



Protecting Our Communities

**Use of Force Performance Pack
Produced by Strategic Governance**

Dates Covered:

01/01/2026  31/03/2026 



Caveats

Please note, data in this report is based on each individual form submitted by an officer, not individuals force is used on or the distinct incidents unless stated otherwise.

Use of force data is beset by data quality issues across many of the fields that are recorded. All analysis needs to be viewed with this in mind as a result.

Forms

Counts are based on a distinct count of a unique ID field for each form.

This will have an effect on the counting of number of tactics used. The counts are not the number of times each tactic was used, but how many times that tactic appeared at least once on the form. So, for example, if an officer has recorded that they have used unarmed skills on 6 occasions within one use of force form, the count will treat that as 1 rather than 6. So the counts show the number of times that tactic appeared at least once on the use of force form.

Ethnicity

Ethnicity is based on a combination of self defined and officer defined ethnicity.

Self defined takes priority, but where the self-defined ethnicity is not recorded the officer defined is used as a substitute.

It is possible that the person is recorded as having different ethnicities across forms even within the same incident.

Please note, that self defined and officer defined are not recorded in the same way. It is not possible for an officer to record someone as Mixed ethnicity.

Summing of Percentages

Please note, percentages will often add up to more than 100%. This is because an officer can record more than one impact factor or reason, for example, on the form.

Subject Behaviour

Several categories are contained in this column. Only one of these options can be selected.

Compliant behaviour is based on the number of times someone is being recorded as 'Compliant'.

Resistance focuses on where the subject is recorded as resisting, from passive resistance to serious or aggravated resistance.

Verbal/gestures has not been included in either count.

Duplicates

Due to the complexity of identifying duplicates in this data they have not been removed.

With multiple forms for particular incidents able to be recorded, it's not clear how these could be identified and removed accurately.

High Level Overview

7024

Forms

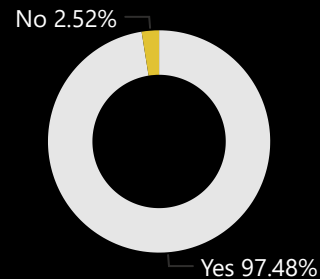
2.79

Per 1000

1.47

Total Dispro

BWV Used?



This pack details information on Use of Force within Thames Valley Police for the following time period: 01/01/2026 - 31/03/2026.

There were 7024 use of force forms submitted in this period, with an overall disproportionality ratio of 1.47. There were 2.79 forms completed per 1000 of the population.

The figure on the bottom left shows the number of times body worn video was used where it was available. BWV was not available to be used 8.98% of the time.

Disproportionality was highest for those of black ethnic origin, with a ratio of 3.43. This means a black person was around 3 times as likely to have force used on them as a white person. Please note this is based on a count of each individual form, so it does not refer to an individual subject.

34.44%

Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)

4028

Individuals Distinct

344

Taser

Subject profile

This page outlines the subject profile of those who have had force used on them in the specified time period (see front of pack). The top of the page shows ethnicity and gender breakdowns, whereas the bottom shows age grouping and whether the subject was perceived to have physical or mental health impairments by the officer.

Below is a breakdown of the number of form submitted for each LCU and the per 1000 information for each area.

Figure 1: Force by LCU

LCU	Forms	Population	Per 1000
Milton Keynes	1068	287040	3.72
Berkshire West	1614	513320	3.14
Berkshire East	1262	436596	2.89
Buckinghamshire	1348	553035	2.44
Oxfordshire	1677	725280	2.31
Total	6969	2515271	2.77

Figure 2: Use of Force by Ethnicity

Ethnicity (Combined)	Forms	%
Asian	723	10.29%
Black	799	11.38%
Mixed	355	5.05%
Other	118	1.68%
Unknown	99	1.41%
White	4930	70.19%
Total	7024	100.00%

Figure 3: Use of Force by Gender

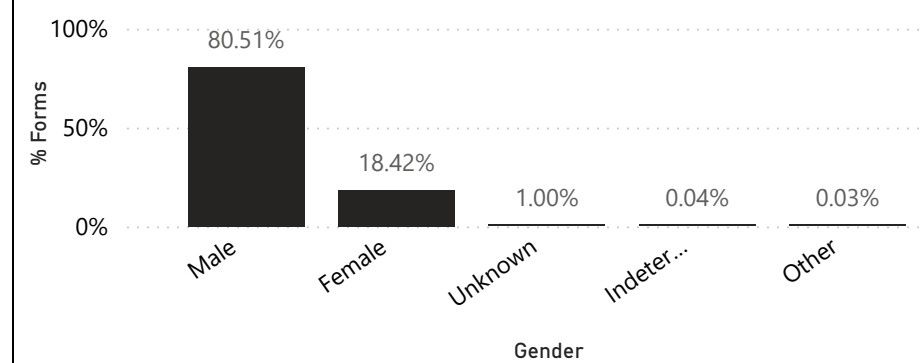
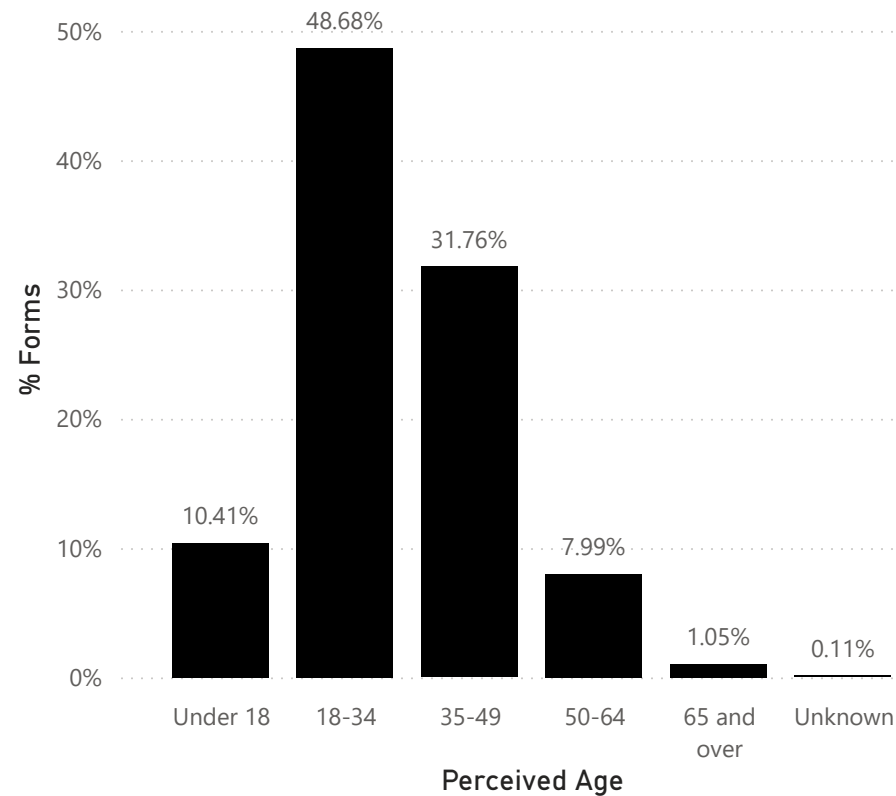


Figure 4: Use of Force by Age Group (Officer Perceived)



239

Self-Defined Physical Health Condition

1661

Self-Defined Mental Health Condition

287

Self-Defined Mental & Physical Cond...

Figure 5: Use of Force by Location

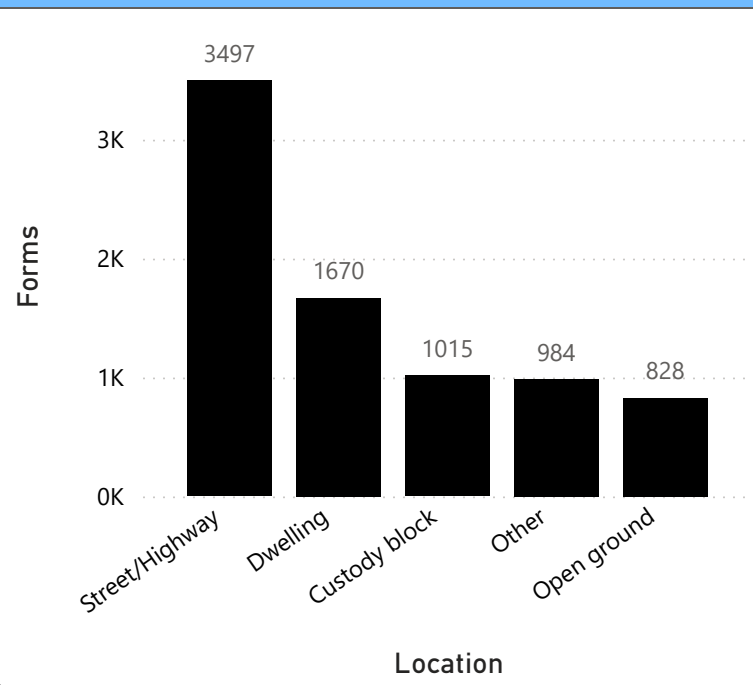


Figure 6: Reasons for using force: prevalence on forms by ethnicity

Reason	Forms	White	Eth Min	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
Prevent Escape	56.90%	55.93%	59.55%	59.83%	58.89%	60.86%	58.56%
Effect Arrest	53.37%	53.82%	52.63%	52.69%	53.18%	48.93%	59.46%
Prevent Harm	46.01%	46.96%	43.48%	41.92%	45.23%	41.90%	45.95%
Prevent Offence	33.79%	33.92%	32.68%	30.42%	33.82%	34.25%	34.23%
Effect stop and search	17.05%	15.39%	21.39%	23.73%	22.41%	16.21%	15.32%
Secure Evidence	16.32%	14.65%	20.28%	20.52%	20.42%	18.04%	24.32%
Remove Handcuffs	10.56%	10.43%	10.59%	11.50%	9.95%	10.40%	9.91%
Effect search in Custody	6.95%	7.01%	6.55%	5.68%	7.29%	6.42%	7.21%
Effect other search	3.76%	4.01%	3.14%	3.06%	3.98%	2.45%	
Other	2.10%	2.13%	2.02%	2.18%	2.12%	2.14%	
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Reasons, Impact Factors, Locations, and Officer Duty

This page shows the reasons, impact factors, locations, and officer duties when using force.

Please note, percentages will add up to more than 100% as officers can record more than one impact factor and reason per form.

Figures 6 and 7 each shows the prevalence of each impact factor and reason on each form, and then break this down by prevalence on the form for each ethnic group.

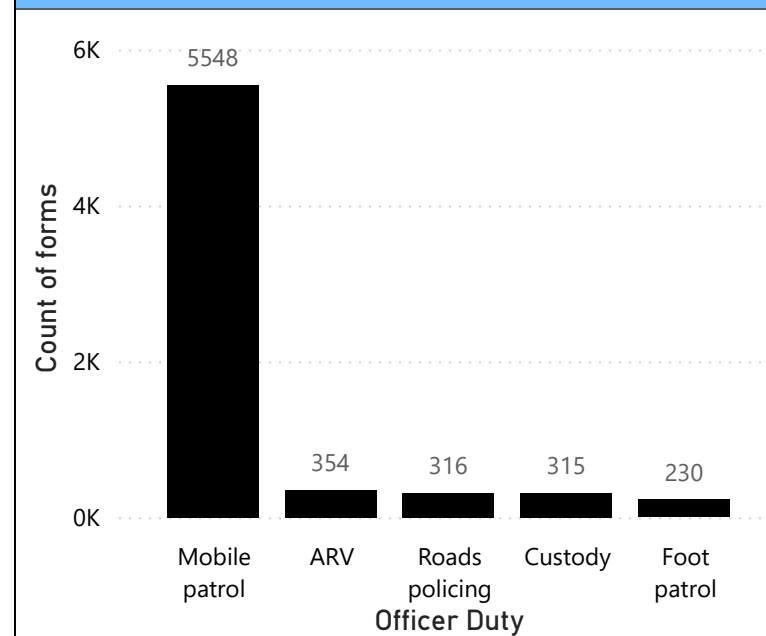
This allows for a comparison to see which impact factors and reasons may be driving use of force against each ethnic group more or less than others.

For example, alcohol is an impact factor recorded far more consistently where the subject is recorded as white, and recorded far less where they are ethnic minority.

Figure 7: Impact Factors by Ethnicity: prevalence on forms by ethnicity

Impact Factors	Forms	White	EthMin	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other
Alcohol	35.13%	38.79%	26.02%	25.31%	26.91%	25.07%	27.12%
Drugs	32.14%	32.93%	30.43%	31.12%	29.04%	34.08%	24.58%
Mental Health	30.31%	33.94%	21.60%	19.92%	22.15%	23.66%	22.03%
Prior Knowledge	29.59%	29.70%	29.47%	28.63%	29.04%	32.39%	28.81%
Size/Gender/Build	20.65%	19.98%	22.36%	17.84%	27.16%	21.97%	18.64%
Possession of a Weapon	17.26%	16.98%	17.89%	18.81%	18.15%	14.37%	21.19%
Other	13.27%	12.38%	15.54%	15.35%	15.02%	16.62%	16.95%
Crowd	8.27%	7.41%	9.97%	9.54%	10.64%	9.58%	9.32%
Acute Behavioural Disorder	0.97%	1.05%	0.80%	0.55%	0.75%	1.13%	1.69%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Figure 8: Top 5 forms by Officer Duty



This page shows details on threats towards officers within an incident.

Figures 14 and 16 show threats made by subject ethnicity and gender. They provide a comparison of the proportion on the form against the proportion of threats made by each grouping.

Please note that the percentages will count that a threat has been made, not each individual threat offered. So it shows that a subject threatened the officer in some way, it doesn't count that they were threatened with a knife and a firearm, for example.

Figure 15 shows threats by the recorded behaviour shown by the subject, and figure 17 shows the top 10 tactics used by officers when the subject had threatened them.

Finally, there are various cards showing whether the officer had intelligence of weapons, reported violence by a third party, and shows how many times an officer had recorded the subject as spitting at them.

Figure 14: Forms and Threats by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Forms	Threats
Asian	10.44%	8.96%
Black	11.54%	6.72%
Mixed	5.13%	4.48%
Other	1.70%	2.99%
White	71.19%	76.87%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

Figure 15: Threat by Subject Behaviour

Subject Behaviour	Threats
Aggressive resistance	50
Active resistance	34
Serious or aggravated resistance	25
Compliant	11
Verbal / Gestures	11
Passive resistance	7

Figure 16: Forms and Threats by Gender

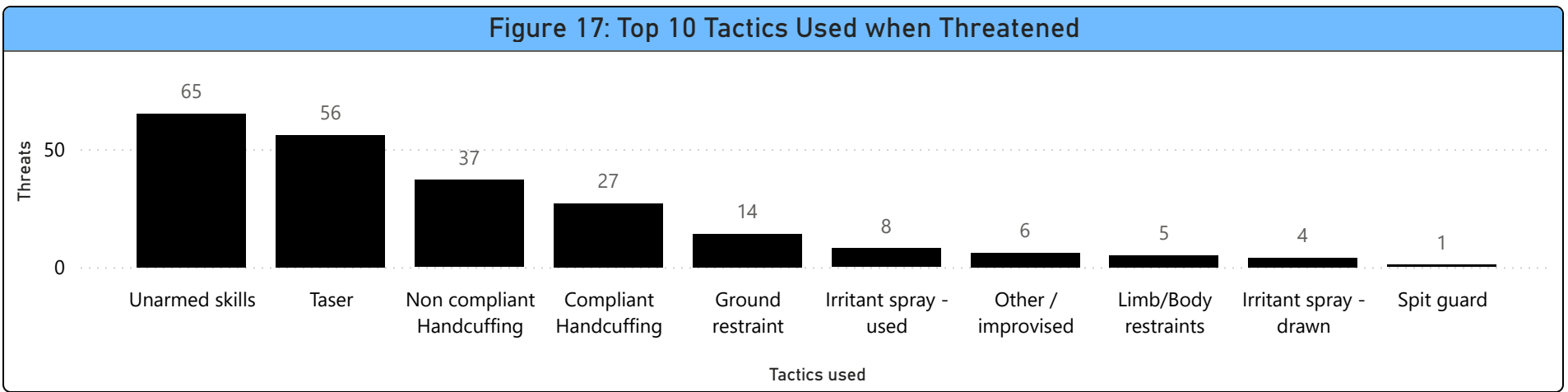
Gender	Forms	Threats
Female	11.76%	
Male	86.76%	100.00%
Other	1.47%	
Total	100.00%	100.00%

1399
Intelligence - Weapons

Threats
138
Threats

854
Violence - Reported

124
Officer spat at



Assaults & Injuries

58

Injured from assault

This page shows information where an officer has recorded an injury to themselves.

This splits out where they were injured through being assaulted, where they were injured but not from an assault, and where they were assaulted but not injured.

Instances where the officer was not assaulted have been excluded.

The page also shows the level of violence experienced. This ranges from no violence, actual violence, threatened violence, to violence as reported by a third party (this was only consistently recorded from July 24).

Assaults are also split out by the various impact factors recorded on the forms.

Figure 18: Officer Injured or Assaulted

Officer Injured	Forms	%
I was not injured but was assaulted	288	66.51%
I was injured but not as a result of an assault	87	20.09%
I was injured as a result of an assault	58	13.39%
Total	433	100.00%

Figure 19: Level of Violence

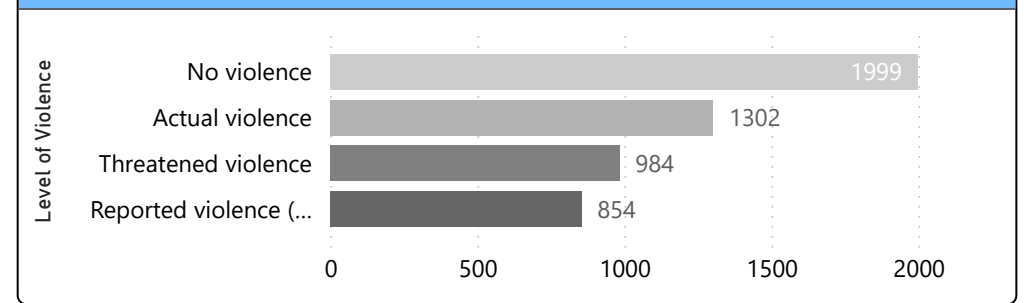
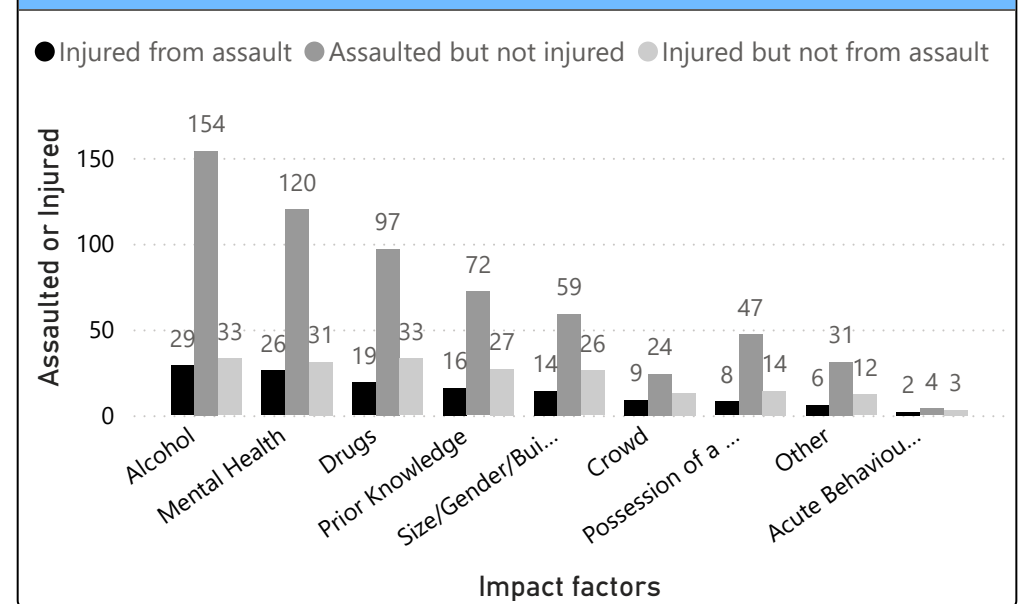


Figure 20: Injuries and assaults by LCU

LCU	Injured from assault	Assaulted but not injured	Injured but not from assault
Berkshire East	11	50	19
Berkshire West	14	66	27
Buckinghamshire	12	55	18
Milton Keynes	10	55	8
Oxfordshire	11	61	15
Total	58	287	87

Figure 21: Assaults and injuries by Impact Factor



Disproportionality by LCU

Figure 22: Asian

Incident LCU	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Oxfordshire	126	46379	2.72	1.35
Buckinghamshire	163	68294	2.39	1.12
Berkshire East	226	103048	2.19	0.82
Berkshire West	134	59729	2.24	0.81
Milton Keynes	68	35636	1.91	0.50
Total	717	313086	2.29	0.92

Figure 23: Black

Incident LCU	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Oxfordshire	162	14850	10.91	5.43
Buckinghamshire	141	14233	9.91	4.64
Berkshire West	205	18901	10.85	3.91
Berkshire East	158	17353	9.11	3.42
Milton Keynes	128	27882	4.59	1.19
Total	794	93219	8.52	3.43

Figure 24: White

Incident LCU	Forms	Population	per 1000
Milton Keynes	792	206081	3.84
Berkshire West	1129	407122	2.77
Berkshire East	765	286945	2.67
Buckinghamshire	944	442234	2.13
Oxfordshire	1265	630090	2.01
Total	4895	1972472	2.48

Figure 25: Mixed

Incident LCU	Forms	Population	per 1000	Dispro
Oxfordshire	84	22634	3.71	1.85
Buckinghamshire	69	19556	3.53	1.65
Berkshire West	82	18429	4.45	1.60
Berkshire East	64	15384	4.16	1.56
Milton Keynes	49	11723	4.18	1.09
Total	348	87726	3.97	1.60

Figure 26: Other

Incident LCU	Forms	Population	Per 1000	Dispro
Oxfordshire	33	11327	2.91	1.45
Berkshire West	28	9139	3.06	1.10
Milton Keynes	18	5718	3.15	0.82
Buckinghamshire	15	8718	1.72	0.81
Berkshire East	22	13866	1.59	0.60
Total	116	48768	2.38	0.96

Figure 27: Tactics used (Distinct)

Tactics	Forms	% Forms
Unarmed skills	3373	48.02%
Compliant Handcuffing	3135	44.63%
Non compliant Handcuffing	1623	23.11%
Ground restraint	589	8.39%
Other / improvised	370	5.27%
Limb/Body restraints	343	4.88%
Taser	339	4.83%
Irritant spray - used	128	1.82%
Spit guard	94	1.34%
Irritant spray - drawn	90	1.28%
Firearms	31	0.44%
Baton used	26	0.37%
Baton drawn	18	0.26%
Dog deployed	10	0.14%
Dog biting	6	0.09%
Shield	4	0.06%
AEP drawn	2	0.03%
Total	7024	100.00%

Figure 28: Compliant handcuffing only vs not compliant handcuffing by age (%)

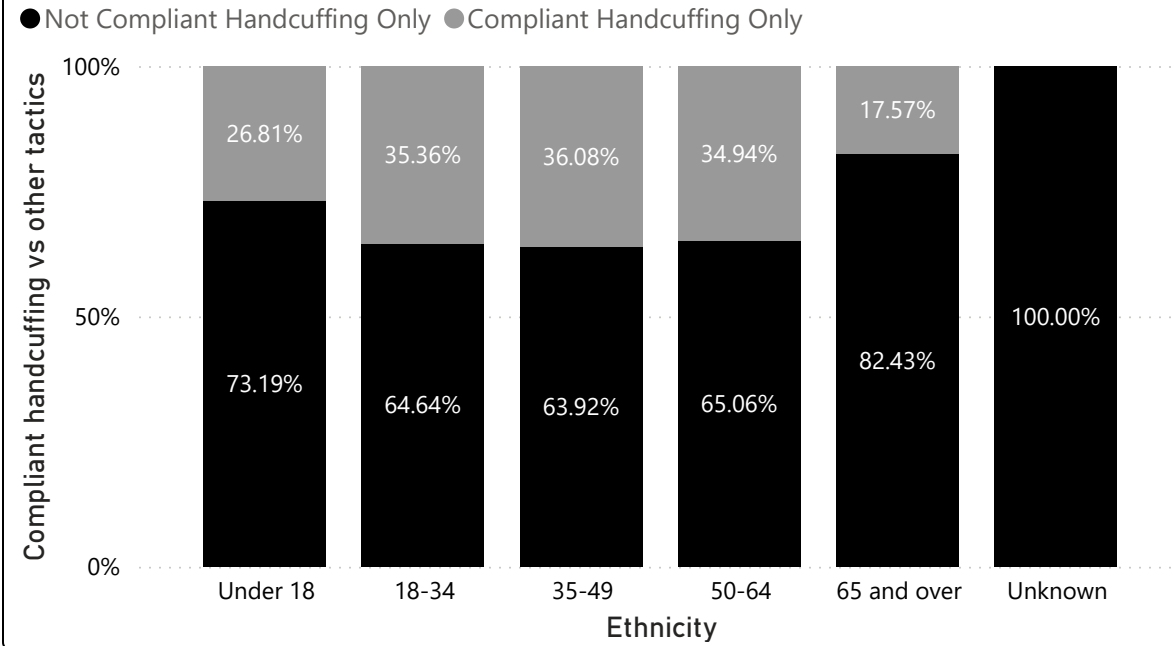
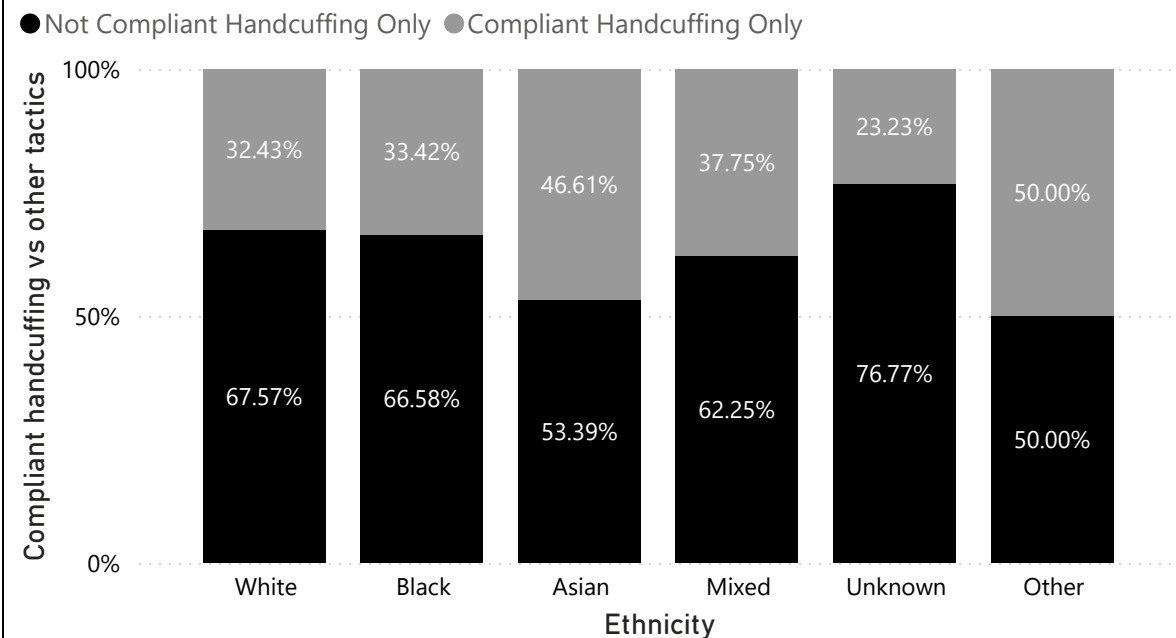


Figure 29: Compliant handcuffing only vs not compliant handcuffing by ethnicity (%)



Tactics

This page breaks down tactics used.

It shows splits of compliant handcuffing only against cases where something other than compliant handcuffing was also used and breaks this down as proportions against age and ethnic groups. Below you can see the proportion of forms using certain numbers of tactics. All forms must have at least one tactic. Where a form does not, it is removed from the data.

Please note, the 'Tactics used (Distinct)' table used a distinct count of tactics. In other words if, for example, someone has recorded unarmed skills 6 times on one form, this will only be counted once.

Figure 30: Tactics by Tactic Number

Tactic No.	% Forms
First Tactic Used	100.00%
Second Tactic Used	34.41%
Third Tactic Used	12.19%
Fourth Tactic Used	4.53%
Fifth Tactic Used	1.58%
Sixth Tactic Used	0.67%
Seventh Tactic Used	0.27%
Eighth Tactic Used	0.16%
Total	100.00%

Figure 35: Compliant Handcuffing Only by Ethnicity (Combined)

Ethnicity	Forms (%)	Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)	More than Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)
Asian	10.44%	14.07%	8.52%
Black	11.54%	11.14%	11.75%
Mixed	5.13%	5.59%	4.88%
Other	1.70%	2.46%	1.30%
White	71.19%	66.74%	73.55%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Figure 36: Not Compliant Handcuffing Only vs Compliant Handcuffing Only by Incident LCU

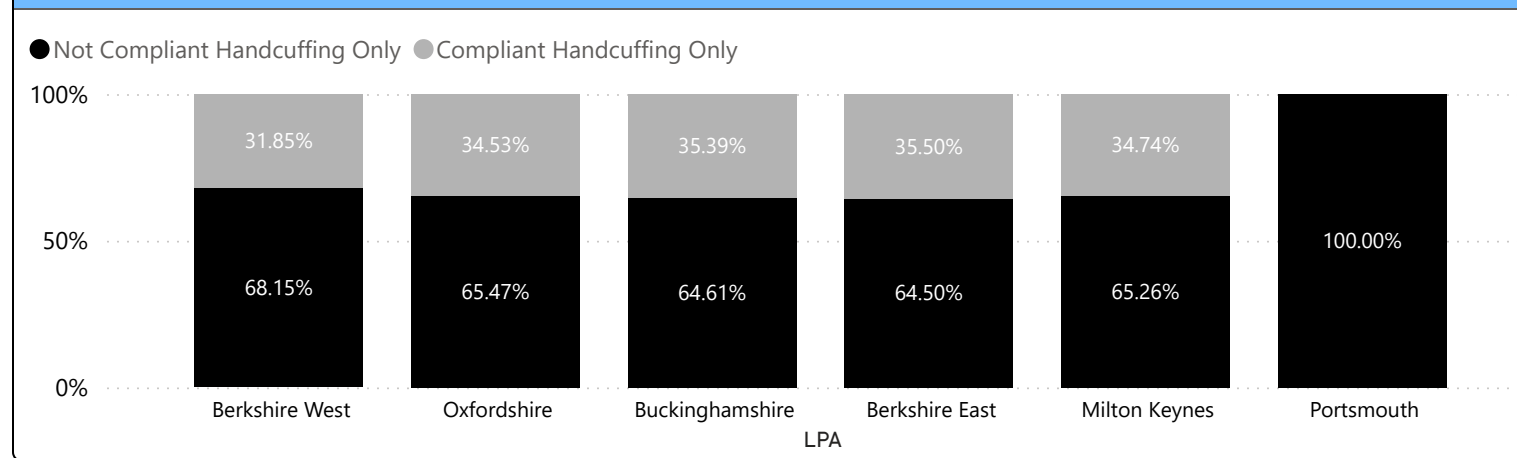
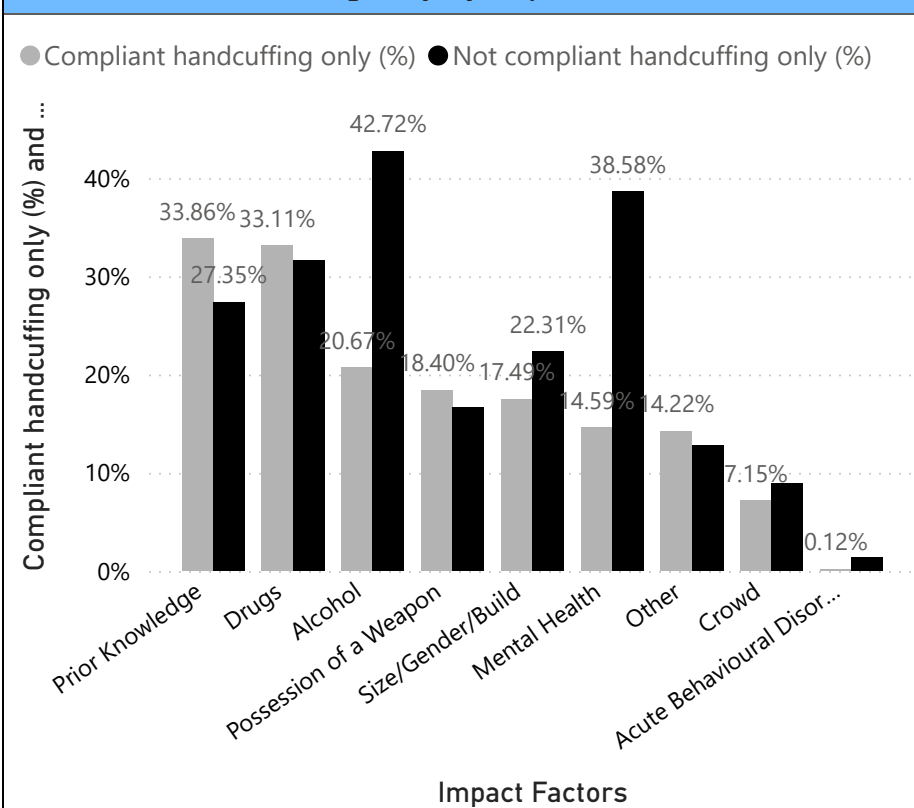


Figure 37: Compliant Handcuffing Only vs Not Compliant Handcuffing Only by Impact Factor (%)



31
Injured - compliant handcuffing only

522
Injured - not compliant handcuffing only

Figure 38: Compliant handcuffing only and not compliant handcuffing only by reason

Reason	Compliant Handcuffing	%	Not Compliant Handcuffing Only	(%)
Prevent Escape	1399	61.41%	2335	54.51%
Effect Arrest	1287	56.50%	2215	51.70%
Prevent Harm	772	33.89%	2247	52.45%
Effect stop and search	653	28.67%	466	10.88%
Prevent Offence	586	25.72%	1631	38.07%
Secure Evidence	529	23.22%	542	12.65%
Remove Handcuffs	300	13.17%	393	9.17%
Effect other search	87	3.82%	160	3.73%
Effect search in Custody	41	1.80%	415	9.69%
Other	4	0.18%	134	3.13%
Total	2278	100.00%	4284	100.00%

Compliant Handcuffing Only vs Not Compliant Handcuffing only

34.44%

Compliant Handcuffing Only (%)

This page breaks out use of force into a comparison of instances where only compliant handcuffing is recorded against where the officer has said other tactics separate from compliant handcuffing were used.

This is visualised by ethnic group against total number of forms, by Incident LCU, by impact factors and reasons, and then shows the number of times someone has been recorded as injured in some way when the tactics were only compliant handcuffing and not just compliant handcuffing.

Please note, it is possible that the injuries were not caused by the use of force itself. Additionally, it is not possible to tell from the data which type of force caused an injury.

Injuries

344

Individual Subjects Injured

This page breaks down the number of times the subject has been recorded as injured on the use of force form.

Unless otherwise stated, this is not injuries caused to distinct individuals but where an injury has been recorded on the form.

The above visual 'Individual Subjects Injured' and figure 41 both show the number of times an individual subject was injured.

All other visuals base the counts on injuries recorded on each form. This means there may be some double counting.

Injury per 1000 is based on a comparison to the population that force has been used on, not comparison to census population.

Figure 39: Injuries by Gender - Prevalence on form against prevalence of injury by gender

Gender	Forms	Injury
Female	18.42%	11.03%
Indeterminate	0.04%	
Other	0.03%	
Total	100.00%	100.00%

Figure 41: Individuals - Distinct by Subject Injury Level

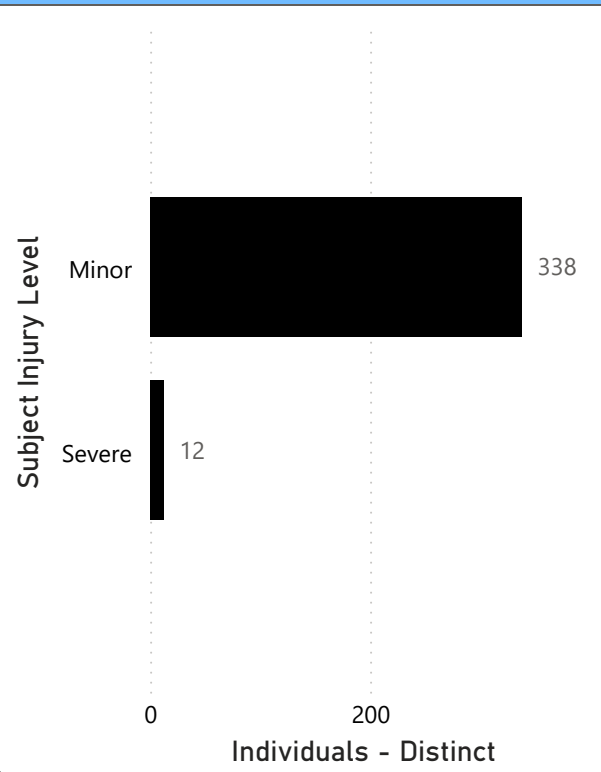
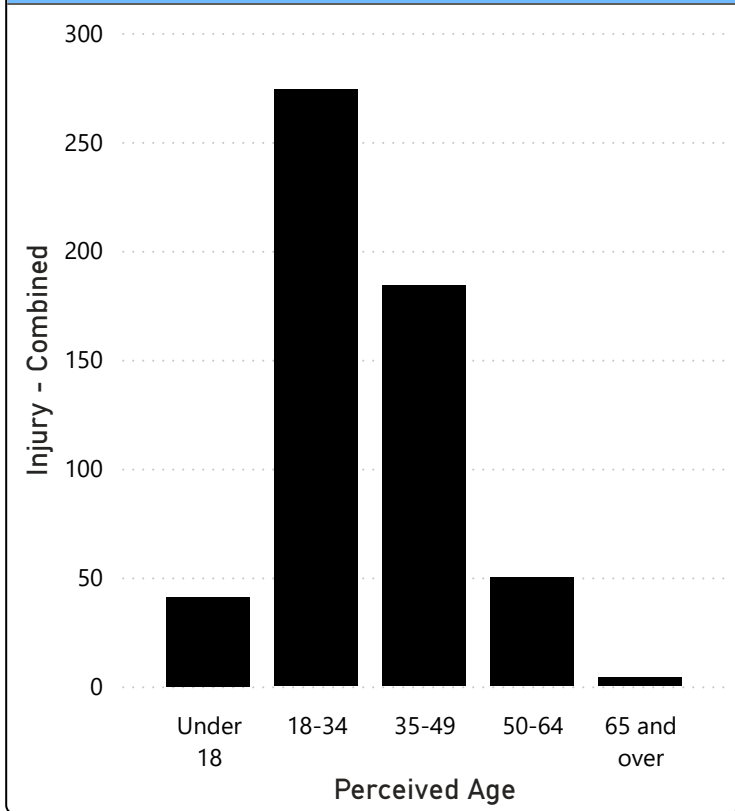


Figure 40: Injury by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Forms	Injury Combined	Injury - per 1000
Asian	10.44%	5.49%	41.49
Black	11.54%	8.79%	60.08
Mixed	5.13%	3.66%	56.34
Other	1.70%	1.83%	84.75
White	71.19%	80.22%	88.84
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78.84

Figure 42: Injuries by Age Group



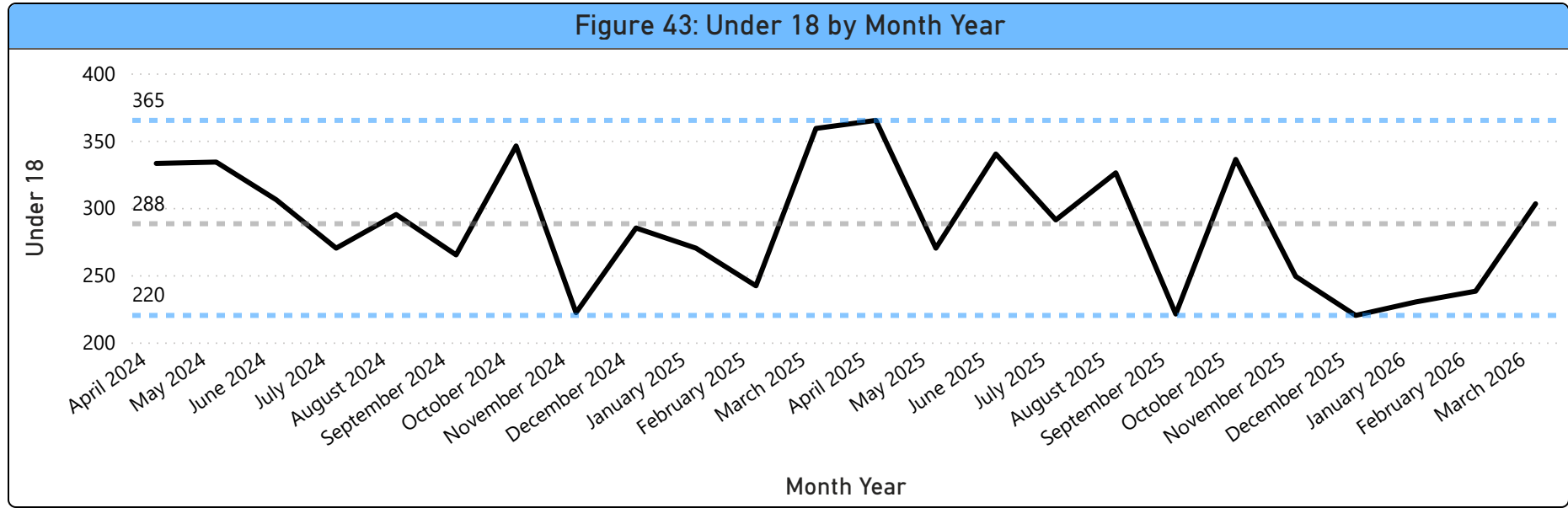


Figure 44: Under 18 by LCU

Incident LCU	Under 18	%
Berkshire West	192	25.20%
Oxfordshire	187	24.54%
Berkshire East	134	17.59%
Buckinghamshire	125	16.40%
Milton Keynes	124	16.27%
Total	762	100.00%

10.98%
Proportion U18s

41
Injury - U18

Figure 45: Under 18 by Ethnicity

Ethnicity Combined	Under 18	%
Asian	58	7.52%
Black	85	11.02%
Mixed	77	9.99%
Other	6	0.78%
Unknown	11	1.43%
White	534	69.26%
Total	771	100.00%

U18s

218

Compliant Handcuffing Only

This page analyses use of force forms where the subject was recorded as under 18.

Figure 43 shows force used over a 24 month time period, with an average of 288 use of force forms per month.

Figure 44 gives a breakdown of the number of forms completed for under 18s by each LCU with percentage of the total.

Figure 45 gives the figures for under 18s by ethnicity, showing how many forms were filled out for each ethnic group where the subject's age was under 18 in the data.

Finally, the three card show the number of injuries caused when the person was recorded as under 18.

Notes

Self-Defined Ethnicity

Asian

A1. Indian; A2. Pakistani; A3. Bangladeshi; A4. Chinese; A9. Any other Asian background

Black

B1. Caribbean; B2. African; B9. Any other Black background

Mixed / Multiple

M1. White and Black Caribbean; M2. White and Black African; M3. White and Asian; M9. Any other mixed

Not stated

NS. Not stated

Other

O2. Arab; O9. Any other

White

W1. British; W2. Irish; W3. Gypsy or Irish Traveller; W9. Any other white background

Officer Perceived

Unknown; White - North European; White - South European; Black; Asian; Chinese, Japanese, SE Asian; Middle Eastern

Notes

All population statistics are taken from the 2021 Census published 29th November 2022.

Why use per 1000 population?

Showing the incidence rate per 1000 of population makes comparisons between different areas easier, especially when the population size in those areas differs.

Populations by LPA						
LCU	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other	White	Total
Berkshire East	103048	17353	15384	13866	286945	436596
Berkshire West	59729	18901	18429	9139	407122	513320
Buckinghamshire	68294	14233	19556	8718	442234	553035
Milton Keynes	35636	27882	11723	5718	206081	287040
Oxfordshire	46379	14850	22634	11327	630090	725280
Total	313086	93219	87726	48768	1972472	2515271