

Lewisville Police Department



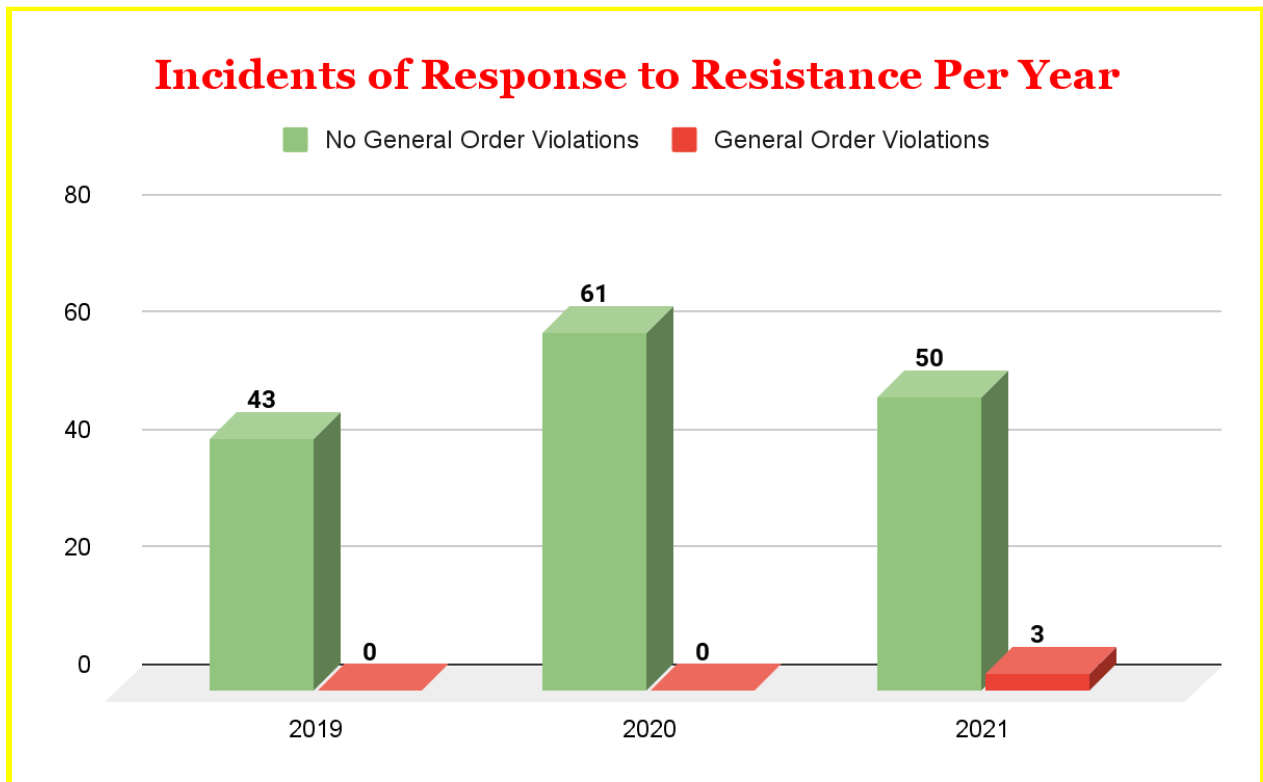
Annual Response to Resistance Report 2021

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Response to Resistance Data

In 2021, The Lewisville Police Department documented the Response To Resistance (RTR) in 53 incidents. During those 53 incidents, there were a total of 60 officer engagements involving 31 of the Department's police or detention officers. Based on the 2020 report, this year's total number of incidents decreased by 13%.

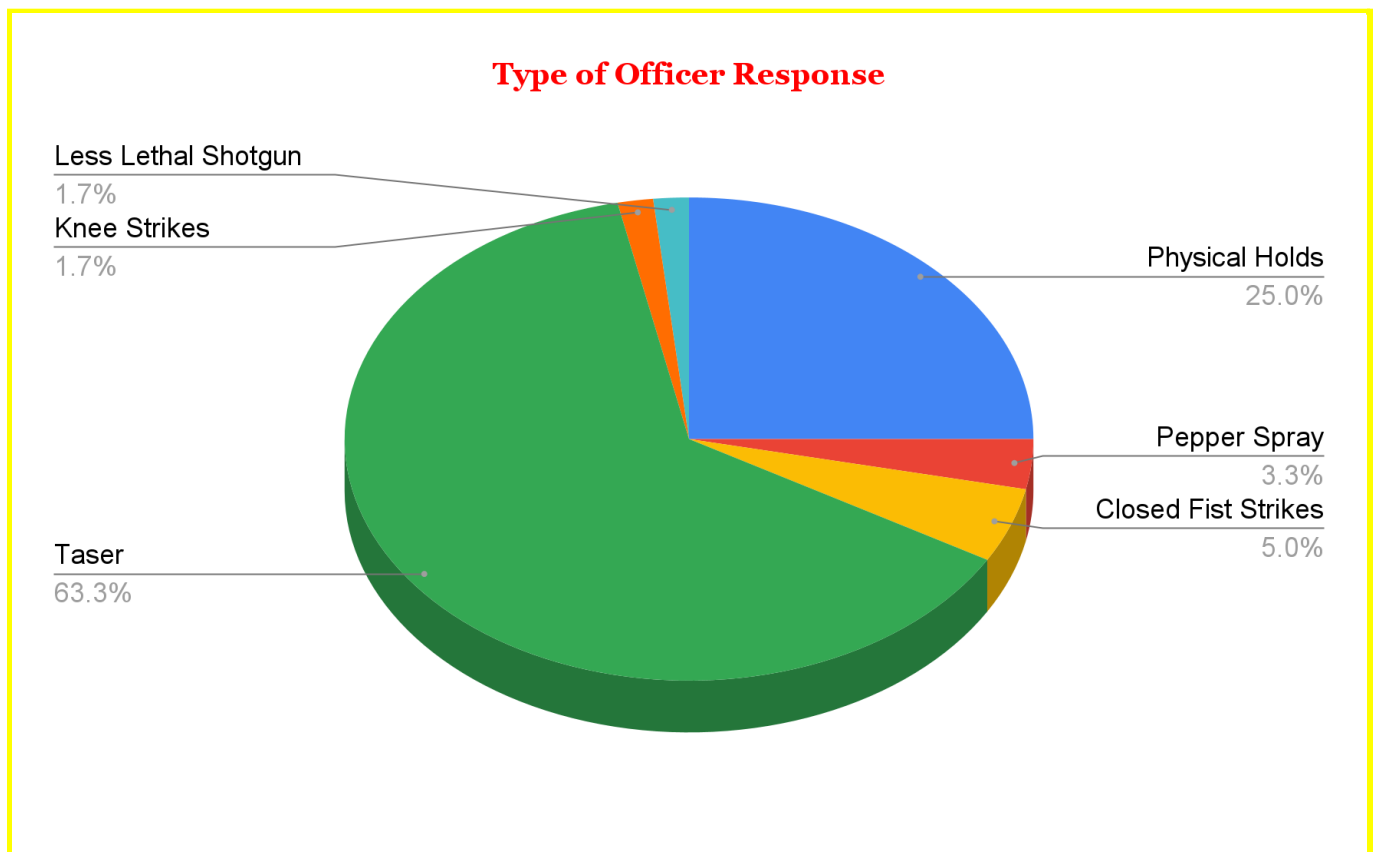
While the 2020 report noted no policy violations related to RTR incidents, our Department documented three in 2021. Of these three policy violations, two of them were related to a policy that was changed in July of 2021. The revised policy now requires officers to draw and fire the Taser with their support hand instead of transitioning the Taser to the dominant hand for discharge. During the initial training, Officers noted that it was a bit awkward to fire the Taser with their support hand after years of doing so with their dominant hand. These two policy violations are likely due to the learning curve related to the implementation of this new protocol. The bar graph (below) shows a comparison of 2021 incidents with the two previous years.



Regarding frequency, one Officer had seven separate RTR incidents; however, no policy violations were noted. Another Officer had five separate incidents and there was one policy violation noted. This violation was for discharging his Taser at the driver of a moving vehicle. At the time of the discharge, the driver was just starting from a stopped position in a sparsely populated parking lot. The Officer received corrective counseling.

Breakdown of Types of Response

All RTR incidents were reviewed by the Safety Review Committee and a type of response was identified. The most common response was Taser discharges which accounted for 63.3% of the total. The second most common type of response fell into the category of physical holds and accounted for 25%. The pie chart (below) shows a breakdown of each type of officer response and how often it was used during the incidents in 2021.

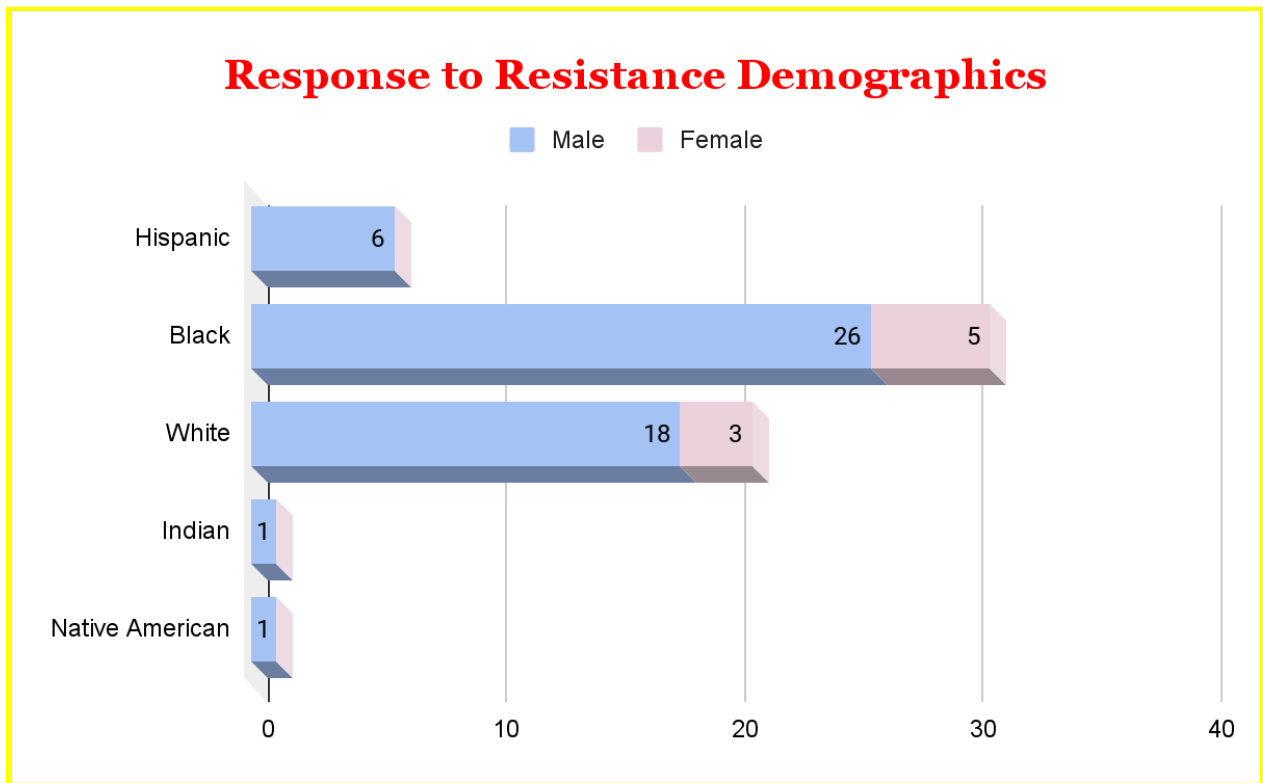


All three RTR policy violations in 2021 involved the discharge of a Taser. As previously stated, there was a policy change that took effect in July of 2021 that altered the way officers deploy their Tasers, now using their support hand. There were no violations of the Taser policy before July. This policy adjustment accounts for two of the three violations.

Injuries were reported in seven of the 60 officer engagements (12%). Based on the 2020 report, that number is somewhat consistent with force-related injuries last year. Of these seven, only one required a visit to the hospital to be examined.

Response To Resistance Demographics

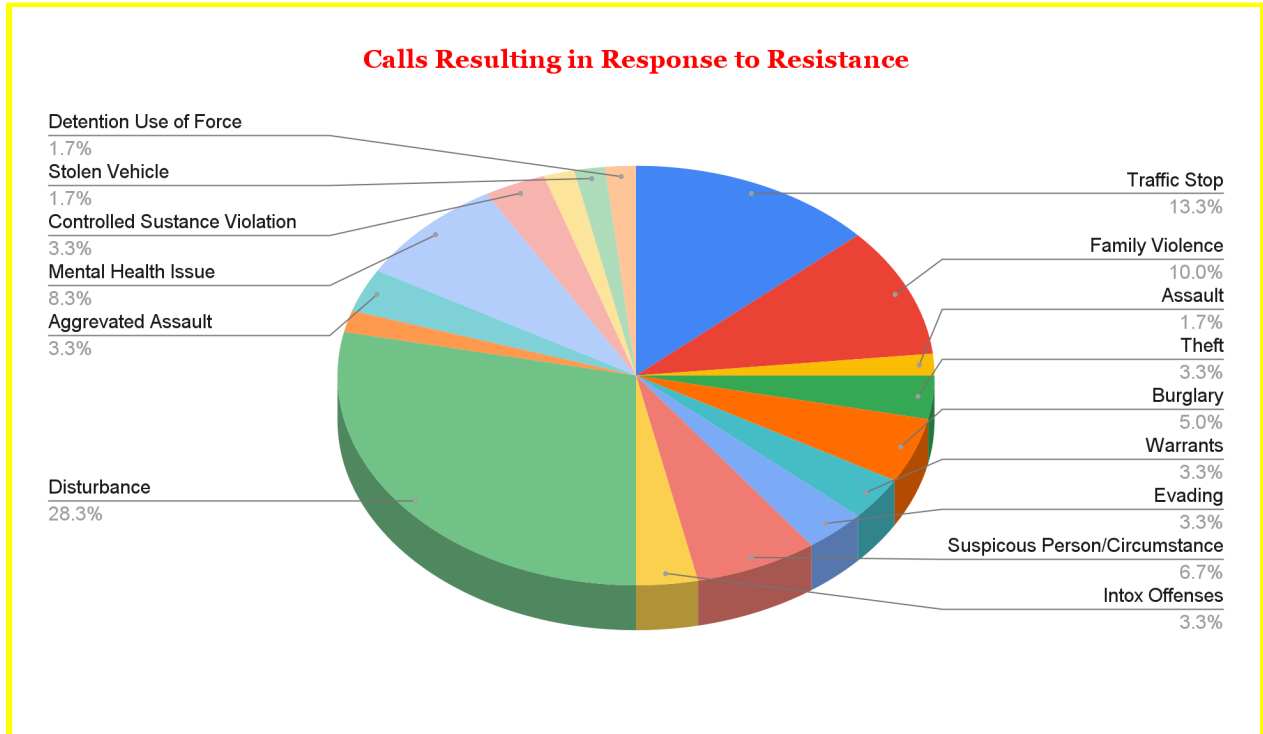
The chart (below) provides a breakdown of the demographics of the subjects involved in response to resistance instances in 2021. Overall, most RTR incidents involved black males (43.3%). White males were involved during 30% of the incidents. Related to the sex of the person, females accounted for only 13.3% of total incidents. Black females were slightly more involved in RTR incidents (8.3%) than white females (5%).



Reasons for Response to Resistance

The chart (below) shows the various types of calls for service that led to the incidents of response to resistance. This will help the Department better recognize the most dangerous call types. Some RTRs will fit into multiple categories but these classifications are based on the call types as early as possible in each call for service. Disturbances accounted for the majority of calls, followed by traffic stops. By the very nature of disturbances, it is not surprising that this call type tops the list.

The Department recently deployed our Community Caretaking Team. These officers focus on mental health-related calls for service. We are hoping that their proactive work will drive down the number of RTR incidents related to mental health. As previously mentioned, the chart below shows how calls were initially dispatched so some disturbance calls could be mental-health related.

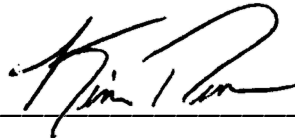


Findings & Recommendations

The Lewisville Police Department's policy on "Response to Resistance" appears to be adequately guiding personnel on this topic. In 2013, all sworn personnel were issued a Taser. This tool has proven to reduce the necessity of physical struggles between officers and subjects as well as the impact weapons otherwise needed to bring out control.

Overall in 2021, the only outlying issue presented in the “Response to Resistance” information was an adjustment period to the new Taser policy that requires officers to deploy Tasers with their support hand in order to mitigate weapon confusion between Taser and gun. In the short term, this issue may remain a problem but we are hopeful that the frequency of these violations will decrease as officers become more accustomed to the policy. The Department will continue to focus on this issue during annual Taser training.

Otherwise, the officers at the Lewisville Police Department are overwhelmingly operating within the response to resistance policy guidelines.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Deaver", written over a horizontal line.

Chief of Police, Kevin Deaver