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U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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CBP Use of Force Statistics

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is charged with enforcing the nation's laws while protecting the civil rights and civil liberties of every individual with whom we interact. CBP's authority to enforce the law, even to the point of lethal force, appropriately bears the burden of accountability, which includes integrity and transparency.

These data reflect singular uses of force by and assaults on CBP personnel, as well as the incidents which the actions comprise. The inclusion of incidents provides additional context to the uses of force and assaults, as there may be multiple actions—assaults and/or uses of force—during a single incident. Presenting these actions within the framework of incidents depicts the circumstances more clearly.

For example, consider a hypothetical CBP utilization of a less-lethal device such as a PepperBall® Launching System (PLS) for area saturation against 15 subjects. This is counted as 15 singular uses of force but one incident. Likewise, five subjects throwing rocks at three CBP agents or officers is counted as 15 singular assaults but one incident.

Singular uses of force by CBP law enforcement personnel in FY17 were 2.4 percent higher than FY16; however incidents involving use of force were down 22.9 percent. Incidents involving assaults on CBP agents and officers dropped 0.81 percent from FY16 to FY17, but singular assaults increased 45 percent.

Use of force involving firearms has dropped over the years from a high of 55 in FY12 to a low of 17 in FY17, a 68 percent decrease.

For the fiscal year to date (October 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018), CBP personnel have been involved in 47 incidents that include at least one use of force, and 403 incidents that include at least one assault. There have been 757 singular uses of force and 721 singular assaults.

Year-to-date tables were prepared on September 6, 2018; any uses of force or assaults entered after this date during the time period are not reflected in these tables. These statistics represent assaults and uses of force involving Authorized Officers/Agents during CBP operations only; off-duty incidents are not included. Occasionally, more than one component will be involved in the same incident. Therefore, the sum of the component totals may be greater than the CBP incident total.

For reporting purposes, CBP categorizes uses of force into the following: “firearm,” “less-lethal device,” “other less-lethal force,” or “force used against vehicles/vessels.” A CBP law enforcement officer’s use of a baton, electronic control weapon, PepperBall® Launching System, or other less-lethal device is reflected under “Less Lethal Device.” The “Other” column includes less-lethal uses of force, such as physical strikes without a weapon use of a patrol K9, or applications of force other than a firearm or less-lethal device. “Force used against vehicles/vessels” includes uses of air disabling fire and small boat interdiction, and uses of vehicle immobilization devices or offensive driving techniques.

Footnote: Acronyms used in the tables below:

- AMO: Air and Marine Operations
- OFO: Office of Field Operations
- USBP: U.S. Border Patrol
- FY: Fiscal Year
- FYTD: Fiscal Year to Date

Data sources: Use of Force Reporting System (UFRS) and Enforcement Action Statistical Analysis and Reporting system (E-STAR), formerly (AUFRS)

Prior-Year Use of Force Statistics

CBP USE OF FORCE BY FISCAL YEAR (FY 2012 - 2017)						
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Firearm	55	45	23	28	26	17
Less-Lethal Device and Other Less-Lethal Force	873	1168	997	724	947	979
Total	928	1213	1020	752	973	996

CBP USE OF FORCE FISCAL YEAR 2017						
	Incidents	Firearm	Less- Lethal Device	Other	Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels	Total
AMO	11	0	39	0	7	46
OFO	50	0	35	14	12	61

CBP USE OF FORCE FISCAL YEAR 2017

USBP	398	17	643	157	72	889
Total	459	17	717	171	91	996

Fiscal Year Use of Force Statistics

**CBP USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
(Oct 1, 2016 - Aug 31, 2017 and Oct 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018)**

	Total Use of Force Incidents		Singular Uses of Force						Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels	
			Firearm		Less-Lethal Device		Other			
	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18
AMO	10	8	0	0	39	4	0	0	6	10
OFO	46	53	0	0	33	37	12	23	11	8
USBP	362	411	12	14	568	385	148	175	64	101
Total	418	471	12	14	640	426	160	198	81	119

Incidents can involve multiple components, therefore, the sum of the component totals may be greater than CBP incident total.

**AMO USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
(Oct 1, 2016 - Aug 31, 2017 and Oct 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018)**

Region	Total Use of Force Incidents		Singular Uses of Force						Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessel	
			Firearm		Less-Lethal Device		Other			
	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18
Northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southeast	8	4	0	0	38	0	0	0	5	4
Southwest	2	4	0	0	1	4	0	0	1	6
Total	10	8	0	0	39	4	0	0	6	10

**OFO USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
(Oct 1, 2016 - Aug 31, 2017 and Oct 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018)**

Total Use of	Singular Uses of Force						Force Usec
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Field Offices	Force Incidents		Firearm		Less-Lethal Device		Other		Against Vehicles/Vess	
	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18
Atlanta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baltimore	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Boston	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Buffalo	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Chicago	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Detroit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
El Paso	7	9	0	0	4	7	2	2	2	1
Houston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Laredo	8	7	0	0	7	6	0	2	2	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miami	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
New Orleans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New York	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Portland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preclearance Field Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Diego	17	24	0	0	13	16	3	15	2	5
San Francisco	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Juan	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Seattle	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tampa	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Tucson	10	4	0	0	6	3	4	2	5	0
Total	46	53	0	0	33	37	12	23	11	8

**USBP USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
(Oct 1, 2016 - Aug 31, 2017 and Oct 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018)**

Sector	Total Use of Force Incidents		Singular Uses of Force						Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels	
			Firearm		Less-Lethal Device		Other			
	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18	FYTD17	FYTD18
Big Bend	7	10	0	0	1	5	6	7	1	2
Blaine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buffalo	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Del Rio	10	12	0	0	186	12	5	4	2	2
Detroit	4	2	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
El Centro	62	87	1	0	163	155	10	20	9	28
El Paso	22	18	4	0	14	4	8	12	9	12
Grand Forks	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Havre	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Houlton	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Laredo	36	37	0	2	31	21	14	13	9	7
Miami	2	3	0	0	2	4	0	1	0	0
New Orleans	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Ramey	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Rio Grande Valley	94	96	2	0	108	105	42	49	6	14
San Diego	44	58	0	2	31	38	12	16	16	20
Special Operations Group	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Spokane	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Swanton	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Tucson	66	76	3	2	24	35	44	48	9	13
Yuma	5	4	0	6	3	1	3	3	0	1
Total	362	411	12	14	568	385	148	175	64	101

Assault Statistics


ASSAULTS AGAINST CBP LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL BY FISCAL YEAR (FY 2012-2017)						
	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
Assaults	555	468	373	477	584	847

ASSAULTS AGAINST CBP LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL BY FISCAL YEAR TO DATE (Oct 1, 2016 - Aug 31, 2017 and Oct 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018)						
	Incidents			Assaults		
	FYTD17	FYTD18	% Change	FYTD17	FYTD18	% Change
AMO	7	17	143%	11	29	164%
OFO	32	53	66%	41	73	78%
USBP	286	338	18%	675	619	-8%
Total	324	403	24%	727	721	-1%

Incidents can involve multiple components, therefore, the sum of the component totals may be greater than CBP incident total.

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