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EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE



REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: July 14, 2011

SUBJECT: 2011 January – June Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics Statistics

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That this report be received for information.

INTRODUCTION:

Every six months the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) submits a report to the Edmonton Police Commission (EPC) that outlines all instances of reported use of force. The information contained in this year's six month report was generated using statistical data captured via the electronic control tactics reports that were submitted between January 1 and June 30, 2011.

The EPS started collecting use of force data electronically in August of 2008. Therefore, this 2011 six month interim report will include a monthly comparison of the current use of force data with two years of previous data.

The 2011 year end report will include a more detailed use of force analysis and yearly comparison of use of force statistics.

BACKGROUND:

The EPS captures use of force data through its electronic control tactics reports. Control tactics reports are submitted when a police officer utilizes force where one or more of the following circumstances are present:

1. Injury resulting to any person;
2. Force used was higher than empty hand (soft) control which is used for cooperative handcuffing;
3. Use of control tactics such as stunning techniques, direct mechanical techniques, chemical agents (O.C. spray), conducted energy weapon

(CEW), control instruments, impact weapons, special impact munitions;

4. Firearm was drawn, displayed, pointed or discharged;
5. In the opinion of the investigating member and/or supervisor, unusual circumstances exist that necessitate the submission of the report.

In October of 2010, Training Branch initiated a project which provided more engaged supervisory oversight of all use of force events. This project was initially introduced in all five Patrol Divisions and then eventually adopted by all other areas within the EPS. A revised use of force policy, explaining the new supervisory use of force oversight process, will soon be delivered.

This year's six month report contains the following information:

1. A 2010 vs. 2011 comparison of the first six months of the various control tactics that were utilized;
2. A chart depicting the ascending order of the control tactics utilized over a six month period;
3. A monthly comparison showing the geographical location of the various control tactics occurrences. It should be noted that this comparison is of the geographical location of the use of force and is not a reflection of the use of force by individual Divisions, Sections, Units, etc.;
4. The top ten EPS events (dispatched and self initiated) where force was used;
5. A three year comparison of the of the control tactics utilized over a six month period.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

There were 962 control tactics occurrences in the first half of 2011, a significant decrease when compared to the same time period in 2010 or 2009:

Jan-Jun	2009	2010	2011	% Change 2010-2011
Occurrences	1579	1644	962	-41.5 %
Control Tactics Forms	2798	3237	1719	-46.9 %

Type of Force used Jan-Jun	2009	2010	2011	% Change 2010-2011
Canine contact	21	10	7	-30.0 %
Firearms, Low Ready	553	585	393	-32.8 %
Firearm, Pointed	203	205	99	-51.7 %
Takedowns	441	536	314	-41.4 %
Strikes	171	279	178	-36.2 %
Stuns	302	315	146	-53.7 %
C.E.W. presence	259	202	140	-30.7 %
Baton deployed	27	21	13	-38.1 %
Impact, other	6	7	5	-26.6 %
O.C. spray	16	15	12	-20.0 %
Holding technique	729	796	356	-55.3 %
Joint Manipulation	425	437	184	-57.9 %
Specialty Munitions	2	2	0	-100.0 %

There was only one control tactics type of force that showed an increase in use, when compared to the same time period in 2009 and 2010:

Type of Force Jan-Jun	2009	2010	2011	% Change 2010-2011
Conducted Energy Weapon Stuns	3	2	7	250 %

In a use of force event, when reasonable, verbal communication is utilized first (whenever possible), followed by the appropriate response to the situation. This could also include a higher level in use of force options. In determining a reasonable response, an officer considers all of the facts and circumstances surrounding the event known to her/him at the time. The facts and circumstances considered can simply be categorized as: Environmental factors; Subject factors; and Officer factors.

Of the categories reported, use of force numbers have significantly decreased in 13 categories while the numbers have remained the same in three areas. The only increase was in CEW stun category (an insignificant increase of five events in a six month period).

The EPS Officer Safety Unit will continue to monitor, analyze and report on these trends as more accurate data is captured.

CONCLUSION:

There is currently a project underway to standardize all use of force data collection within the province of Alberta. The Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police and the Alberta Solicitor General and Public Safety are working together on this project. The EPS will continue with their contributions

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – 2011 (January – June) EPS Control Tactics Statistics

rk
Written by: Inspector Bob Hassel and S/Sgt. Jerry Nash
Training Branch

Approved by: Acting Deputy Chief Chris Kellett *ckellett*
Corporate Services Bureau *2011 JUL 19 * Approved at CSB **

Chief of Police: *Alejandro de Costa* *[Signature]*

Date: *11-07-20*



2011 Control Tactics

January-June

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)		January	February	March	April	May	June	Totals
Canine Contact	2010	2	2	2	0	1	3	10
	2011	0	2	1	1	2	1	7
	Change	-2	0	-1	1	1	-2	-3
	% Change	-100.0%	0.0%	-50.0%	NA	100.0%	-66.7%	-30.0%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Presence/Laser	2010	35	32	35	40	40	20	202
	2011	27	23	29	23	21	17	140
	Change	-8	-9	-6	-17	-19	-3	-62
	% Change	-22.9%	-28.1%	-17.1%	-42.5%	-47.5%	-15.0%	-30.7%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Probes	2010	2	1	3	5	2	2	15
	2011	2	3	3	1	4	2	15
	Change	0	2	0	-4	2	0	0
	% Change	0.0%	200.0%	0.0%	-80.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Stun	2010	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
	2011	1	2	1	1	1	1	7
	Change	0	2	1	0	1	1	5
	% Change	0.0%	NA	NA	0.0%	NA	NA	250.0%
Firearm, Low Ready	2010	102	85	102	93	96	107	585
	2011	72	72	62	71	70	46	393
	Change	-30	-13	-40	-22	-26	-61	-192
	% Change	-29.4%	-15.3%	-39.2%	-23.7%	-27.1%	-57.0%	-32.8%
Firearm, Pointed	2010	39	33	43	34	25	31	205
	2011	13	17	14	20	20	15	99
	Change	-26	-16	-29	-14	-5	-16	-106
	% Change	-66.7%	-48.5%	-67.4%	-41.2%	-20.0%	-51.6%	-51.7%
Firearm, Fired (Subject Involved Shooting)	2010	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	2011	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
	Change	2	-1	-1	0	0	0	0
	% Change	-100%	100%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Impact, Baton Deployed	2010	5	3	6	3	2	2	21
	2011	2	5	1	1	2	2	13
	Change	-3	2	-5	-2	0	0	-8
	% Change	-60.0%	66.7%	-83.3%	-66.7%	0.0%	0.0%	-38.1%
Impact, Other	2010	0	2	0	0	2	3	7
	2011	0	1	1	1	2	0	5
	Change	0	-1	0	0	0	-3	-2
	% Change	0.0%	-50.0%	NA	NA	0.0%	-100.0%	-28.6%

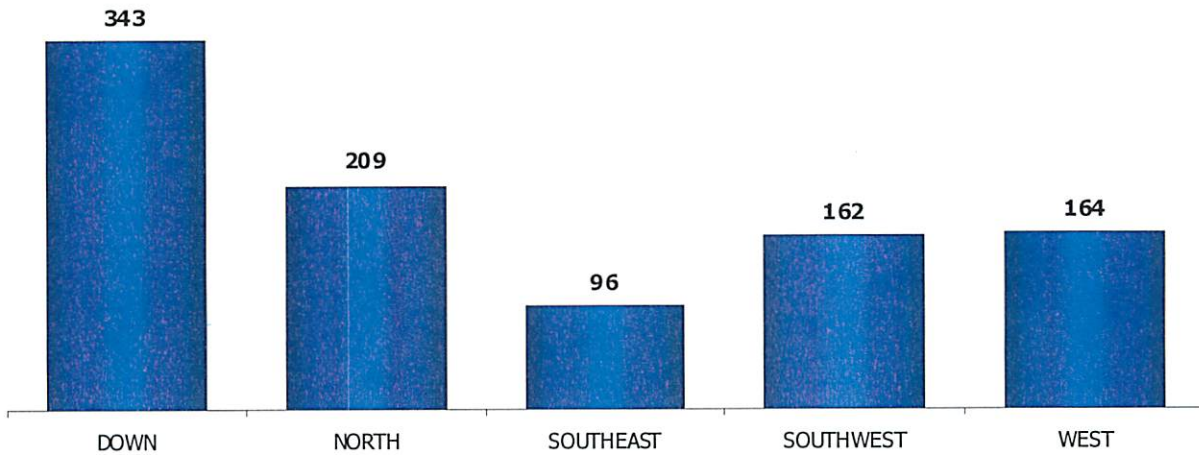
Impact, Specialty Munition	2010	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
	2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Change	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	-2
	% Change	-100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	-100%
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray	2010	6	1	3	3	1	1	15
	2011	1	5	2	0	2	2	12
	Change	-5	4	-1	-3	1	1	-3
	% Change	-83.3%	400.0%	-33.3%	-100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-20.0%
Takedown	2010	94	83	94	87	88	90	536
	2011	50	48	58	59	63	36	314
	Change	-44	-35	-36	-28	-25	-54	-222
	% Change	-46.8%	-42.2%	-38.3%	-32.2%	-28.4%	-60.0%	-41.4%
Disarming Technique	2010	0	2	1	1	2	2	8
	2011	0	3	2	0	1	2	8
	Change	0	1	1	-1	-1	0	0
	% Change	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%	-100.0%	-50.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Holding Technique	2010	139	120	142	133	125	137	796
	2011	60	61	65	61	65	44	356
	Change	-79	-59	-77	-72	-60	-93	-440
	% Change	-56.8%	-49.2%	-54.2%	-54.1%	-48.0%	-67.9%	-55.3%
Joint Manipulation	2010	74	74	68	71	72	78	437
	2011	32	30	31	27	37	27	184
	Change	-42	-44	-37	-44	-35	-51	-253
	% Change	-56.8%	-59.5%	-54.4%	-62.0%	-48.6%	-65.4%	-57.9%
Strike	2010	51	53	49	47	32	47	279
	2011	35	30	34	25	31	23	178
	Change	-16	-23	-15	-22	-1	-24	-101
	% Change	-31.4%	-43.4%	-30.6%	-46.8%	-3.1%	-51.1%	-36.2%
Stun/Distractio n	2010	57	45	62	50	47	54	315
	2011	20	27	25	26	29	19	146
	Change	-37	-18	-37	-24	-18	-35	-169
	% Change	-64.9%	-40.0%	-59.7%	-48.0%	-38.3%	-64.8%	-53.7%
Communication	2010	255	219	262	250	255	253	1,494
	2011	143	138	156	167	144	106	854
	Change	-112	-81	-106	-83	-111	-147	-640
	% Change	-43.9%	-37.0%	-40.5%	-33.2%	-43.5%	-58.1%	-42.8%
# Control Tactics Reports	2010	538	492	616	538	516	537	3,237
	2011	288	287	318	313	302	211	1719
	Change	-250	-205	-298	-225	-214	-326	-1518
	% Change	-46.5%	-41.7%	-48.4%	-41.8%	-41.5%	-60.7%	-46.9%
# Control Tactics Occurrences	2010	273	243	286	275	288	279	1,644
	2011	169	150	175	185	166	117	962
	Change	-104	-93	-111	-90	-122	-162	-682
	% Change	-38.1%	-38.3%	-38.8%	-32.7%	-42.4%	-58.1%	-41.5%

Control Used

Least to Most

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Firearm, Fired		1	1				2
Impact, Other		1	1	1	2		5
Canine Contact		2	1	1	2	1	7
CEW, CEW Stun	1	2	1	1	1	1	7
Disarming Technique		3	2		1	2	8
OC, OC Deployed	1	5	2		2	2	12
Baton Deployed	2	5	1	1	2	2	13
CEW Probes	2	3	3	1	4	2	15
Canine Presence	11	10	16	24	7	12	80
Firearm, Pointed	13	17	14	20	20	15	99
CEW Presence/Laser	27	23	29	23	21	17	140
Stun Technique/Distracton	20	27	25	26	29	19	146
Strike	35	30	34	25	31	23	178
Joint Manipulation	32	30	31	27	37	27	184
Takedown	50	48	58	59	63	36	314
Holding Technique	60	61	65	61	65	44	356
Firearm, Low Ready	72	72	62	71	70	46	393
Communication	143	138	156	167	144	106	854

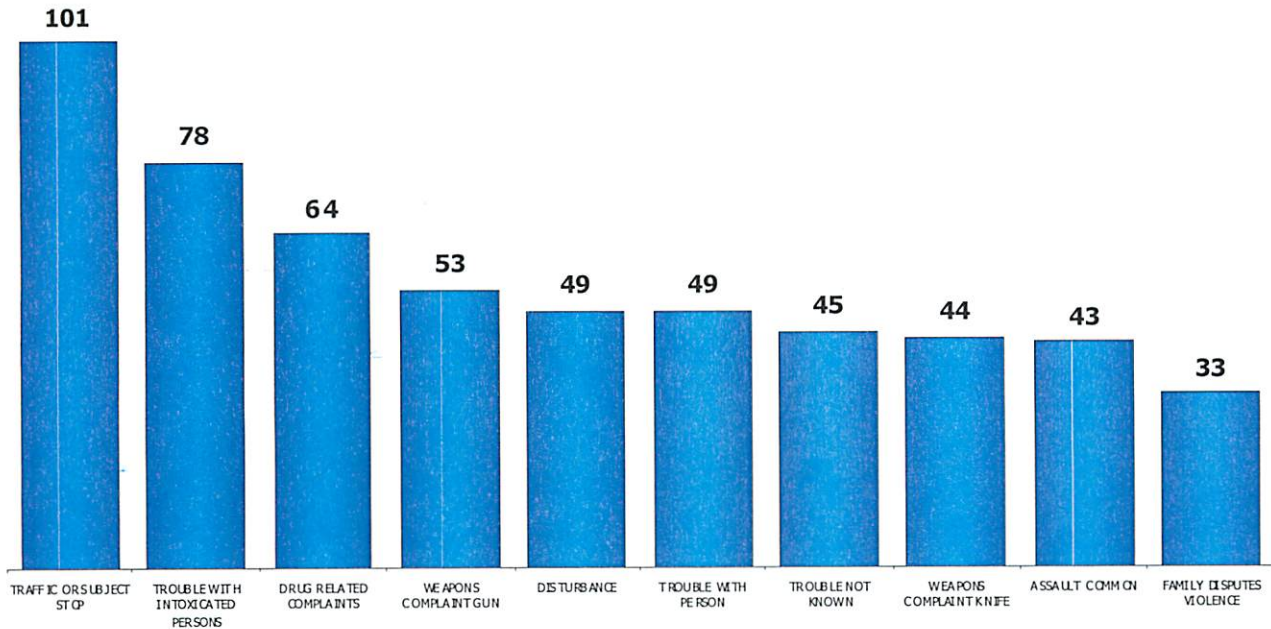
Geographic Breakdown of CTR Occurrences



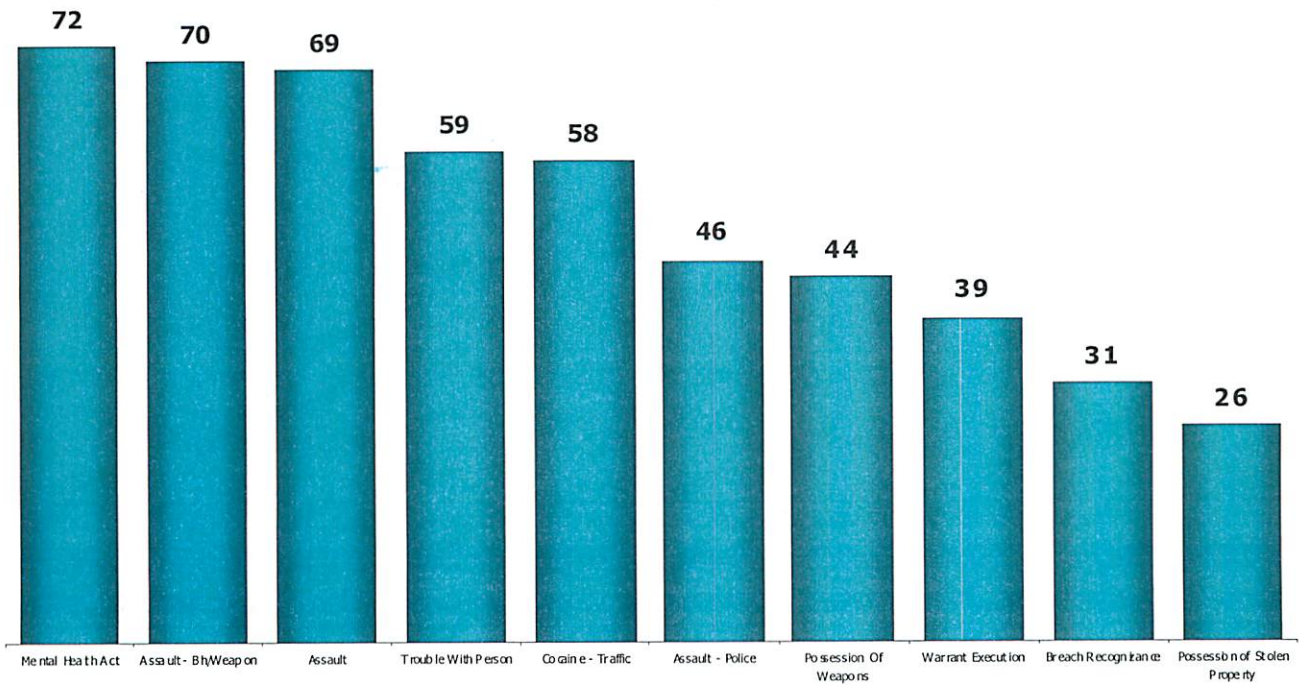
# Occurrences	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Total
DOWN	59	52	61	77	53	35	6	343
NORTH	40	26	36	42	36	24	5	209
SOUTHEAST	11	15	21	14	17	15	3	96
SOUTHWEST	23	25	32	29	24	23	6	162
WEST	35	27	24	22	34	17	5	164

*Out of town or unverified addresses are not captured in the chart above

Top Ten Dispatched Events Based on Initial Information



Top Ten Actual Event Types Based on Uniform Crime Reporting Evaluation



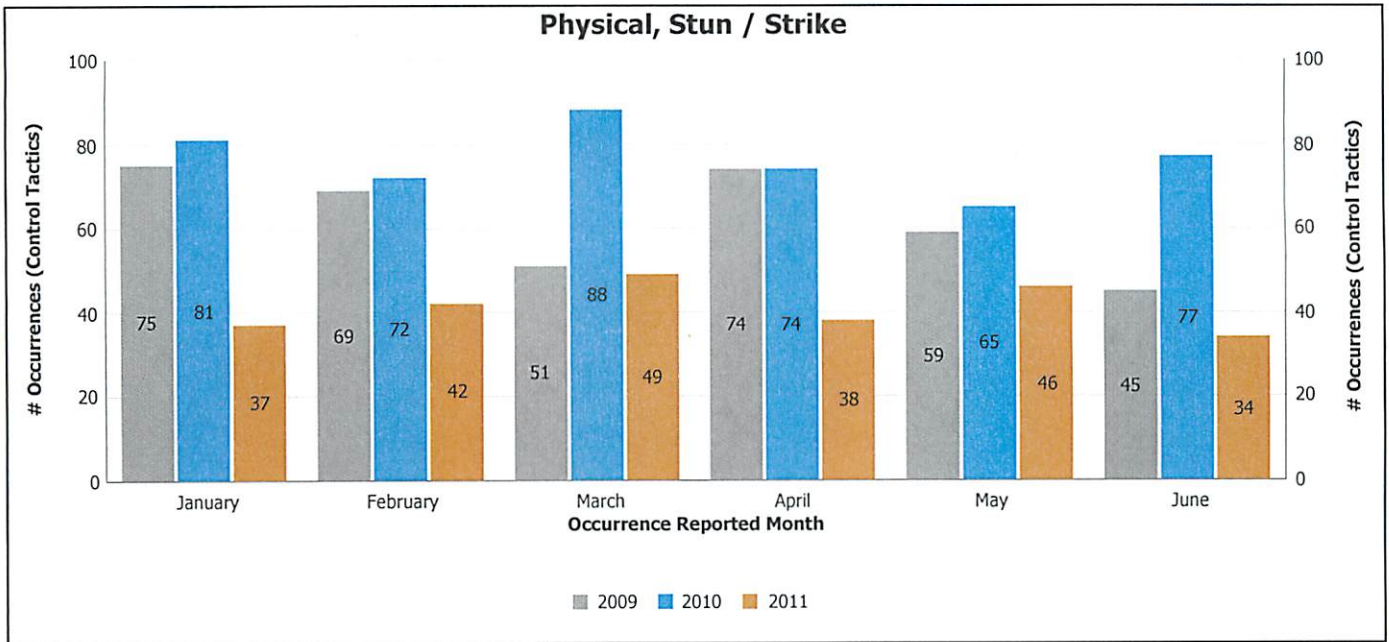


Control Tactics Reports Use of Force Monthly Report 2011 June

Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
Based on Occurrence Reported Date

Information as at Date:
13 Jul 2011 23:59



"**Stunning**" refers to a technique that temporarily distracts a suspect during the attempt of gaining physical control; open hand strike and a knee strike.

"**Strike**" refers to the following: punch, kick, elbow, and knee strikes.

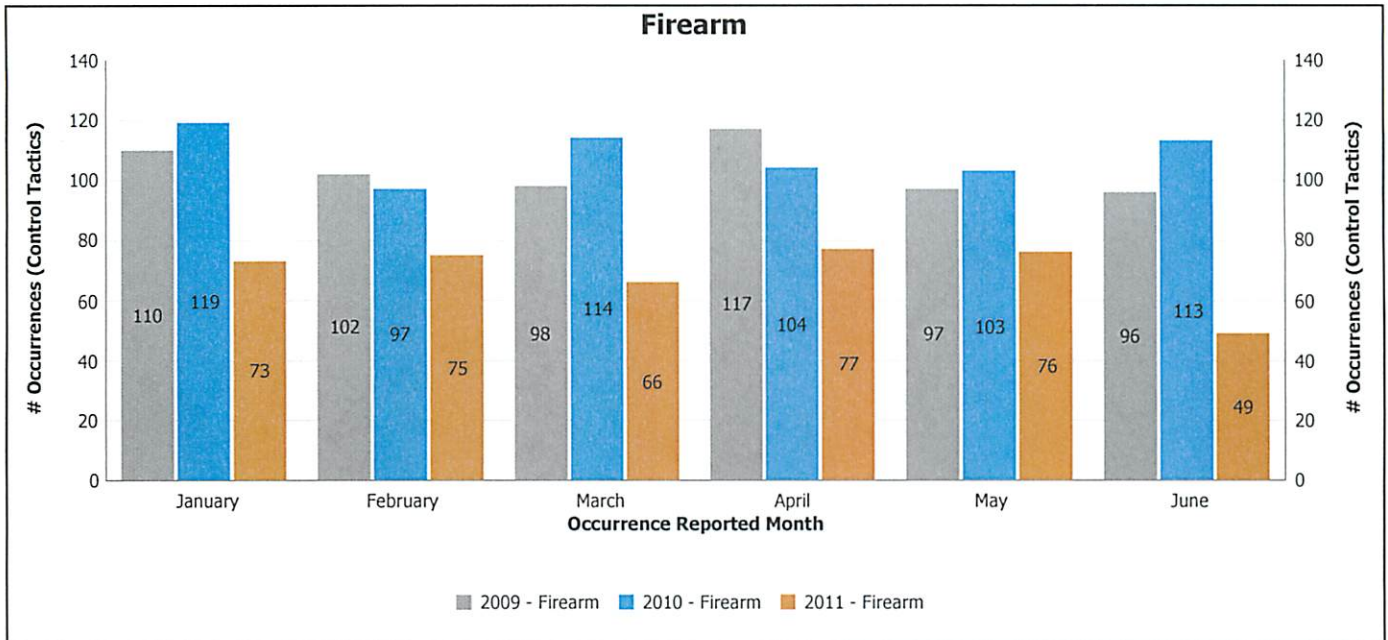


Control Tactics Reports Use of Force Monthly Report 2011 June

Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
Based on Occurrence Reported Date

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13 Jul 2011 23:59



"Firearm" encompasses the following Police issued firearms: Handguns, Carbines, Shotguns, Rifles, and Tactical Firearms.

"Occurrences" refers to one specific situation where officers responded and utilized their firearm in one of the following methods: low ready position, pointed or fired.

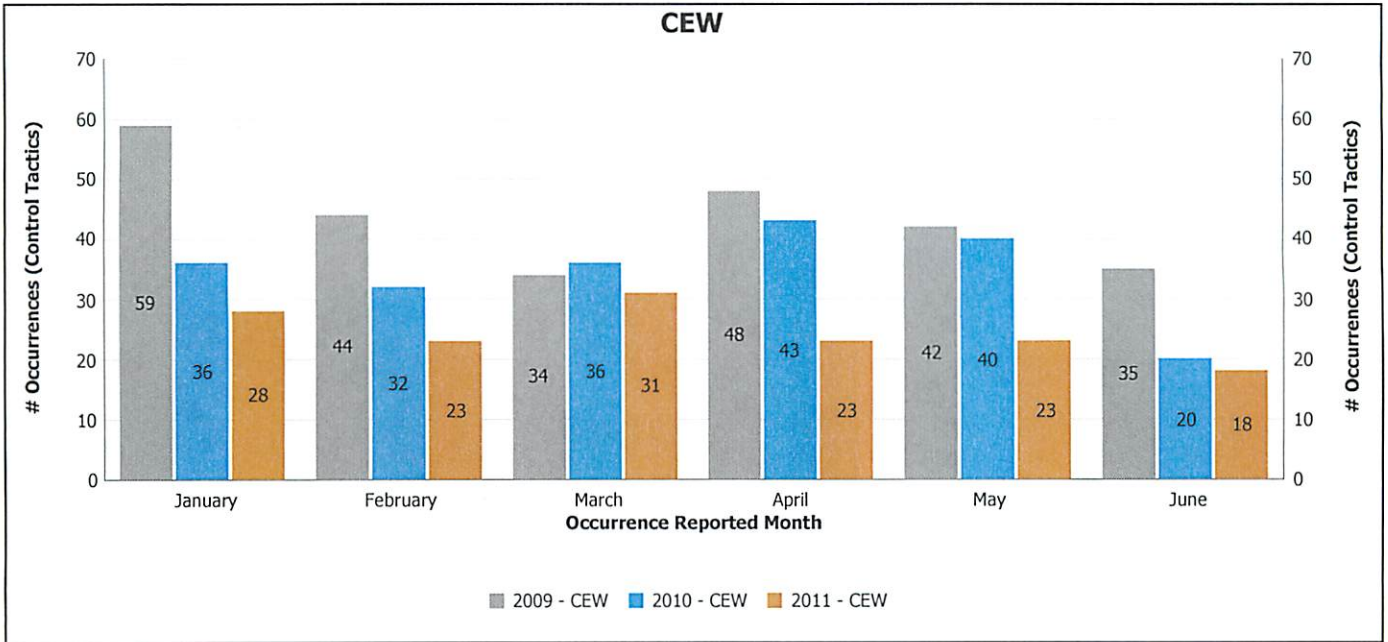


Control Tactics Reports Use of Force Monthly Report 2011 June

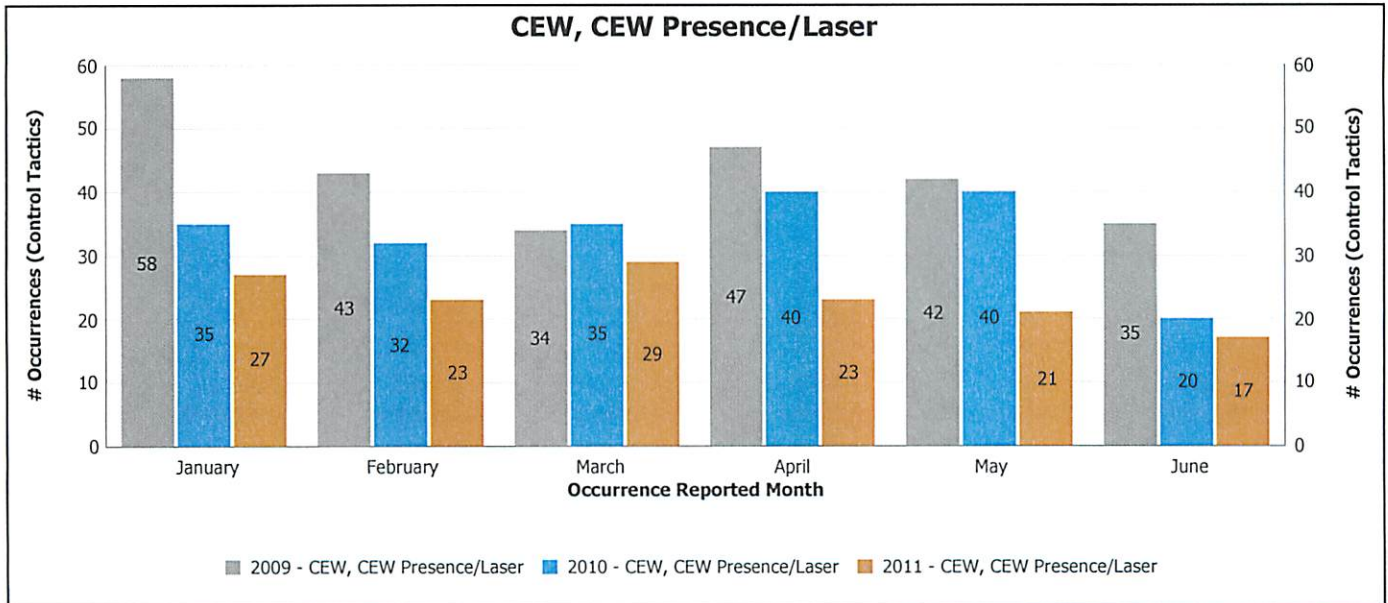
Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
Based on Occurrence Reported Date

Information as at Date:
13 Jul 2011 23:59



"CEW" refers to the TASER X26 the current model that the Edmonton Police Service issues: CEW is classified as an Intermediate Weapon (AACPS Use of Force Model) to be utilized within the Active Resister subject category or higher.

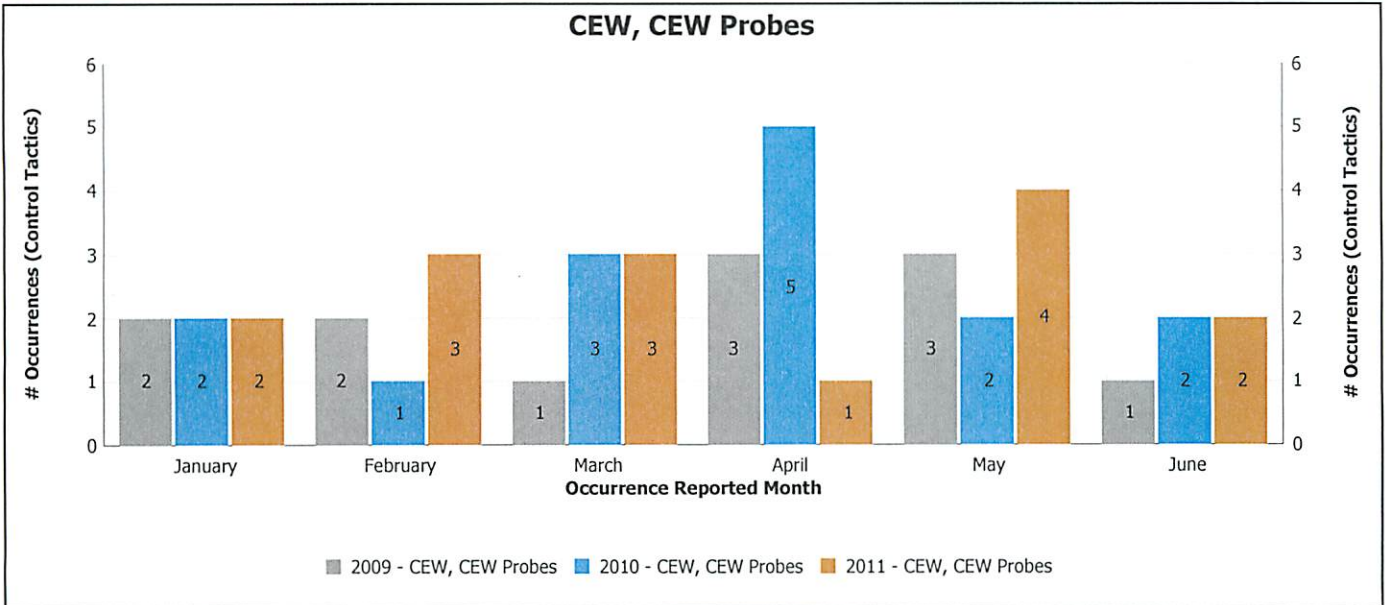


"Presence/Laser" refers to when the CEW is removed from the holster and displayed either by mere presence, or with the laser sight activated and pointed at a subject (no actual deployment of the weapon occurs in this fashion).

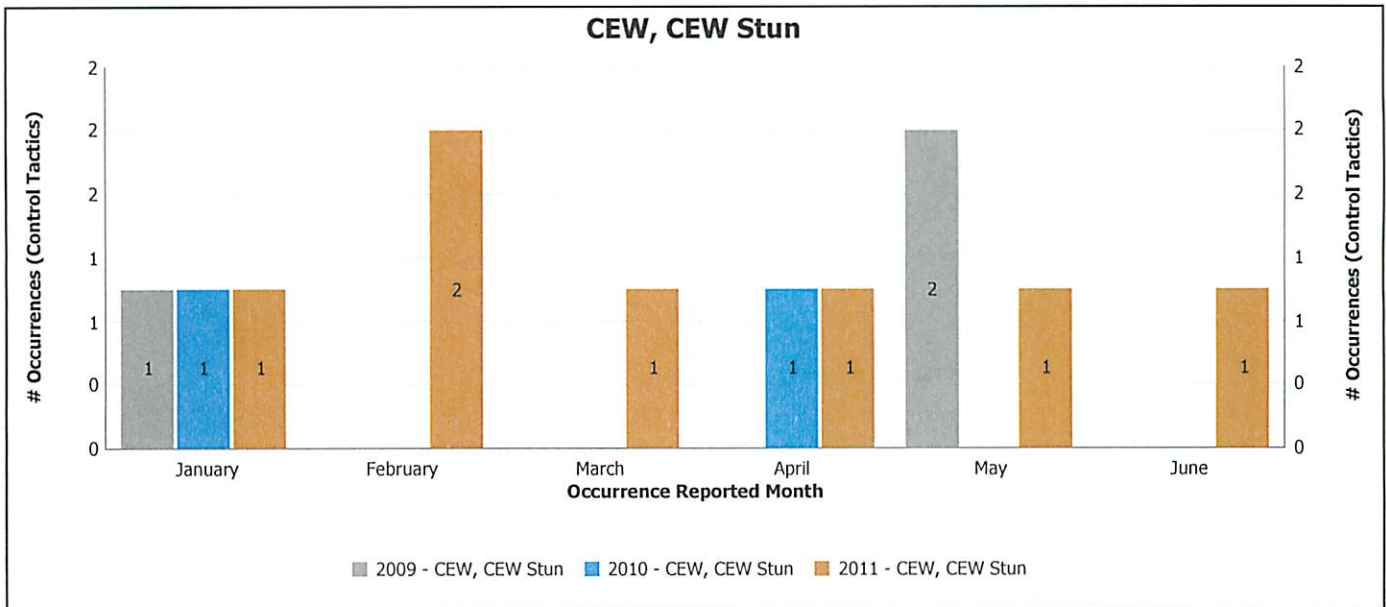


Control Tactics Reports Use of Force Monthly Report 2011 June

Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal



"Probes" refers to when 2 barbed probes are discharged from the CEW cartridge at a suspect.



"Stun" refers to when the CEW is deployed directly against the subject as a pain compliance technique.

This also encompasses a situation where there may be more than one deployment (ie. Presence is ineffective, with Probes subsequently deployed).

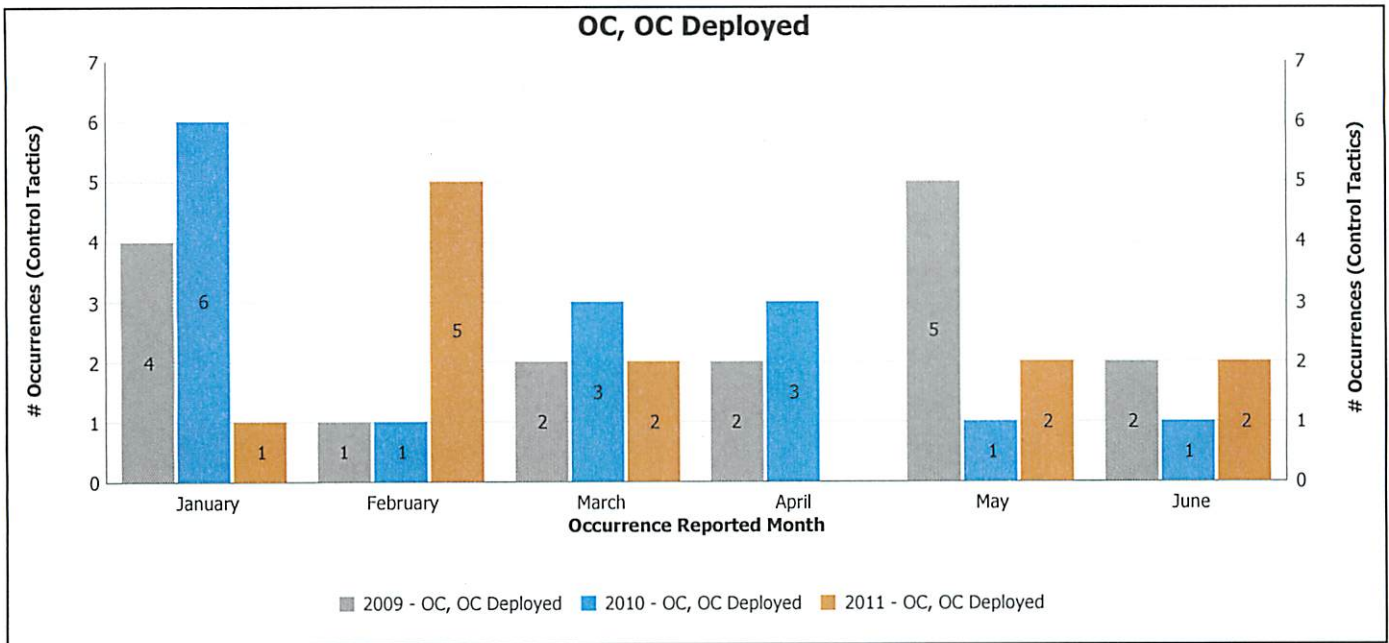


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Based on Occurrence Reported Date

Information as at Date:
13 Jul 2011 23:59



OC Spray is classified as an Intermediate Weapon (AACP Use of Force Model) to be utilized with in the Active Resister subject category or higher.

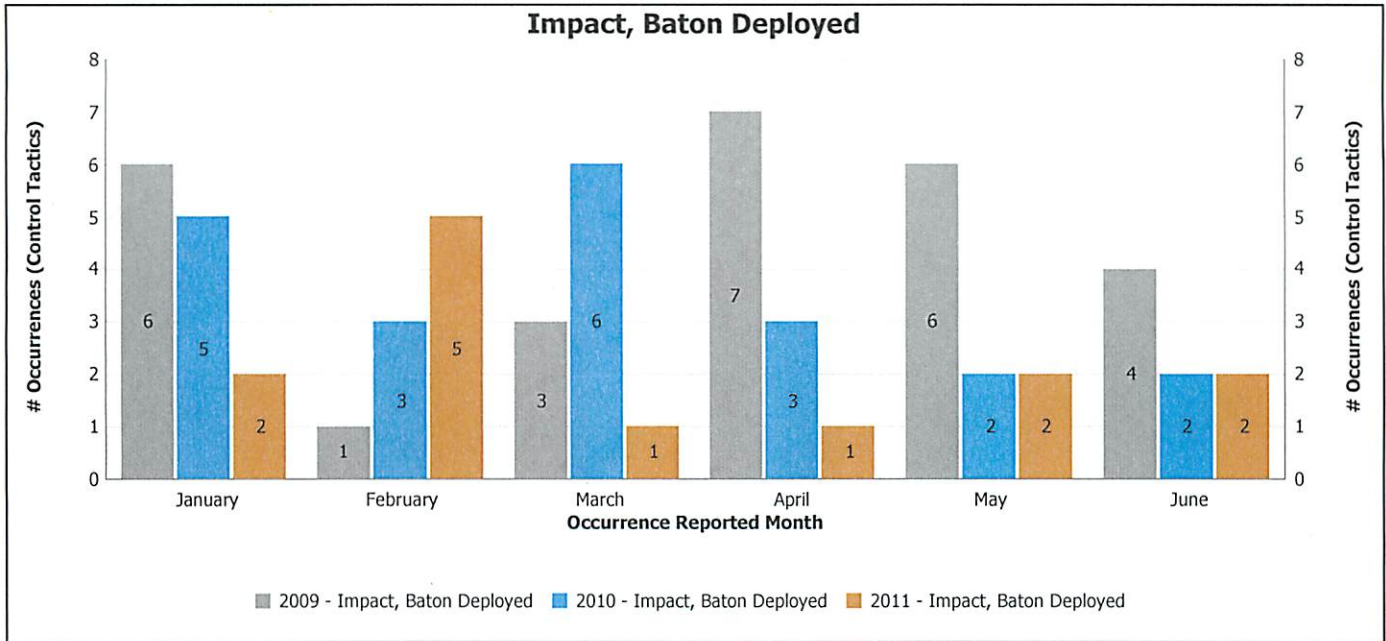


Control Tactics Reports Use of Force Monthly Report 2011 June

Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
Based on Occurrence Reported Date

Information as at Date:
13 Jul 2011 23:59



Batons are classified as an Intermediate Weapon (ACCP Use of Force Model) to be utilized within the Assaultive subject category or higher.

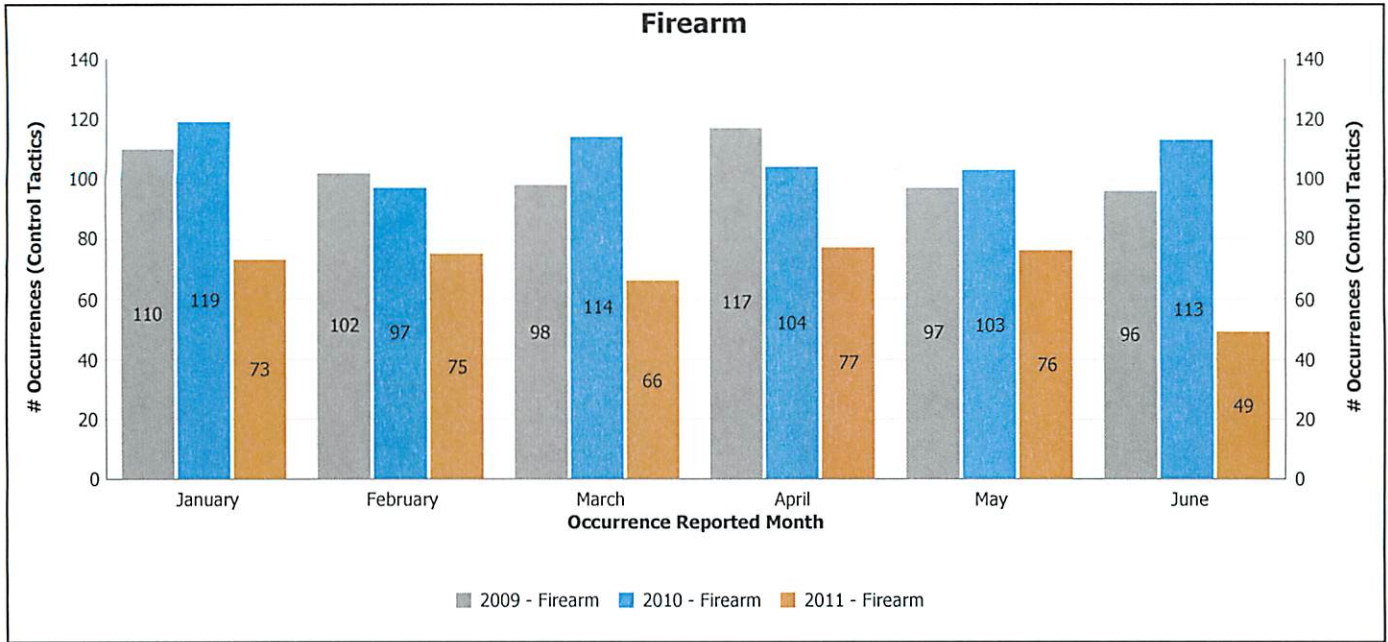


Control Tactics Reports Use of Force Monthly Report 2011 Jun

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Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
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"Firearm" encompasses the following Police issued firearms: Handguns, Carbines, Shotguns, Rifles, and Tactical Firearms.

"Occurrences" refers to one specific situation where officers responded and utilized their firearm in one of the following methods: low ready position, pointed or fired.

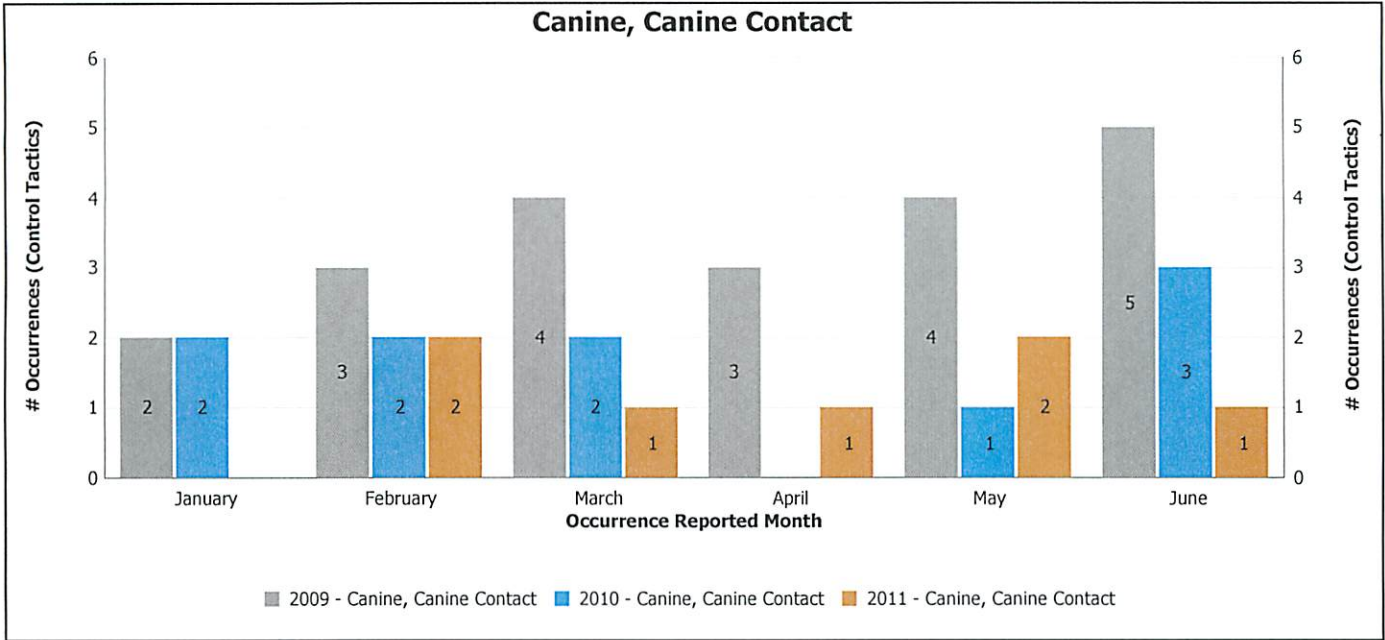


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Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
Based on Occurrence Reported Date

Information as at Date:
13 Jul 2011 23:59



"**Canine**" refers to all Edmonton Police Service approved handler/dog partnerships that are deployed at the street-level. Canine is classified as a Intermediate Weapon (AAP Use of Force Model) to be utilized with the Active Resister subject category or higher.

"**Contact**" refers to when a Canine Unit successfully apprehends a suspect using physical force by the dog.



EPS Communication Plan

Control Tactics Report – January to June 2011

Background

Every six months the EPS submits a report to the EPC that outlines all instances of reported use of force.

The EPS captures use of force data through its electronic control tactics reports. Control tactics reports are submitted when a police officer uses force where one or more of the following circumstances are present:

- Injury resulting to any person;
- Force used was higher than empty hand (soft) control which is used for cooperative handcuffing;
- Use of control tactics such as stunning techniques, direct mechanical techniques, chemical agents (OC spray), conducted energy weapon (CEW), control instruments, impact weapons, special impact munitions;
- Firearm was drawn, displayed, pointed, or discharged;
- In the opinion of the investigating member and/or supervisor, unusual circumstances exist that necessitate the submission of the report.

The EPS started collecting use of force data electronically in August 2008.

Communications goals and objectives

Goals

- Promote the significant decrease in control tactic occurrences in the first half of 2011.
- Educate on the ROR program, which contributed to the decrease in control tactic occurrences.
 - Discuss verbal communication training
- Discuss the increase in CED stuns, focusing on the fact that more lethal force was not used.
- Inform that these occurrences will continue to be monitored, analyzed, and reported.

Audience

Primary

Edmonton Police Commission

Secondary

Media
Citizens

Key messages

- Control tactics occurrences decreased overall by 41.5% in the first half of 2011. There were 962 control tactics occurrences compared to the same time period in 2010 (1,644 occurrences) and 2009 (1,579 occurrences.)
- Numbers have significantly decreased (anywhere from -20% to -100%) in 13 categories of use of force, and have remained the same in three areas.

- The EPS Training Section attributes the decreases to the Reasonable Officer Response (ROR) program which was initiated in 2009. ROR is a use of force framework that closely adheres to Canadian jurisprudence and the standard of objective reasonableness.
- In October of 2010, the EPS adopted a new process which provided more engaged and increased supervisory oversight of all use of force events. Supervisors audit each and every use of force report, as well as focus on assessing, guiding and providing feedback when it comes to use of force. The Calgary Police Service has adopted a similar initiative as well.
- There is currently a project underway to standardize all use of force data collection within the province of Alberta. The Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police and the Alberta Solicitor General and Public Safety are working together on this project. The EPS will continue with their contributions.
- The ROR program emphasizes the utilization of effective communication when possible. All EPS officers have received enhanced training on tactical (verbal) communication. This includes using verbal communication to try and persuade, negotiate and de-escalate volatile situations.
- On top of this, the EPS has partnered with the University of Alberta's Faculty of Psychiatry to provide additional training to 600 front line members that helps them recognize and appropriately deal with incidents involving mental health issues.
- The one area where there has been an increase is in the conducted energy device (CED) stuns.
- The EPS had seven events in 2011 where a CED was used, compared to two in 2010, and three in 2009. This increase is an anomaly and amounts to just over one incident per Division.
- To the EPS this is a positive, because it means that a more-lethal type of force was not used in those seven incidents.
- Also the number of times that a CED was present in an incident has decreased by 30.7% (140 incidents in 2011, compared to 315 in 2010 and 302 in 2009).

Tools, Tactics & Timelines

Strategy	Action	Timeline	Lead
Inform Commission	Present at public meeting	Sept. 22	Insp. Hassel
Inform citizens	Talk to media after public Commission meeting	Sept. 22	Insp. Hassel