



CBP Use of Force Statistics Fiscal Year 2018

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 FY18 were 8 percent lower than FY17; however, incidents involving use of force were up 16 percent. Incidents involving assaults on CBP agents and officers increased 22 percent from FY17 to FY18, but singular assaults decreased 6 percent.

Use of force involving firearms has dropped over the years from a high of 55 in FY12 to a low of 15 in FY18, a 73 percent decrease.

In FY18, CBP personnel have been involved in 534 incidents that include at least one use of force, and 450 incidents that include at least one assault. There have been 913 singular uses of force and 794 singular assaults.

Fiscal year tables were prepared on October 9, 2018; any uses of force or assaults entered after this date for 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. Previously published statistics are occasionally revised based on internal review, investigative findings, and National Use of Force Review Board (NUFRB) decisions; therefore, these tables may not match previously published statistics.

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 - 2018)							
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Firearm	55	45	23	28	25	17	15
Less-Lethal Device and Other Less-Lethal Force	873	1168	996	721	945	979	898
Total	928	1213	1019	749	970	996	913

CBP USE OF FORCE FISCAL YEAR 2018						
	Incidents	Firearm	Less- Lethal Device	Other	Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels	Total
AMO	11	0	5	0	12	17
OFO	62	0	44	25	9	78
USBP	462	15	503	181	119	818
Total	534	15	552	206	140	913

Fiscal Year Use of Force Statistics

CBP USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR FY2017 and FY2018										
	Total Use of Force Incidents		Singular Uses of Force						Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels	
	FY17	FY18	Firearm		Less-Lethal Device		Other		FY17	FY18
	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18
AMO	11	11	0	0	39	5	0	0	7	12
OFO	50	62	0	0	35	44	14	25	12	9
USBP	398	462	17	15	643	503	157	181	72	119
Total	459	534	17	15	717	552	171	206	91	140

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

AMO USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR FY2017 and FY2018										
Region	Total Use of Force Incidents		Singular Uses of Force						Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels	
	FY17	FY18	Firearm		Less-Lethal Device		Other		FY17	FY18
	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18
Northern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southeast	8	5	0	0	38	0	0	0	5	5
Southwest	3	6	0	0	1	5	0	0	2	7
Total	11	11	0	0	39	5	0	0	7	12

OFO USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR FY2017 and FY2018										
Field Offices	Total Use of Force Incidents		Singular Uses of Force						Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels	
	FY17	FY18	Firearm		Less-Lethal Device		Other		FY17	FY18
	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18
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	8	11	0	0	5	9	2	2	2	1
Houston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Laredo	8	8	0	0	7	7	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	20	29	0	0	14	19	5	17	3	6
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	5	0	0	6	4	4	2	5	0
Total	50	62	0	0	35	44	14	25	12	9

**USBP USE OF FORCE BY TYPE AND FISCAL YEAR
FY2017 and FY2018**

Sector	Total Use of Force Incidents		Singular Uses of Force					Force Used Against Vehicles/Vessels		
	FY17	FY18	Firearm	Less-Lethal Device	Other	FY17	FY18	FY17	FY18	
Big Bend	7	11	0	0	1	5	6	8	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	11	14	0	1	186	13	6	4	2	2
Detroit	4	2	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
El Centro	74	102	1	0	211	239	11	21	11	32
El Paso	22	23	4	0	14	14	8	7	9	17
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	40	0	2	31	24	14	13	9	9
Miami	2	4	0	0	2	5	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	101	104	3	0	123	111	46	50	7	18
San Diego	50	66	0	2	35	44	13	18	20	23
Special Operations Group	4	1	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0
Spokane	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Swanton	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
Tucson	73	82	3	2	31	38	45	54	10	13
Yuma	6	5	4	6	3	2	3	3	0	1
Total	398	462	17	15	643	503	157	181	72	119

Assault Statistics

ASSAULTS AGAINST CBP LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL BY FISCAL YEAR (FY 2012-2018)							
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Assaults	555	468	373	477	584	844	794

**ASSAULTS AGAINST CBP LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL BY FISCAL
YEAR
FY2017 and FY2018**

	Incidents			Assaults		
	FY17	FY18	% Change	FY17	FY18	% Change
AMO	9	17	89%	14	29	107%
OFO	37	59	59%	47	82	74%
USBP	324	379	17%	783	683	-13%
Total	369	450	22%	844	794	-6%

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

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