

# Pittsburgh Bureau of Police



## Subject Resistance Report -

2018 Annual Review

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Prepared by the staff of the Pittsburgh Police Training Academy.

**2018 Use of Force Review**

In 2018, officers responded to 243,249 calls for service which was a 6.27% decrease when compared to 2017 (Table #1).

<b>Table 1: Calls for Service Comparison 2017-2018</b>			
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>January</b>	18176	19178	5.51%
<b>February</b>	16987	17783	4.67%
<b>March</b>	19431	19562	0.67%
<b>April</b>	19620	19533	-0.44%
<b>May</b>	19920	21567	8.27%
<b>June</b>	20564	19959	-2.94%
<b>July</b>	21351	21061	-1.36%
<b>August</b>	21501	22097	2.77%
<b>September</b>	20611	22296	8.18%
<b>October</b>	20947	21564	2.95%
<b>November</b>	19099	18991	-0.57%
<b>December</b>	18627	19568	5.05%
<b>Totals</b>	236834	243249	2.71%

Of the 243,249 calls, there were 537 incidents (Table #2) or 0.22% which required officers to utilize force against resisting subjects.

<b>TABLE 2: Use of Force Incidents by Zone of Occurrence</b>			
<b>Location</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Zone 1</b>	141	133	-5.67%
<b>Zone 2</b>	112	107	-4.46%
<b>Zone 3</b>	216	123	-43.06%
<b>Zone 4</b>	41	55	34.15%
<b>Zone 5</b>	87	86	-1.15%
<b>Zone 6</b>	38	31	-18.42%
<b>Other</b>	2	2	0.0%
<b>Totals</b>	637	537	-15.7%

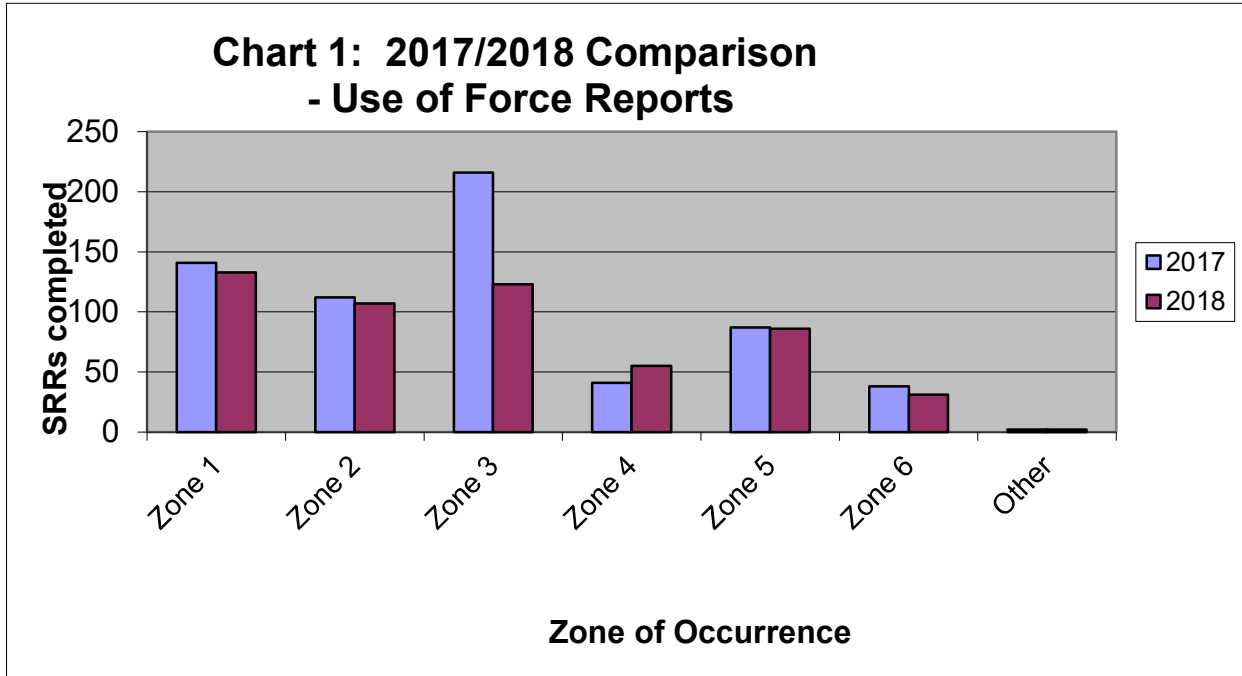
Officers made 11,703 arrests in 2018 (Table #3) and force was necessary in 4.5% of the arrests.

<b>Table 3: TOTAL ARRESTS 2017 vs.2018</b>													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Yearly Total
2018	983	938	1074	1058	1133	958	992	1082	1000	874	822	799	11713
2017	1147	1129	1137	1145	1130	1263	1235	1153	1221	1147	1041	963	13527
Change	-14%	-17%	-6%	-8%	-1%	-24%	-20%	-6%	-18%	-24%	-21%	-17%	<b>-13.4%</b>

Citywide, there was a 13.4% decrease in total Subject Resistance Reports completed when comparing 2018 to 2017.

Table #4 – S.R.R.s by Zone with Monthly / Yearly Totals

<b>TABLE 4: 2018 Monthly Totals by Zone of Occurrence</b>													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Zone 1	14	6	10	5	12	6	14	11	16	8	10	12	133
Zone 2	6	10	13	3	13	11	8	11	6	7	9	10	107
Zone 3	11	8	18	9	11	13	6	5	13	15	5	9	123
Zone 4	5	3	2	5	5	1	2	3	6	8	7	8	55
Zone 5	6	7	9	7	9	2	8	13	9	4	6	6	86
Zone 6	1	4	4	1	6	3	3	1	2	0	4	2	31
Out of City	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Monthly Total	44	38	56	30	56	36	42	44	52	42	41	47	
	Total												537



**Force Options**

Chart #2 shows the force options utilized by our officers in 2018. The three most frequently used force options in 2018 were attempts to control resisting subjects by grabbing, pushing, or pulling (categorized as “Other”), forcible handcuffing, and takedowns. These were also the most frequently used levels in 2017 (please see Table #7 for a comparison of 2017 to 2018). The TASER was used a total of 61 times during 2018 which was a 20% decrease in usage when compared to 2017. It should be noted that the most frequent levels of force have been and continue to be at the lower end of the force continuum

<b>Table 7: Force Option Comparison 2017-2018</b>			
	<b>2017 Total</b>	<b>2018 Total</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>
<b>Forcible Handcuffing</b>	375	338	-10%
<b>Takedowns</b>	297	241	-19%
<b>Taser</b>	85	61	-28%
<b>Personal Weapons</b>	73	46	-37%
<b>Other (grab, push, pull)</b>	374	313	-16%
<b>ODET</b>	5	6	-20%
<b>Neck Restraint</b>	2	4	100%
<b>OC Spray</b>	17	10	-41%
<b>Impact Weapons</b>	11	8	-27%
<b>Maximal Restraint</b>	15	16	7%
<b>Stop Sticks</b>	3	3	0%
<b>Canine</b>	12	8	-33%
<b>Firearms</b>	0	4	400%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1269</b>	<b>1058</b>	<b>-17%</b>

Table #8 provides a breakdown of the levels of resistance employed by resisting subjects against officers.

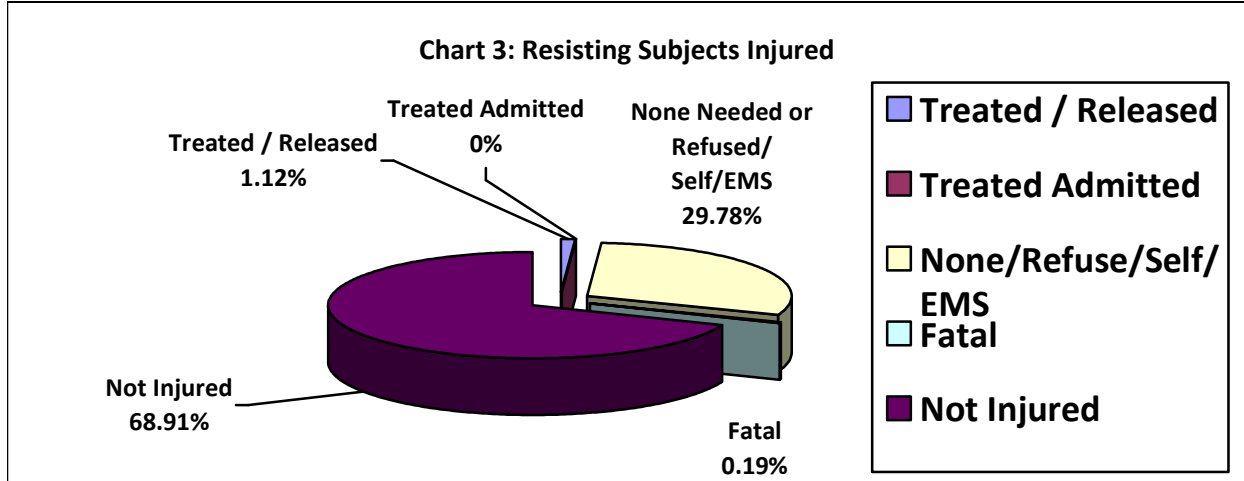
<b>Table 8: Subject Resistance Level</b>								
	<b>Defensive Resistance</b>		<b>Verbal Non-compliance</b>		<b>Active Resistance</b>		<b>Assaultive Behavior</b>	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
<b>Totals</b>	476	570	464	552	162	234	6	6
<b>% Change</b>	<b>-16.49%</b>		<b>-15.94%</b>		<b>30.77%</b>		<b>0%</b>	

Table #9 is a comparison of 2018 to 2017 of the initial reasons for officers having to use force/control techniques.

<b>Table 9: SRR Incidents by Initial Reason for Use of Force</b>										
	Defend Self		Defend Another		Restrain for Subject's Safety		Effecting Arrest		Other	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Totals	177	232	147	189	145	151	421	532	85	68
<b>% Change</b>	<b>-23.71%</b>		<b>-22.22%</b>		<b>-3.97%</b>		<b>-20.86%</b>		<b>25%</b>	

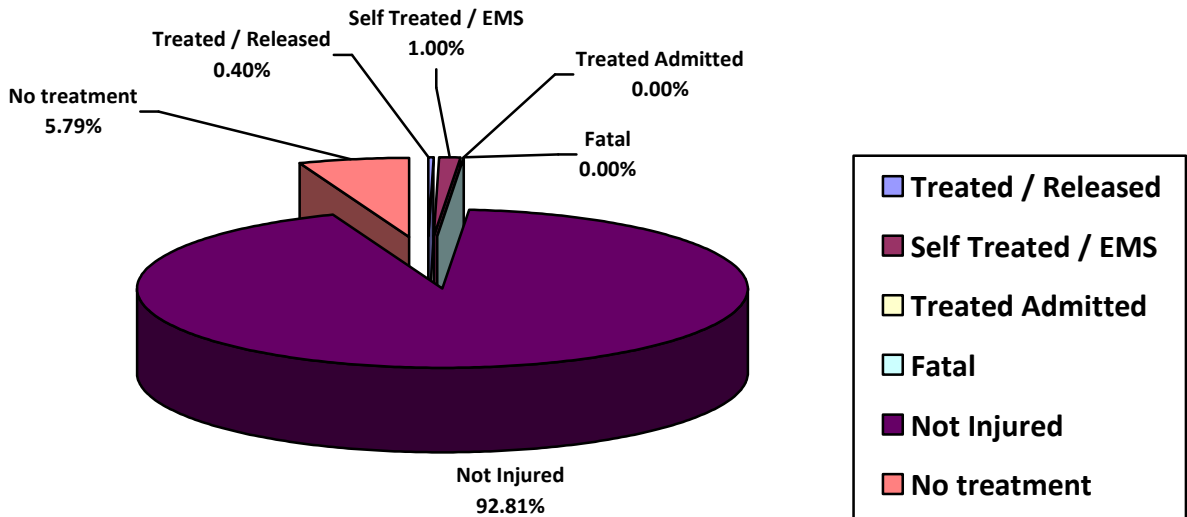
**Injury Review – Resisting Subjects**

31% or 166 of the resisting subjects reported injuries in 2018. This is down slightly from the 33% that reported injuries in 2017. The most common type of injury to resisting subjects is cuts/abrasions to the face, head, and hands resulting from strikes to the face or from the ground during a takedown or ground fighting.



**Injury Review – Officers**

13% or 69 officers reported injuries while engaged with resisting subjects in 2018. This is down from the 14.8% of officers who reported injuries in 2017. 47 officers were listed as self treated or treated by EMS and 2 were treated and released, 29 sought/ listed no immediate treatment. Common injuries to officers were hand and wrist injuries, cuts, and abrasions.



**Incident Types**

The following table depicts subject resistance incidents by type (on-view arrests, warrant arrests, involuntary commitment, prisoner transport or other).

	On-View Arrest		Warrant Arrest		Involuntary Commitment		Prisoner Transport		Other	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Totals	372	497	25	23	60	53	7	3	92	80
<b>% Change</b>	<b>-25.2%</b>		<b>-8.7%</b>		<b>-13.7%</b>		<b>+133.3%</b>		<b>+15%</b>	