE STABILIZATION AND ASSESSMENT TEAM

MISSION STATEMENT

The Inmate Stabilization and Assessment Team (I.S.A.T.) shall be proactive in rendering professional custodial and social services to the inmates at the Kern County Jails who are suffering from the most grievous mental, behavioral and intellectual disabilities.

Four Core Values

- Empathy
- Courage
- Adaptability
- Spirit of Volunteerism



Overview

- Program Description
- Program Evaluation
- ISAT Moving Forward

I.S.A.T. PROGRAM PURPOSE

Benefits for Correctional Behavioral Health

- Better Communication
- Easier Access to Clients
- More Follow-Through
- Medication Compliance
- Consistency
- More Accurate Referrals
- Compliance with Inmate Rights

Benefits for Kern Medical

- Better Communication
- Stabilized Inmates are Easier to Treat
- Bed Space Management
- More Hygienic Inmates

Benefits for Kern County Sheriff's Office

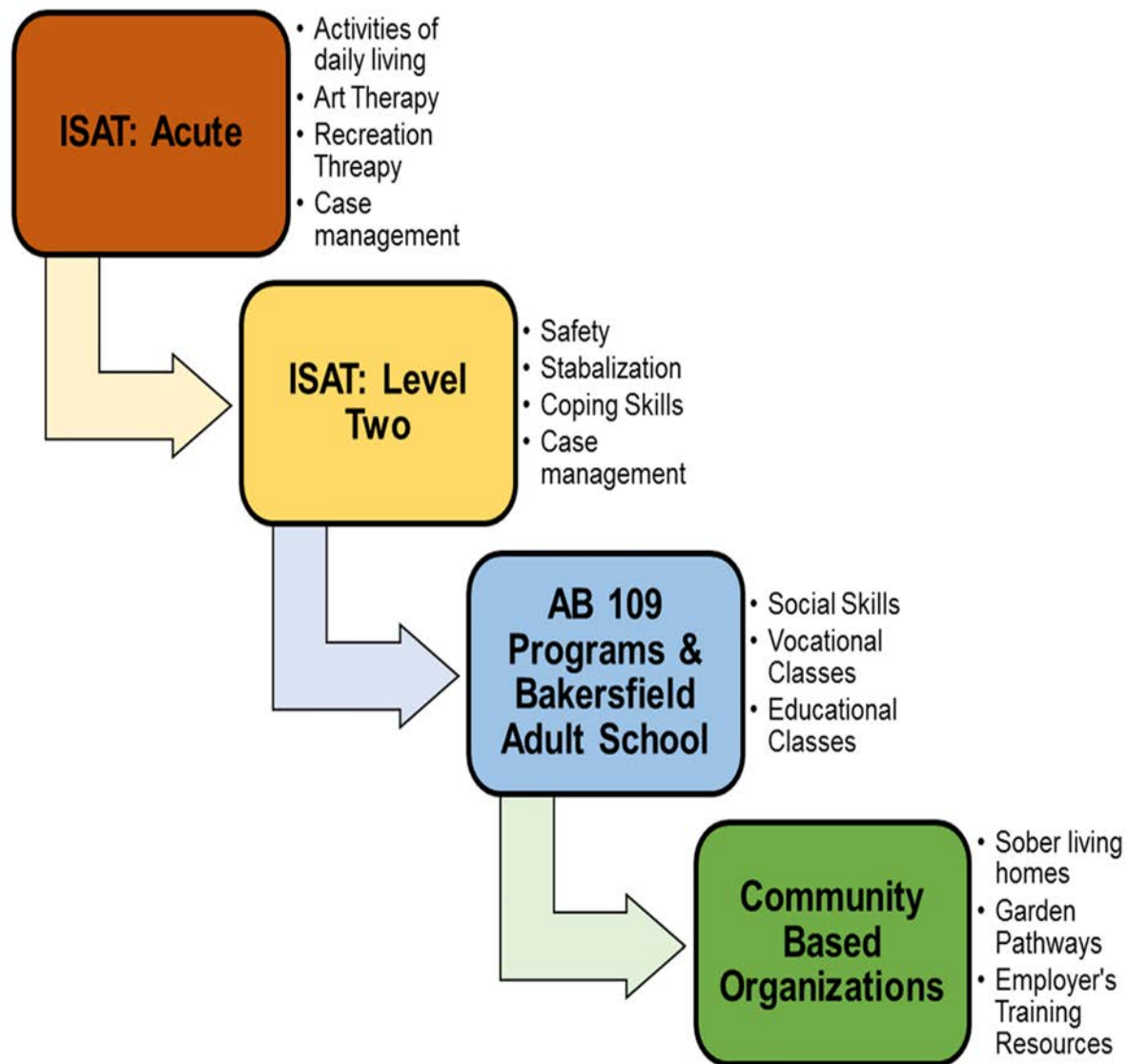
- Reduces Liability
- Compliance with DOJ Paragraph 93
- Positive Public Relations
- Cleaner and Safer Facilities
- Reduced UOF Incidents
- Training & Accountability
- Speedier Administration of Justice
- Increased Bed Space
- Facility Integrity
- Less Inmate Discipline

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- The program was started in October 2020 by a Detentions Senior Deputy as a response to inmate suicides.
- A Kern County Sheriff's Office Commander saw the benefit of the program and authorized the implementations.
- Designed to be a team that coordinates between the Sheriff's Office, Correctional Behavioral Health, and Correctional Medicine.
- The team has focused on the following custodial concerns:
 - Medication Compliance.
 - Cleaning Cells.
 - Managing the Direct Observation Unit.
 - Managing Suicide Watch Bed Space.
 - Administrative Welfare Checks of Segregated Inmates.
- The Team has focused on the following programmatic concerns:
 - Creating a Case-Management System.
 - Creating a Caseload.
 - Intake.
 - Risk Assessments.
 - Targeted Interventions.
 - Discharges.
 - Data Collection and Analysis.

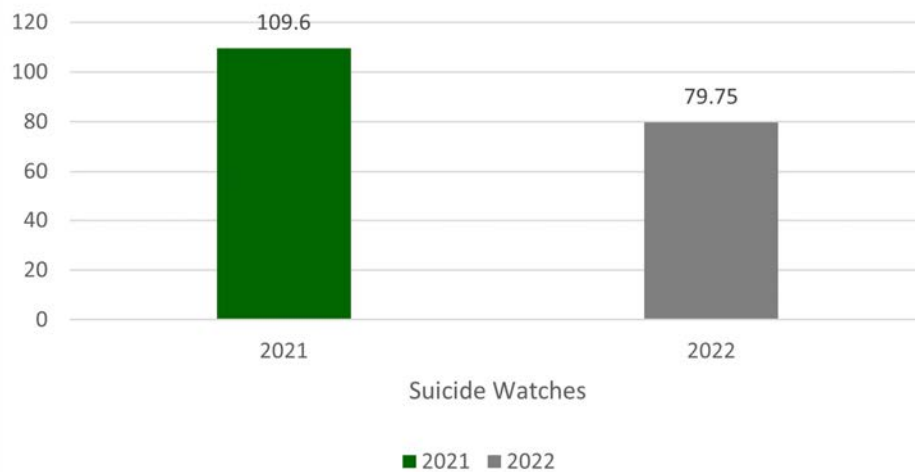


PROGRAM DESCRIPTION—THE I.S.A.T. MODEL



I.S.A.T. PROGRAM EVALUATION

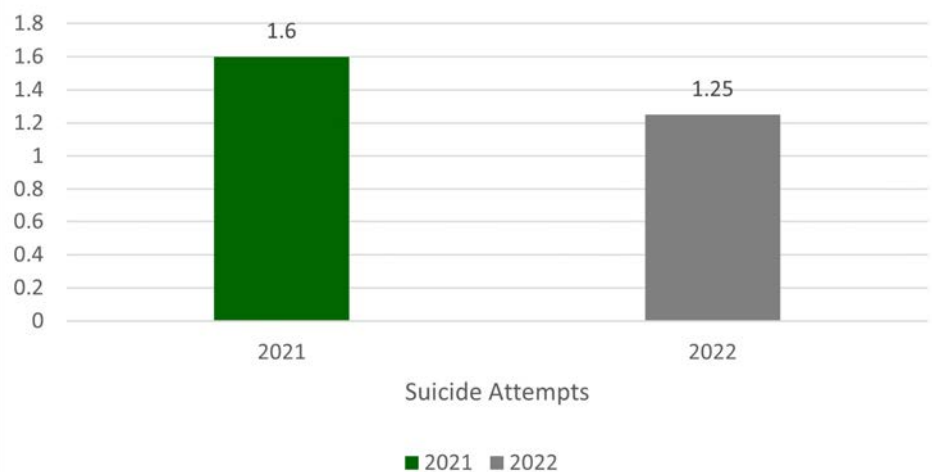
Average Monthly Suicide Watches



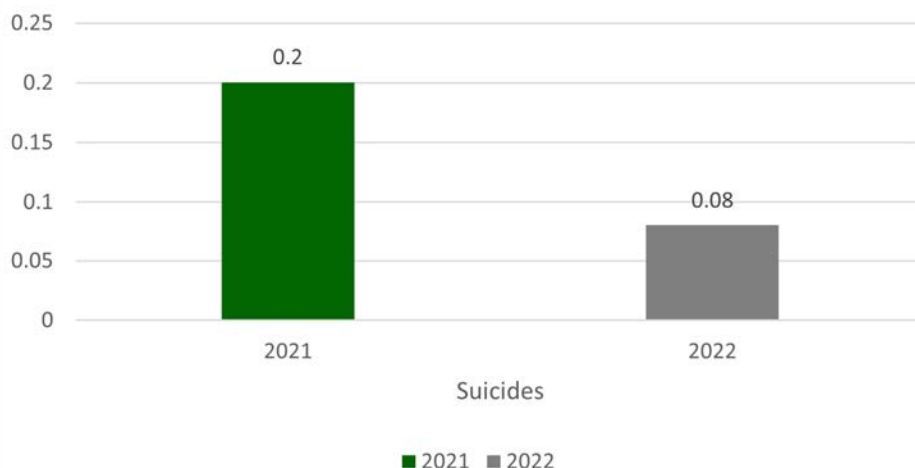
Average monthly inmate suicide watches have decreased from 109.6 to 79.75. This represents a decrease of 27%.

Average monthly inmate suicide attempts have decreased from 1.6 to 1.25. This represents a decrease of 22%.

Average Monthly Suicide Attempts

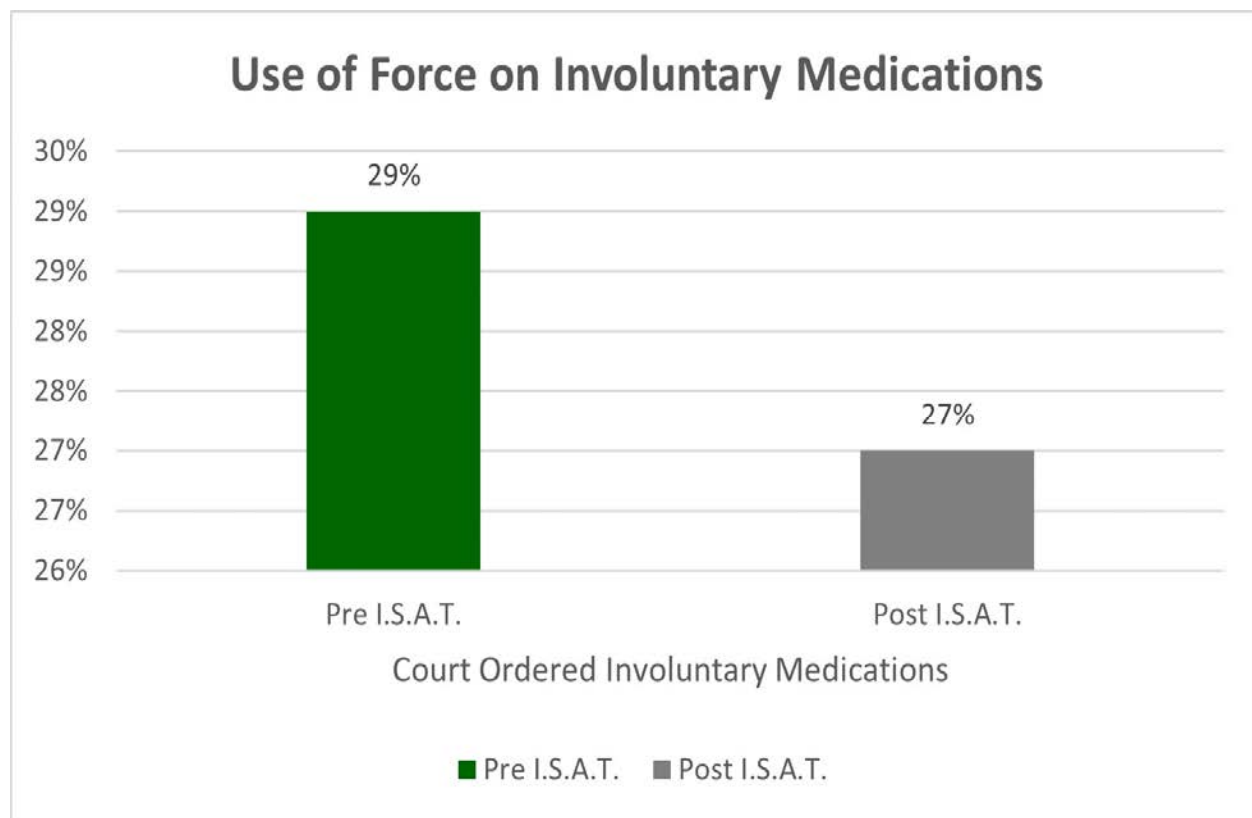


Average Monthly Suicides



Average monthly inmate suicide deaths have decreased from .2 to .08. This represents a decrease of 60%.

I.S.A.T. PROGRAM EVALUATION



The average use of force for court-ordered involuntary medications has decreased from 29% to 27%, a decrease of 2%. We hope to continue decreasing the use of force for involuntary medications with the Inmate Stabilization and Assessment Team.

I.S.A.T. MOVING FORWARD

- Staffing: Increase staffing for a more permanent program at the Lerdo Jail facilities.
 - * This year we were able to add a Detentions Senior Deputy to the program. With the addition of this staff, we began offering evidence-based curriculum provided by Kern Behavioral and Recovery Services.
 - * Propose to the Board of Supervisors to create an additional Program Technician position, eight additional Sheriff's Program Specialist positions, a Sheriff's Program Supervisor, and a Sheriff's Assistant Program Director position.
- Expansion: Expand throughout facilities.
- Re-Evaluation: IST Re-Evaluation Services Program.



ADMISSION EVALUATION AND STABILIZATION—AES

In 2018, the Kern County Sheriff's Office opened the Admission Evaluation and Stabilization (AES) Center inside the Lerdo Pre-Trial Facility. The AES Center is a 60-bed jail-based State Hospital program run under the umbrella of the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH). Incarcerated persons who are found to be incompetent to stand trial by the court system are **admitted** to the State Hospital system, **evaluated** for needed treatment, and **stabilized** on medication (**AES**). Currently, 52 beds are occupied, with 53% of those in the program being Kern County inmates. The current restoration rate of Kern County inmates is 74%.

With the assistance of contracted mental health personnel, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and mental health technicians, incarcerated persons are evaluated for a variety of mental health issues. Incarcerated persons are stabilized on medication if needed and attend classes to learn and understand the process of attending court and aiding in their defense. The AES Center provides a safe housing location promoting evidence-based treatment plans that can be molded to the incarcerated persons' needs. Detentions Deputies assist mental health professionals daily in identifying issues that allow the correct treatment pathways to be identified and carried out safely.

Before the AES Center opened in 2018, Kern County incarcerated persons had to wait as long as 11 months from the time they were found incompetent to stand trial until they were admitted to a State Hospital for treatment. The wait time from being found incompetent to stand trial to being admitted to a State Hospital program is as low as 1-2 months. The Kern AES Center handles the most admissions and has the highest restored competency rates compared to any other jail-based competency program (JBCT) in the state.

While there are jail-based competency treatment programs (JBCT programs) exist at other sites, this is a unique JBCT program located only in Lerdo. The program is operated by Wellpath on a contract basis with Kern County Sheriff's Office, which provides law enforcement. The AES Center differs from other JBCTs because of the in-house medical team, including its medical doctor, nursing staff, and psychiatric team. All other JBCTs rely on operating facilities for medical and psychiatric services. Additionally, Wellpath employs mental health technicians who stay in unit one, with a deputy, 24 hours a day. This allows a check for Inmates/Patients (I/Ps) in all units every 30 minutes or more frequently, depending on need. Mental health technicians also assist deputies with encouraging the I/Ps to care for themselves and clean their cells.



ADMISSION EVALUATION AND STABILIZATION—AES

These programs have the right to refuse I/Ps proposed to them by the Department of State Hospitals (DSH). Some examples of this can be an I/Ps gang affiliation, prior failure to participate in the program, or failure to cooperate. Once the inmate is approved, Wellpath staff contacts DSH, and the inmate is transported to the program by the county they came from.

Once the I/P arrives, they are evaluated by medical staff and escorted to their new housing location. Upon arrival at the AES Center, a “stabilization unit” is used. All new arrivals start in this unit and remain there for at least 72 hours. While stabilization is in progress, I/Ps are brought out of their cell for “class time.” During this time, they come out with other I/Ps in the unit. Depending on their mental state and class participation, I/Ps can graduate to units 2, 3, or 4, with unit 4 designated for lower-functioning or intellectually impaired individuals. AES also houses a small monolingual Spanish I/Ps population who participates with Wellpath and KCSO staff assistance. Some I/Ps that attend the program are subject to involuntary medication orders by the court, allowing medical staff to administer antipsychotic medication despite a patient refusing. Some I/Ps do not have an involuntary medication order but continue to take medication of their choosing. The AES Center has also pursued new orders for involuntary medications through the courts, allowing them to medicate I/Ps who display a danger to themselves and others or a lack of capacity to make rational decisions.

The AES Center employs dedicated teachers for class activities and social workers for individual activities. During class time, between 10 and 16, I/Ps are together in the day room. They are instructed on various topics, including what will occur inside the courtroom, mental health and stress management, general wellness education, competency restoration, and various topics as needed, such as coping skills.

Throughout their stay, I/Ps are evaluated by Wellpath psychologists to return the I/Ps to court. If the I/P is

deemed competent by Wellpath staff, the I/P is transported back to their county of origin the next day to attend court. Deputies are handpicked to work for the program by applying and going through an interview process for this assignment.



BODY-WORN CAMERA

The Kern County Sheriff's Office currently deploys body worn cameras (BWC) in the field and in detention facilities. These devices and their related software are a crucial in streamlining data collection and evidence sharing. The effective management of the ever-growing repository of digital evidence is critical, given that the overriding goal of these systems is to increase transparency while simultaneously assisting the Kern County Sheriff's Office and its personnel in performing their duties. In addition, these platforms have facilitated the initiative to release video recordings as part of the Critical Incident Video Release, which is used to enhance transparency and build public trust. It is also the goal of the Kern County Sheriff's Office to utilize these platforms to enhance accountability, deter criminal activity and uncooperative behavior, assist in resolving personnel complaints, and provide information for officer training and improvement.

BODY-WORN CAMERA (BWC)

BWC equipment generally consists of a body-mounted camera with a built-in microphone and a separate handheld viewing device. The BWC camera is worn facing forward on the outside of the uniform. The BWC recordings are stored digitally on the camera's internal memory and can be immediately viewed on department-issued smartphones, or once uploaded, may be viewed on any tablet or computer. The recordings cannot be manipulated, altered, or deleted. Prior to usage and deployment in the field, Kern County Sheriff's Office personnel assigned a BWC must complete the Department's training on proper use, maintenance, and activation criteria.



Supervisors are required to ensure that subordinates adhere to BWC policy and procedures by providing the necessary guidance, training, and compliance with both mandatory and proactive implementation standards.

CAMERA DEPLOYMENT

In 2022, the Sheriff's Office recorded 55,490 individual videos and generated 5,573 hours of video. An average of 152 videos are uploaded per day, with an average of 15.27 hours of video per day.

BODY WORN CAMERA AUDITS

Footage recorded by body-worn cameras (BWC) helps protect both deputy sheriffs and public members against false accusations, misconduct claims, or abuse. It greatly increases transparency and accountability for law enforcement and the public.

The BWC Unit went live in September 2021. It took time to train and learn as a department, strengthen the unit's foundation, and expand BWC usage throughout the Kern County Sheriff's Office.

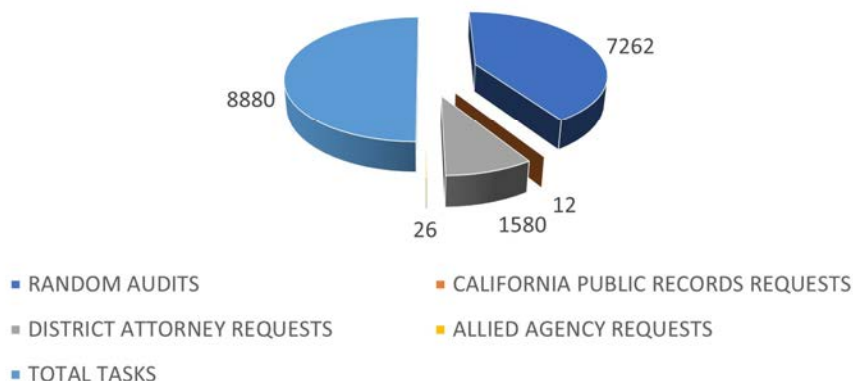
The BWC Unit was created to examine BWC footage. It is comprised of Sheriff's Aides who are trained to examine the footage with the experienced discernment of a deputy sheriff.



BWC AUDITS AND REQUESTS

RANDOM AUDITS	7262
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS	12
DISTRICT ATTORNEY REQUESTS	1580
ALLIED AGENCY REQUESTS	26
TOTAL TASKS	8880

Body Worn Camera Unit Audits and Requests for 2022



*Hannes' End of Watch
August 18, 2022*



Make A Difference

kcsojobs.org

