

New Castle County Division of Police Use of Force Incidents for 2021

*The chart and graph shown below indicates the number of Response to Resistance reports submitted over the past five years, including 2021, and the year-to-year changes.

Year	Response to Resistance Reports	Percent Change from Previous Year
2016	403	23.62%
2017	305	-24.32%
2018	315	3.28%
*2019	235	-25.40%
*2020	184	-21.70%
*2021	137	-25.6%

In 2021, officers used force a total of one hundred and eighty-two (182) times, in 137 incidents. During each incident, an officer may utilize more than one type of force if the initial force was non-effective, and the suspect was still not complying. Officers primarily used a Hands/Feet technique to control/subdue suspects in the majority of Response to Resistance incidents. Hands/Feet is reported as the tool used by officers eighty-nine (89) times in the 137 Response to Resistance incidents with seventy-six (76) times being effective. The Conducted Energy Weapon (Taser) was used seventy-one (71) times, Leg Restraints nine (9) times, Firearm display was used three (3) times, and Canine bites accounted for two (2) times.

Type of force used: [Source: Blue Team Response to Resistance Reports / Response to Resistance Stats](#)

Force	2019-Effective	2019-Non-Effective	2020-Effective	2020-Non-Effective	2021-Effective	2021-Non-Effective
Hands/ Physical	157	21	107	16	76	13
Conducted Energy Weapon	54	22	55	32	27	44
Leg Restraints	9	1	6	2	7	2
Pepper Agent/ Mace	0	0	1	0	1	0
Canine Bite	7	0	4	1	2	0
Firearm Discharge	5	5	6	4	3	0
No Force Used	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ASP Baton	0	0	0	0	1	0
Less Lethal	0	6	0	0	5	1
Self-Inflicted	0	1	1	0	0	0
Emer. Restraint Chair	0	0	0	0	0	0

Show of Force

During 2021, there were three hundred and seventy-five (375) displays of force. There was an 8.8% percent increase or thirty-three (33) more Show of Force displays than 2020, where there were three hundred and forty-two (342) Show of Force displays. During one incident, one officer may use more than one instrument/weapon until the situation is under control, sometimes resulting in more displays than actual incidents.

Show of Force is defined as a display of an instrument/weapon with no direct contact.

Show of Force	2019	2020	2021
Conducted Electrical Weapon	54	82	78
Canine	22	20	20
Firearm Display	213	229	272
No Force Used	1	1	0
Less Lethal	5	1	1
Hands/ Physical	1	0	0
Rifle	4	6	4
Mace	0	1	0
ASP Display	0	2	0