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EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: February 07, 2014

SUBJECT: Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics Statistics
2013 January – December Report

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That this report be received for information.

INTRODUCTION:

The Edmonton Police Service submits two reports annually to the Edmonton Police Commission that outline all instances of reported use of force. One report provides a statistical summary of use of force events that occurred during the first half of a year and the second report provides a statistical summary of the entire year.

The information contained in this report was generated using statistical data captured from electronic Control Tactics Reports for occurrences with reported dates between 2013 Jan 01 and 2013 Dec 31. This report will also include a comparison of the current use of force data with four years of previous data.

BACKGROUND:

The EPS captures use of force data through its electronic control tactics reports. Control tactics reports are submitted after 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 or pointed;
5. In the opinion of the investigating member and/or supervisor, unusual circumstances exist that necessitate the submission of the report.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

There were 1987 control tactics occurrences in 2013, 0.3% higher than 2012 and 0.1% lower than 2011 and significantly lower than 2009 and 2010. 3604 control tactics forms were submitted in 2013 as compared to 3519 in 2012.

Every officer that uses force at an occurrence is required to submit a control tactics form. This requirement results in the difference in totals between occurrences and control tactics reports. As well, more than one technique could be used at any one occurrence and different members on the scene may use different levels of force.

Jan - Dec	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Percentage Change 2012-2013
Occurrences	3273	3096	1989	1981	1987	0.3%
Control Tactics Forms	5886	6064	3468	3519	3604	2.4%

In 2010, the EPS recognized that the need for engaged supervision is a critical link in the Reasonable Officer Response process and implemented a service wide system to ensure supervisory oversight and review of all reportable use of force events. This process divided use of force events into two categories for review. Generally, Category I reviews involve reportable uses of force of a minor nature and Category II reviews are those involving a higher level or those circumstances where a supervisor decides a Category II review may be warranted.

Note: Events that require a 46.1 notification to ASIRT are investigated or reviewed based on ASIRTs' direction.

Comparative Analysis of Category I and Category II Occurrences

Occurrences	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2012-2013
Category I	1848	1612	971	1077	1062	-1.4%
Category II	1425	1484	918	904	925	2.3%
Category II % of Total	43.5%	47.9%	46.2%	45.6%	46.6%	

Comparative Analysis of Category I and Category II Control Tactics Reports

Control Tactics Reports	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2012-2013
Category I	3802	3867	2139	2245	2313	3.0%
Category II	2084	2197	1329	1274	1291	1.3%
Category II % of Total	35.4%	36.2%	38.3%	36.2%	35.8%	

The tables above show that the majority of Occurrences are Category I occurrences which consist of displays of force, (Canine Presence ,CEW Presence or Firearms Low Ready) and the lowest levels of hands on control such as holding/escort positions and joint locks.

They also show that 64.2% of Control Tactics Reports in 2013 did not rise above the threshold for a Category I review

By grouping use of force events into Category I and Category II we can see that overall the level of force used in 2013 is consistent with 2012.

In reviewing each of the Control Tactics categories there were no operational or statistical issues identified, although two items may stand out because of their high profile (Canine and CEW).

With Canine Unit being fully resourced in 2013 Canine Presence was involved in 66 more use of force events and Canine Contact increased by 9, all being the subject of reviews.

CEWs used in the Probe mode increased by 20 occurrences, all of which were reviewed. It should be noted at any given time approximately 350 members are issued CEWs and less than 1 in 7 used it in either the Probe or Stun mode throughout all of 2013. This is followed by an increase in CEW presence, which was involved in 47 more events than the previous year.

The largest percentage changes from 2012 to 2013 came in display/presence categories.

CONCLUSION:

In January of 2009, the Edmonton Police Service introduced Reasonable Officer Response to assist in providing the most professional and defensible use of force framework. This is premised on basing the use of force on the standard of "objective reasonableness" and includes a supporting foundation based upon:

1. Lawful and Professional Presence,
2. Tactical Communications, and
3. Tactical Considerations.

EPS recognized that the need for engaged supervision involving use of force events is critical. Supervisory reviews are necessary not only for the Reasonable Officer Response process but also in guiding and mentoring the membership. This resulted in the implementation in 2011 of service wide protocols following all EPS reportable use of force events that included professional awareness, thorough reporting and supervisory oversight review. These protocols are believed to be responsible for the significant reductions in the use of force the EPS has seen over the last 3 year period.

When the 2011 year-end report was presented, it was anticipated that uses of force in general were expected to level off and that changes would primarily be due to the volume of interactions. The analysis of both 2013 and 2012 data supports the projection, in that use of force trending has remained consistent.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED:

This report contains the following attachments:

Attachment 1

- A 2012 vs. 2013 comparison of the various control tactics that were utilized;

- A table depicting the ascending order of the control tactics utilized over a twelve month period;
- A monthly comparison depicting the geographical location of the various control tactics occurrences. This is a comparison 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.
- The top ten EPS event types (dispatched and self-initiated) where force was used;

Attachment 2

- A four year comparison of the of the control tactics utilized

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Training Section

Approved by: Inspector David Christoffel
Professional Development Branch



Approved by: Superintendent Darren Eastcott
Human Resources Division



Approved by: Deputy Chief David Korol
Corporate Services Bureau



Chief of Police: _____


Date: _____
FEB 13 2014



Attachment 1

2013 Control Tactics

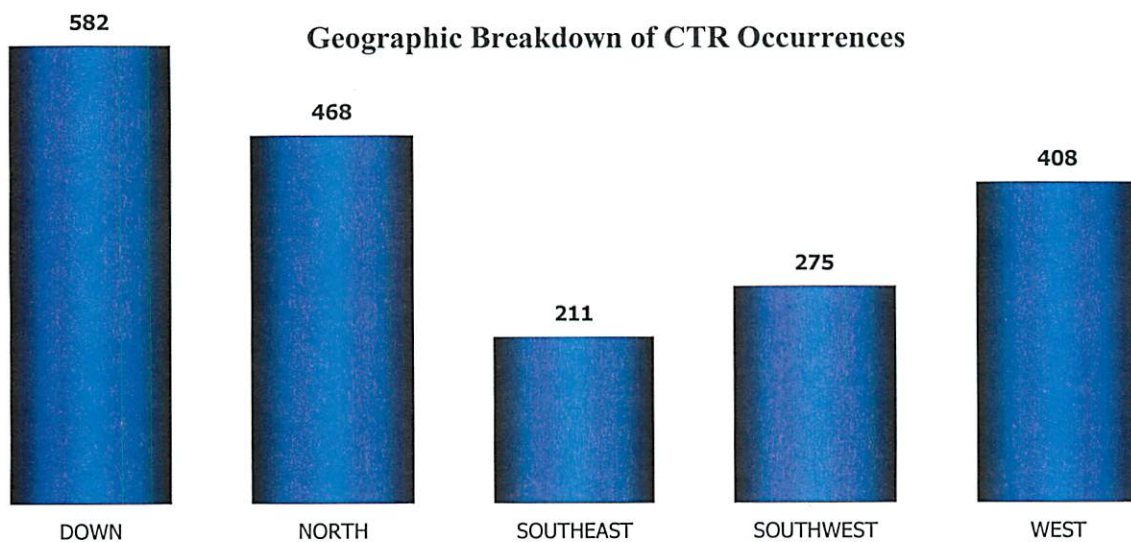
# Occurrences (Control Tactics)		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Totals
Canine Contact	2012	9	8	10	10	37
	2013	14	7	15	10	46
	Change	5	-1	5	0	9
	% Change	55.6%	-12.5%	50.0%	0.0%	24.3%
Canine Presence	2012	39	45	56	69	209
	2013	59	60	72	84	275
	Change	20	15	16	15	66
	% Change	51.3%	33.3%	28.6%	21.7%	31.6%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Presence	2012	65	65	52	57	239
	2013	56	83	75	72	286
	Change	-9	18	23	15	47
	% Change	-13.8%	27.7%	44.2%	26.3%	19.7%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Probes	2012	4	9	6	4	23
	2013	5	13	18	7	43
	Change	1	4	12	3	20
	% Change	25.0%	44.4%	200.0%	75.0%	87.0%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Stun	2012	2	5	0	4	11
	2013	1	4	5	4	14
	Change	-1	-1	5	0	3
	% Change	-50.0%	-20.0%	NA	0.0%	27.3%
Firearm, Low Ready	2012	185	193	153	161	692
	2013	160	199	180	135	674
	Change	-25	6	27	-26	-18
	% Change	-13.5%	3.1%	17.6%	-16.1%	-2.6%
Firearm, Pointed	2012	72	63	43	39	217
	2013	50	71	53	41	215
	Change	-22	8	10	2	-2
	% Change	-30.6%	12.7%	23.3%	5.1%	-0.9%
Impact, Baton Deployed	2012	7	3	3	4	17
	2013	4	1	7	8	20
	Change	-3	-2	4	4	3
	% Change	-42.9%	-66.7%	133.3%	100.0%	17.6%
Impact, Other (Vehicle Contact)	2012	3	1	0	1	5
	2013	1	2	6	4	13
	Change	-2	1	6	3	8
	% Change	-66.7%	100.0%	NA	300.0%	160.0%

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray	2012	4	5	7	5	21
	2013	3	6	4	2	15
	Change	-1	1	-3	-3	-6
	% Change	-25.0%	20.0%	-42.9%	-60.0%	-28.6%
Takedown	2012	145	161	166	156	628
	2013	140	147	191	163	641
	Change	-5	-14	25	7	13
	% Change	-3.4%	-8.7%	15.1%	4.5%	2.1%
Disarming Technique	2012	0	0	4	3	7
	2013	2	2	2	5	11
	Change	2	2	-2	2	4
	% Change	NA	NA	-50.0%	66.7%	57.1%
Holding Technique	2012	187	185	192	186	750
	2013	166	176	212	155	709
	Change	-21	-9	20	-31	-41
	% Change	-11.2%	-4.9%	10.4%	-16.7%	-5.5%
Joint Manipulation	2012	80	89	87	99	355
	2013	78	93	95	81	347
	Change	-2	4	8	-18	-8
	% Change	-2.5%	4.5%	9.2%	-18.2%	-2.3%
Strike	2012	100	93	91	116	400
	2013	88	84	109	90	371
	Change	-12	-9	18	-26	-29
	% Change	-12.0%	-9.7%	19.8%	-22.4%	-7.3%
Stun/Distraction	2012	73	69	74	73	289
	2013	67	63	72	70	272
	Change	-6	-6	-2	-3	-17
	% Change	-8.2%	-8.7%	-2.7%	-4.1%	-5.9%
Communication	2012	452	437	434	444	1 767
	2013	400	471	505	424	1 800
	Change	-52	34	71	-20	33
	% Change	-11.5%	7.8%	16.4%	-4.5%	1.9%
Control Tactics Reports	2012	962	893	827	864	3546
	2013	776	1013	1027	818	3634
	Change	-186	120	200	-46	88
	% Change	-23.97%	11.85%	19.47%	-5.62%	2.42%
Control Tactics Occurrences	2012	500	513	481	487	1981
	2013	449	515	562	468	1987
	Change	-51	2	81	-19	6
	% Change	-11.36%	0.39%	14.41%	-4.06%	0.30%

Control Used

Least to Most

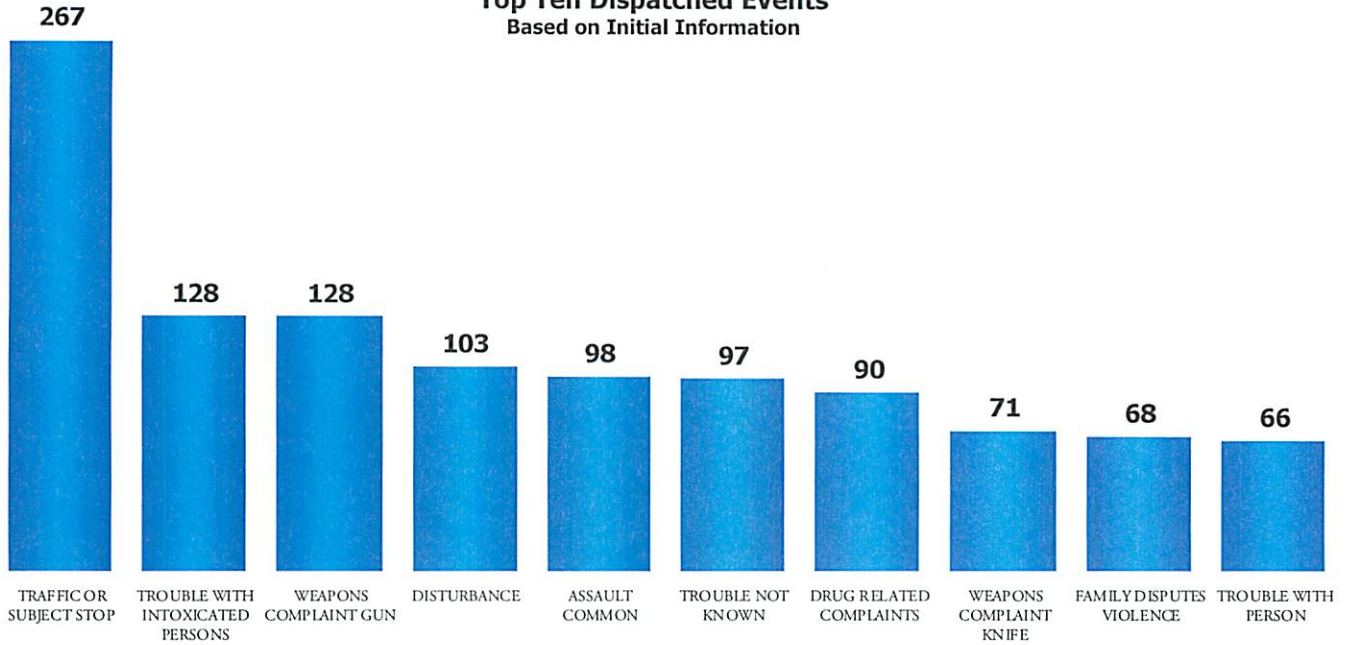
# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Specialty Munition		1					1				1		3
Disarming Technique	2			1		1	1	1			2	3	11
Impact, Other	1				1	1	1	4	1	3		1	13
CEW Stun		1		2	2		2	2	1		2	2	14
OC, OC Deployed	2	1		1	3	2	2	1	1		1	1	15
Baton Deployed	1	1	2		1		4	2	1	4	4		20
CEW Probes	2	3		3	8	2	11	4	3	1	2	4	43
Canine Contact	6	4	4	2	2	3	6	3	6	2	4	4	46
Firearm, Pointed	11	20	19	25	25	21	13	26	14	16	17	8	215
Stun Technique	29	14	24	23	23	17	23	25	24	16	27	27	272
Canine Presence	27	15	17	22	24	14	25	26	21	31	20	33	275
CEW Presence/Laser	21	18	17	26	33	24	24	29	22	16	27	29	286
Joint Manipulation	25	28	25	25	40	28	26	44	25	25	26	30	347
Strike	37	25	26	28	29	27	37	34	38	28	40	22	371
Takedown	42	55	43	40	61	46	60	72	59	48	66	49	641
Firearm, Low Ready	52	45	63	71	69	59	65	67	48	53	48	34	674
Holding Technique	55	58	53	43	74	59	80	68	64	55	57	43	709
Communication	137	130	133	148	175	148	177	176	152	141	159	124	1800



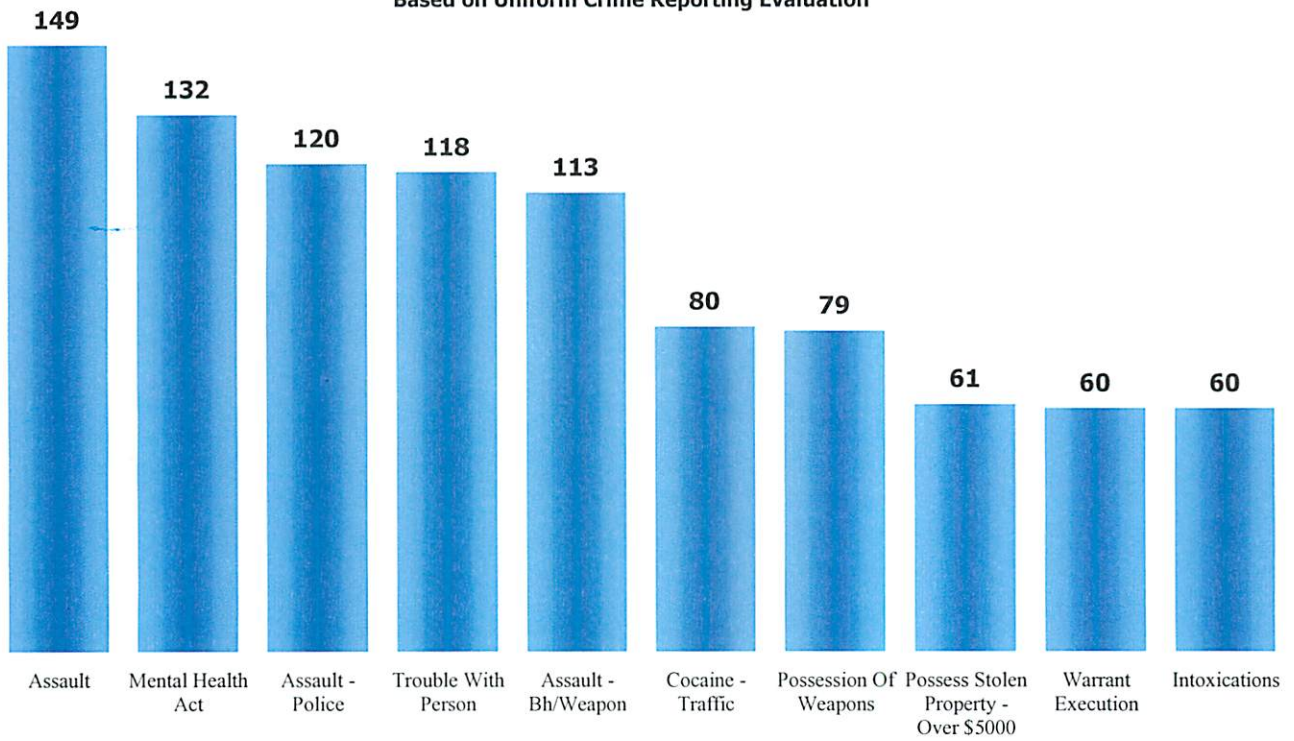
Occurrences	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
DOWN	44	46	48	45	49	50	62	57	47	44	54	36	582
NORTH	37	29	33	41	41	34	47	52	40	35	41	38	468
SOUTHEAST	22	16	16	16	22	14	24	21	17	20	11	12	211
SOUTHWEST	18	24	18	21	39	27	20	19	33	14	25	17	275
WEST	29	25	31	36	32	29	39	40	28	45	32	42	408

*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**



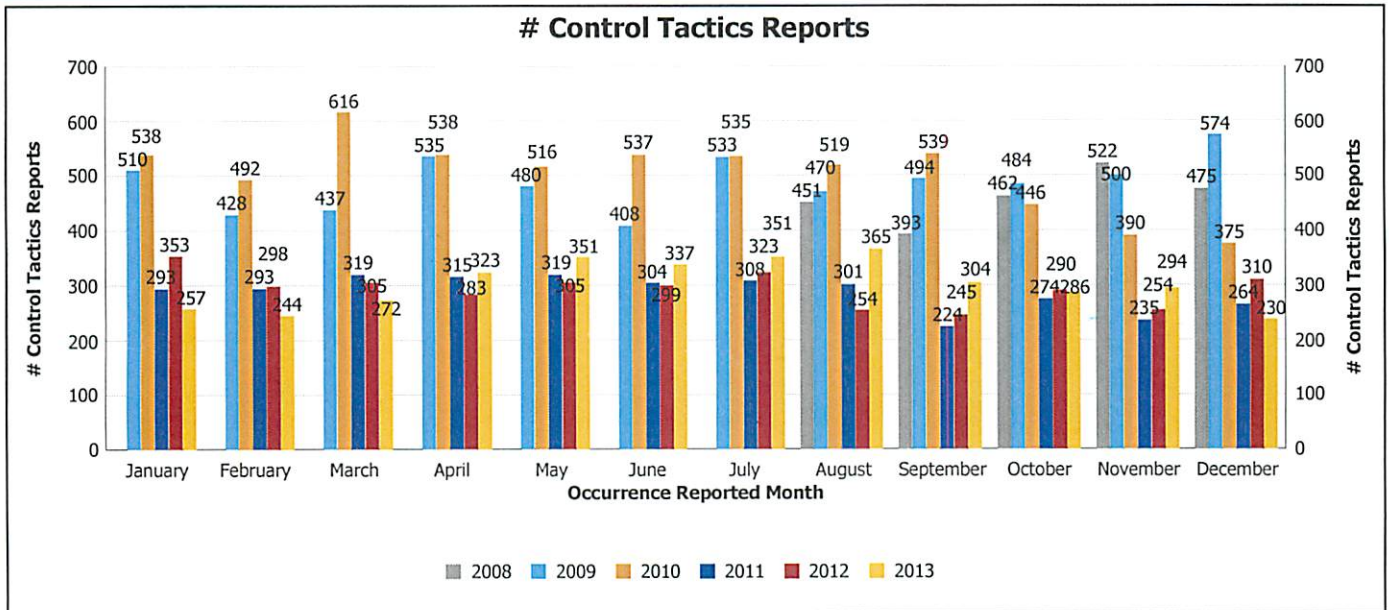
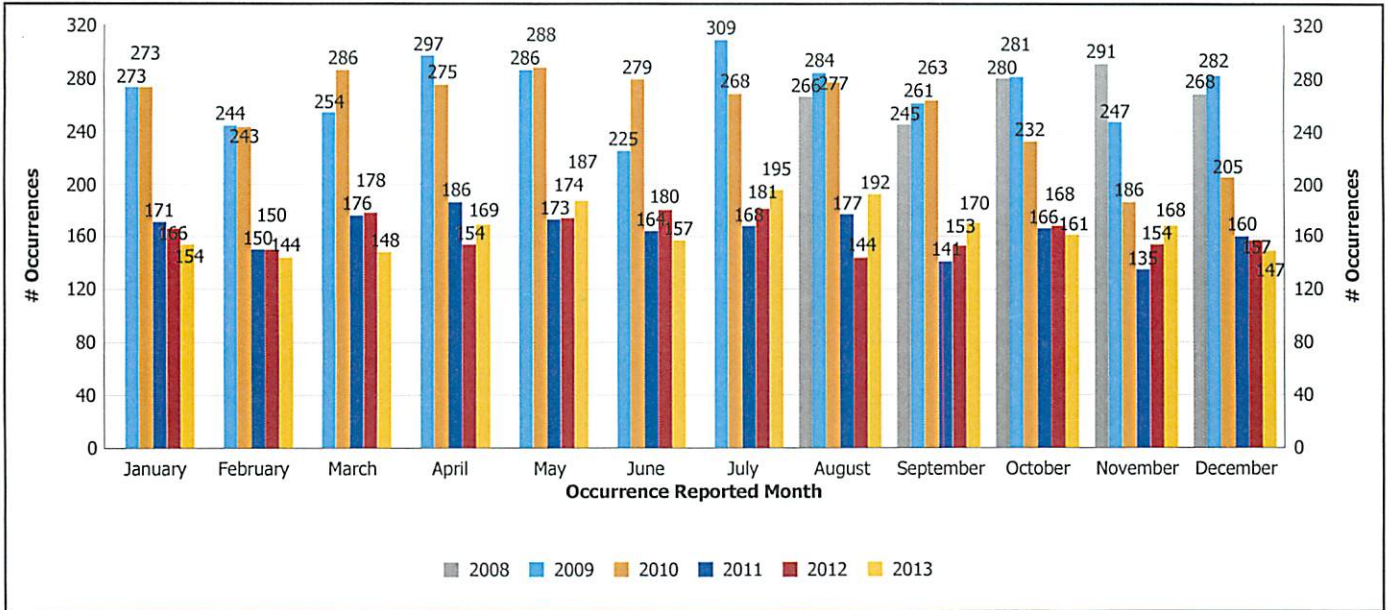


Attachment 2 2013 Control Tactics

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:
20 Jan 2014 23:59



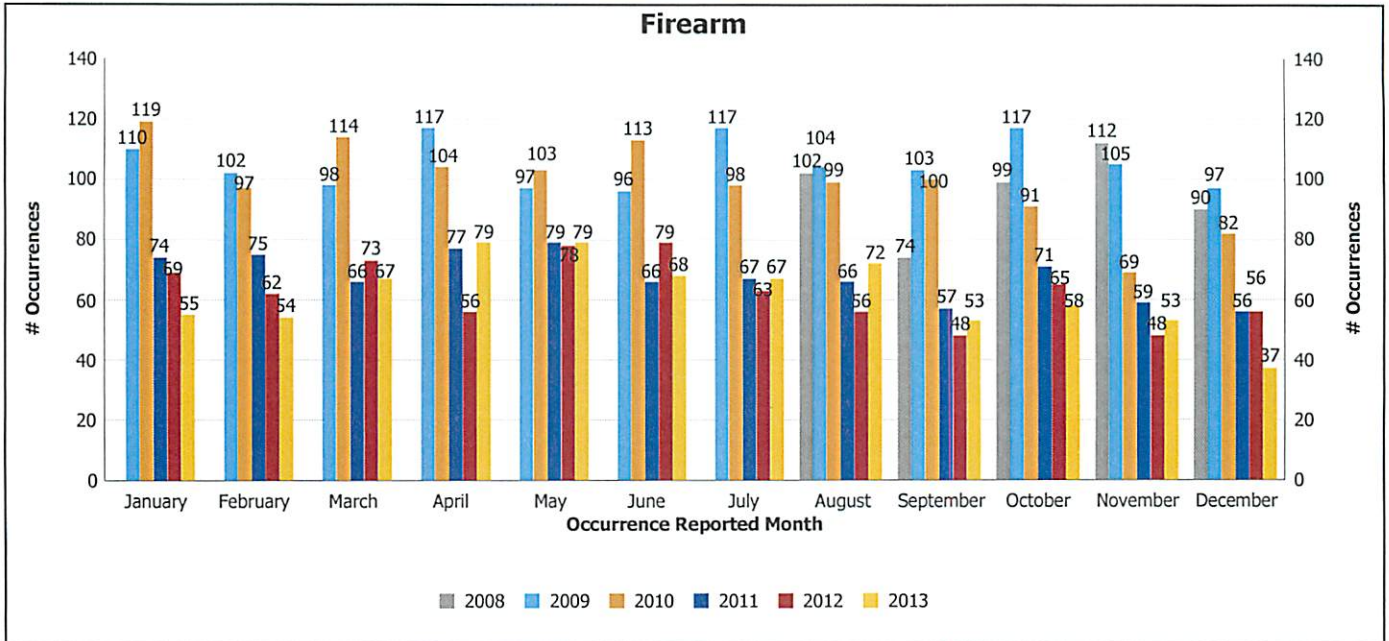
Please Note: In order to present the most accurate and up to date information on Use of Force incidents and deployments, the report will contain all data entered previous to the report. Delays in approving reports mean that information may be received 2 months or more after the incident. This information will be included in future updates and will be reflected in changes to the numbers as reports are received and entered.



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:
20 Jan 2014 23:59



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

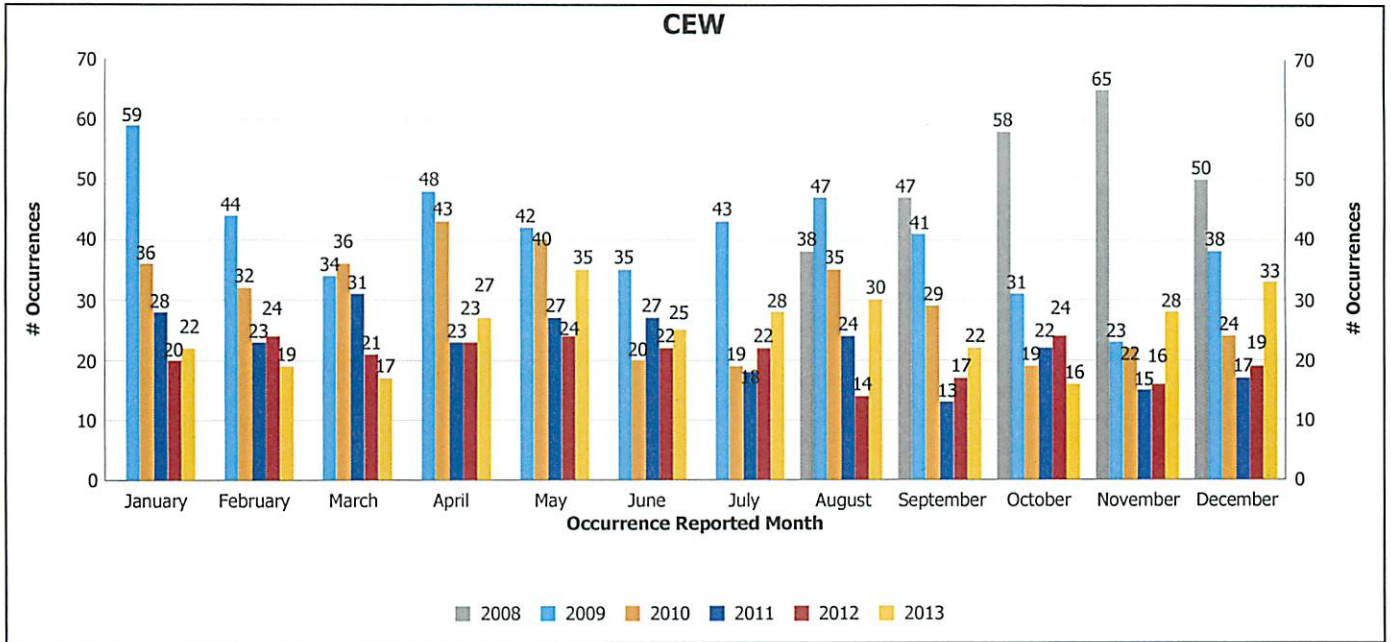
"Occurrences" refers to one specific situation where officers responded and utilized their firearm in one of the following methods: low ready position, pointed or fired.



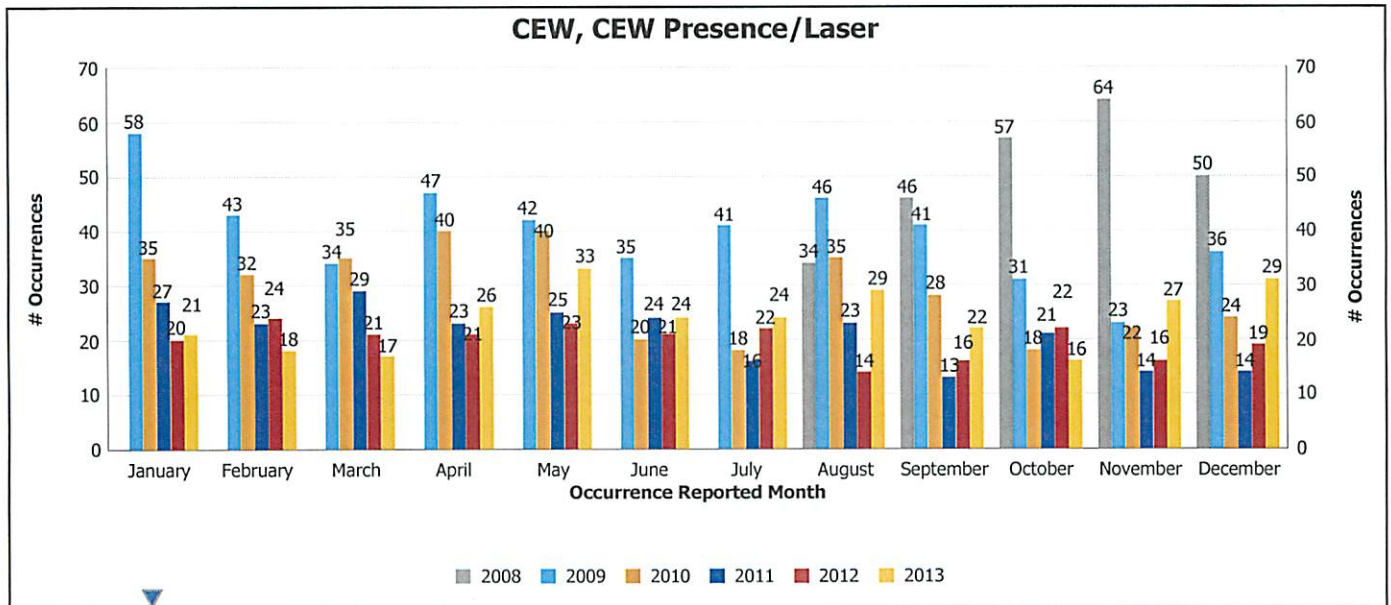
Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

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

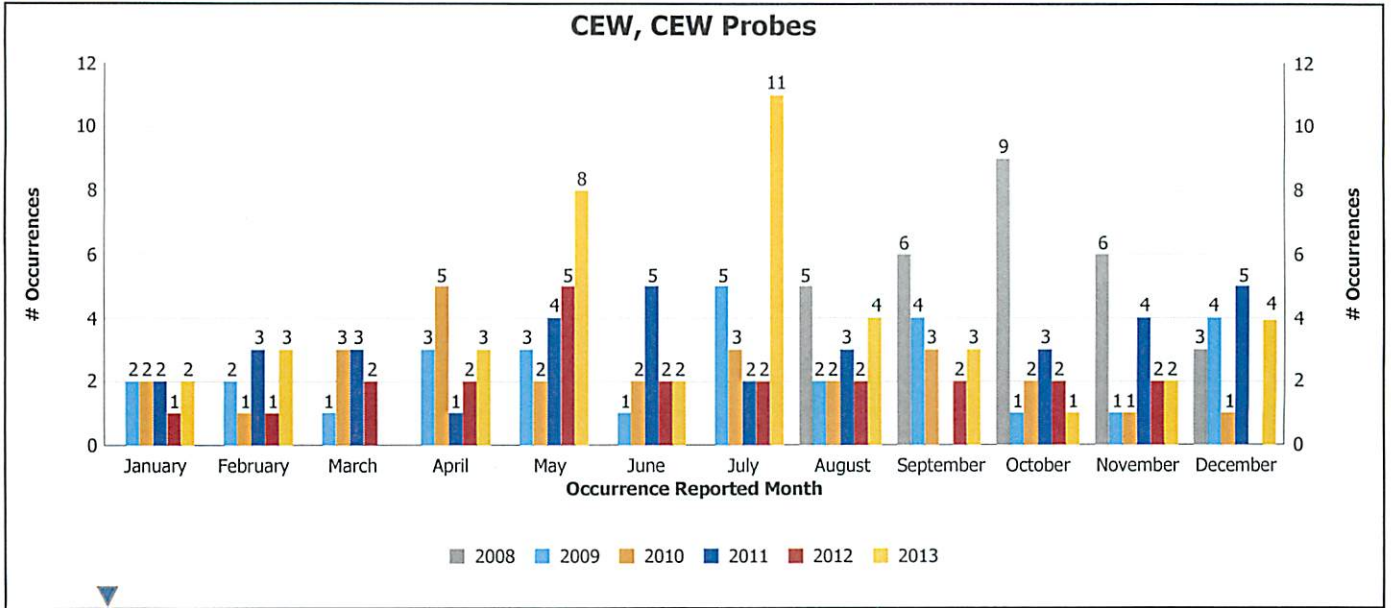
Information as at Date:
20 Jan 2014 23:59



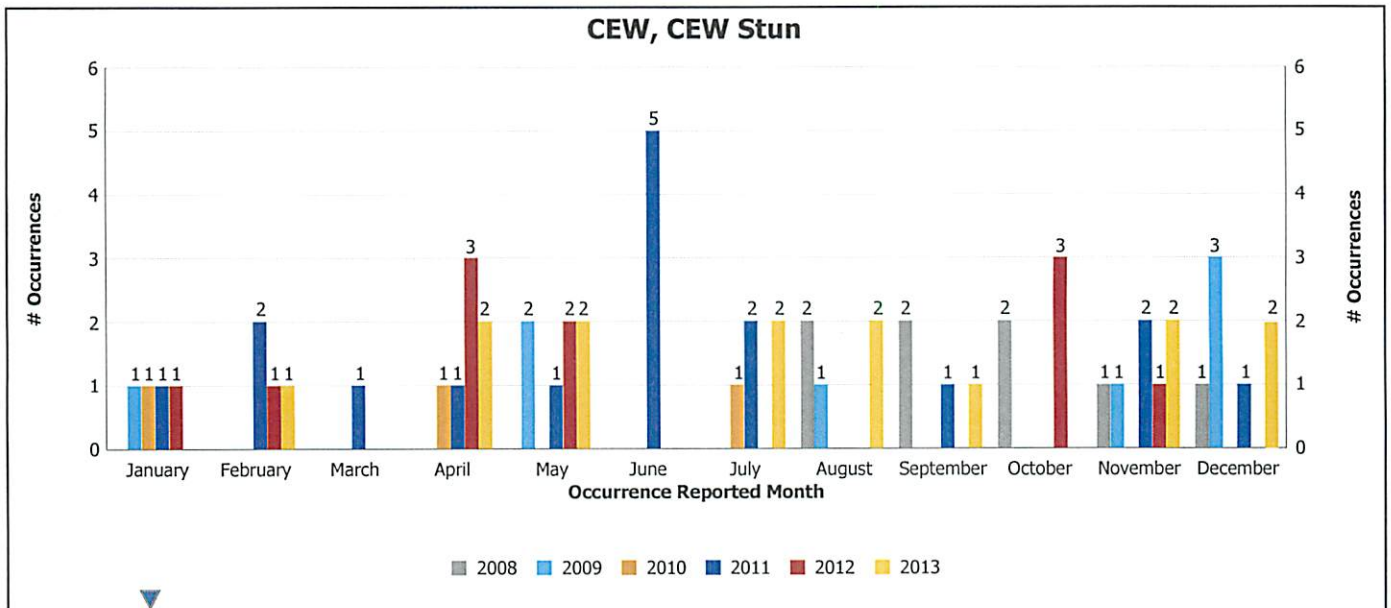
"CEW" refers to the TASER X26 the current model that the Edmonton Police Service issues: CEW is classified as an Intermediate Weapon



"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).



"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.

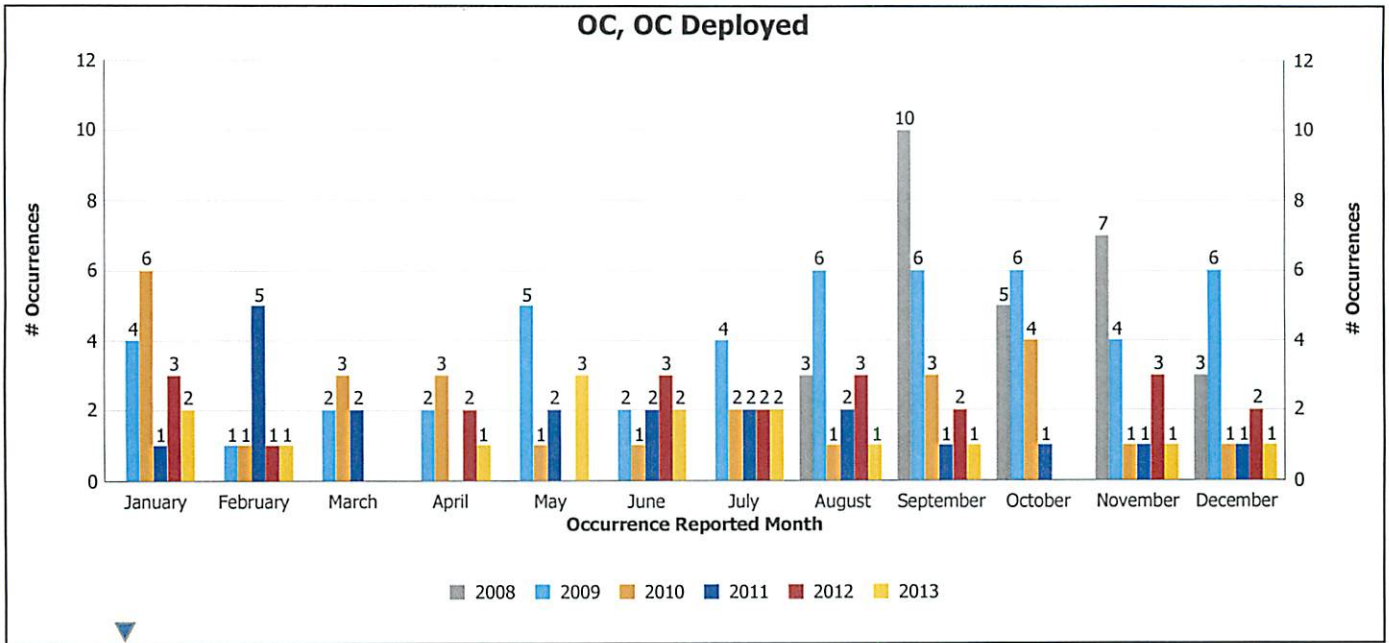
This also encompasses a situation where there may be more than one deployment (ie. Presence is ineffective, with Probes subsequently deployed).



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:
20 Jan 2014 23:59



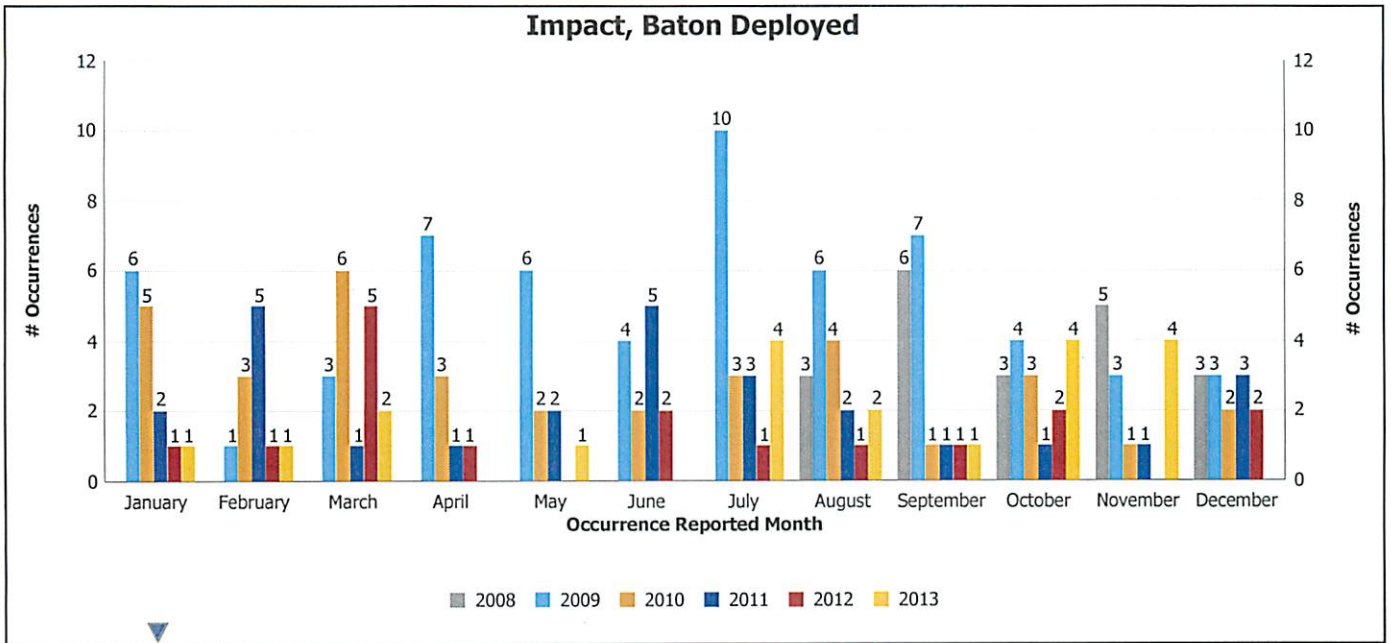
OC Spray is classified as an Intermediate Weapon



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:
20 Jan 2014 23:59



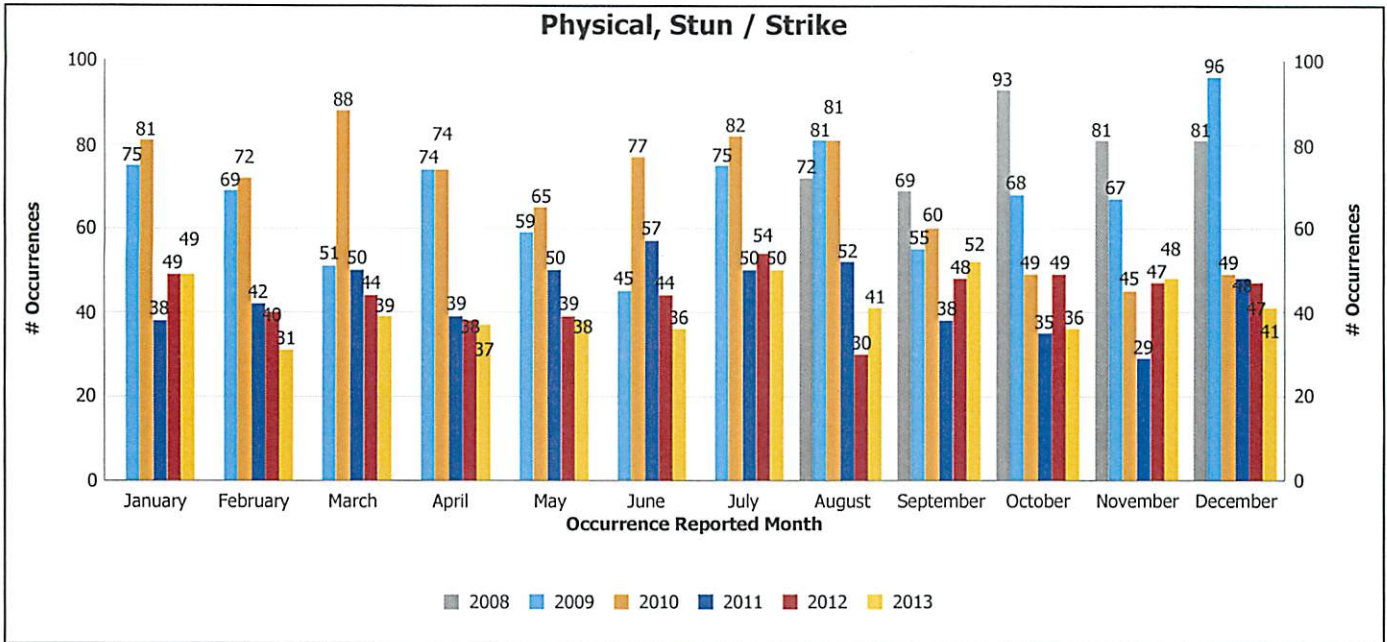
Batons are classified as an Intermediate Weapon



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:
20 Jan 2014 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. For the purposes of this report Stuns and Strikes are combined

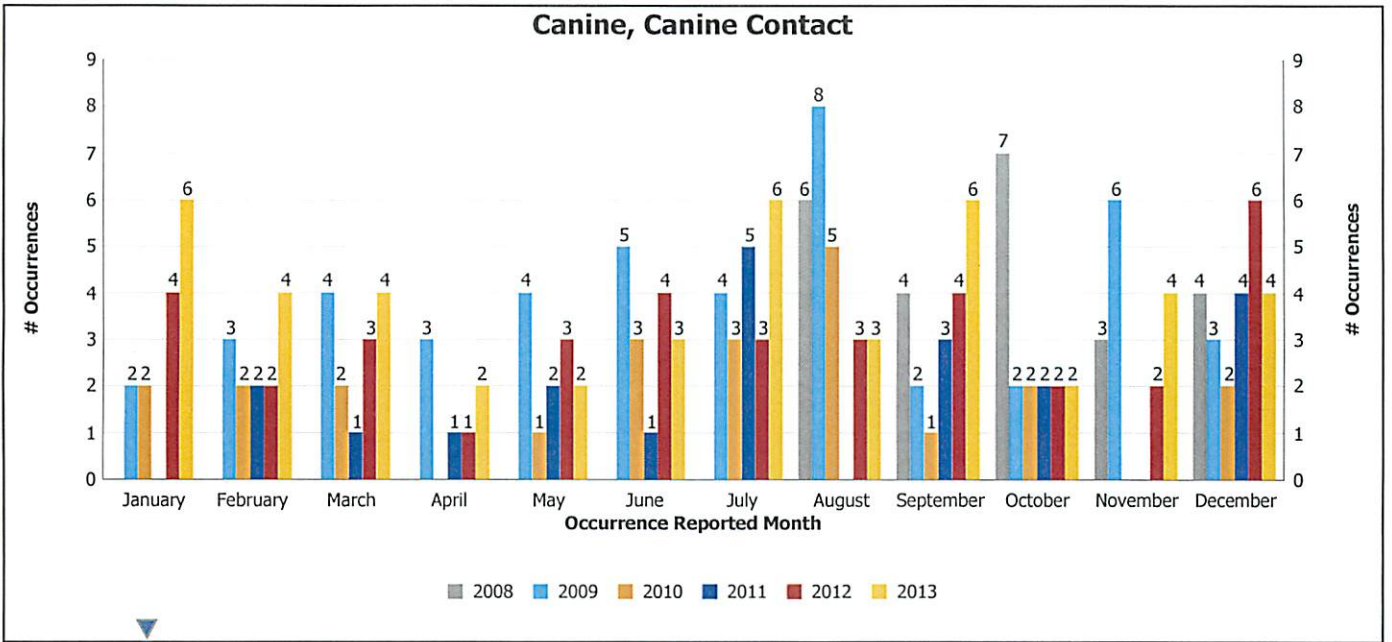
"Strike" refers to the following: punch, kick, elbow, and knee strikes.



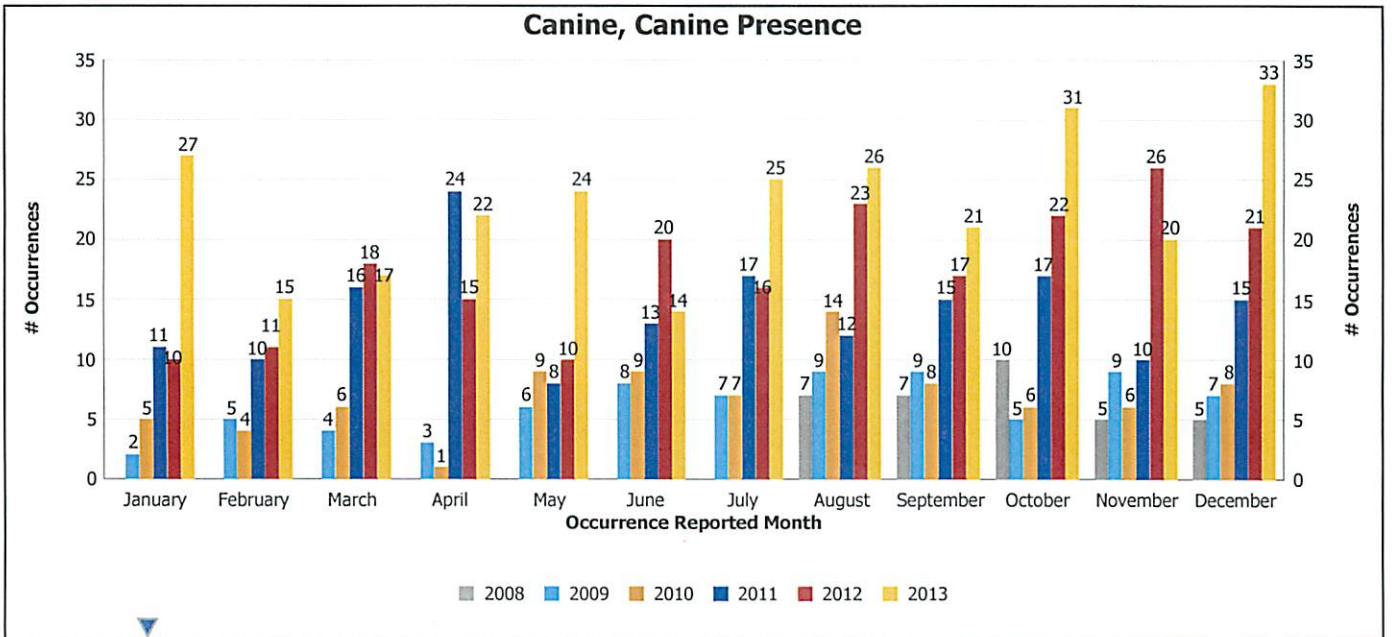
Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

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

Information as at Date:
20 Jan 2014 23:59



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



"Presence" refers to when a Canine Unit successfully controls a suspect using the presence of the dog.