

LEOKA 2020

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED OR ASSAULTED



A PUBLICATION OF THE TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER



BILL LEE
Governor

TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

901 R.S. Gass Boulevard
Nashville, Tennessee 37216-2639
(615) 744-4000
TDD (615) 744-4001



DAVID B. RAUSCH
Director

September 28, 2021

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to present the 2020 Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted (LEOKA) annual report. This report is published by the TBI presenting information on reported incidents of assaults or deaths of law enforcement officers in the line of duty that occurred in Tennessee. The information contained in the report is based on crime statistics information submitted by law enforcement agencies, colleges and universities in Tennessee to TBI's Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS) program. TIBRS is the state version of the FBI's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) program. The information collected by TBI conforms to the national standard as presented in the FBI's annual LEOKA report. Please see <https://crimeinsight.tbi.tn.gov/> for additional information.

I am very proud of the efforts of all participating law enforcement agencies in the state to provide the data necessary to produce this report. Our combined efforts have resulted in a successful program and this annual report providing information on incidents involving assaults and deaths of our law enforcement officers.

Sincerely,

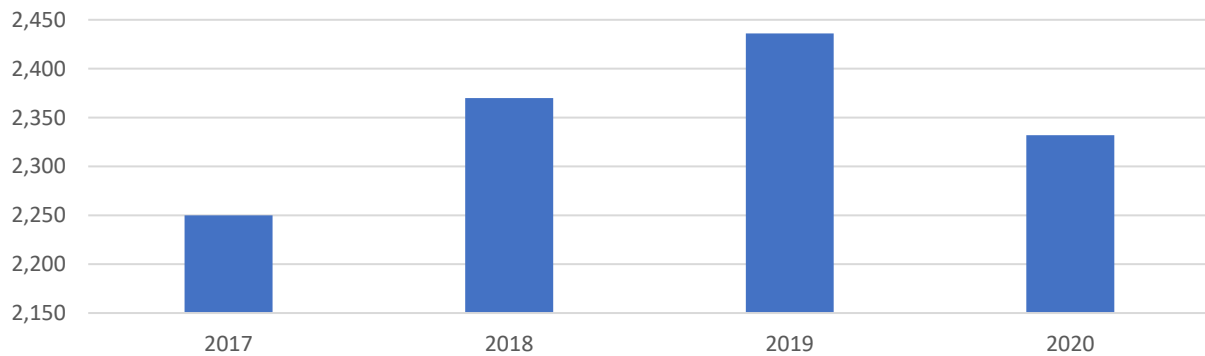
Director
David B. Rausch



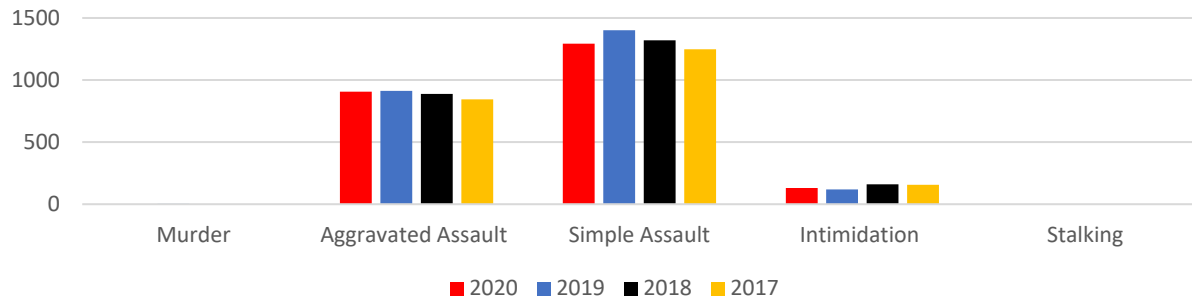
LEOKA Overview

The total number of LEOKA incidents decreased by 4.3% since 2019, but have overall increased by 3.5% since 2017. The offense of Simple Assault continues to be the highest reported offense reaching a total of 1,293 in 2020, decreasing by 7.7% since 2019. Zero murders were reported and one Stalking incident was reported in 2020.

LEOKA by Year



LEOKA by Offense



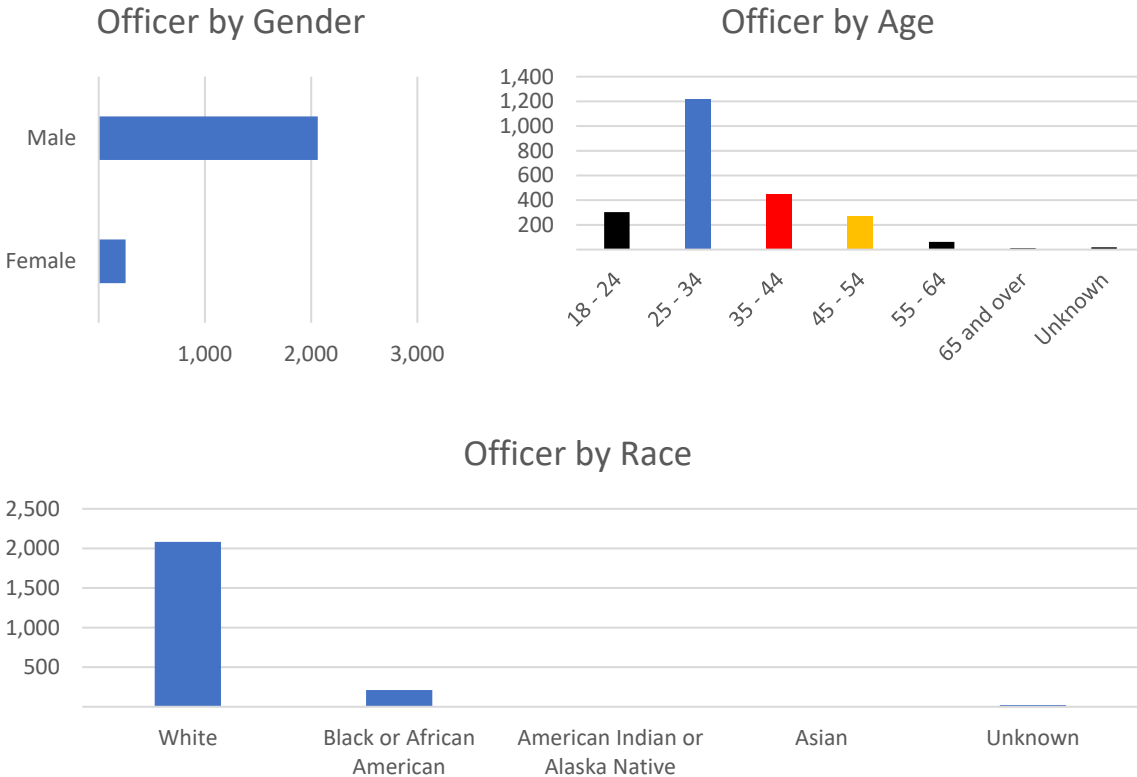
2020 LEOKA by Clearance Type

Offense Type	Cleared by Arrest	Exceptional Clearance	Not Cleared
Aggravated Assault	664	28	215
Simple Assault	1,121	8	164
Intimidation	105	2	24
Stalking	0	1	0

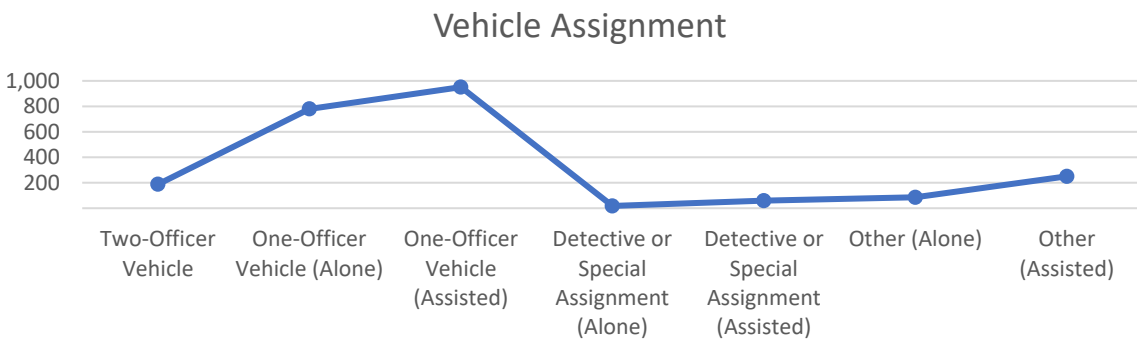
All incidents can be Cleared by Arrest or by Exceptional Clearance which include: Death of Offender, Prosecution Declined, In Custody of Other Jurisdiction, Victim Refused to Cooperate and Juvenile/ No Custody. Out of the 2,332 LEOKA incidents in 2020, 81.0% were Cleared by Arrest, 1.8% were cleared by Exceptional Clearance and 17.3% were Not Cleared.

Victim Analysis

In 2020, reports show that Male officers made up 88.4% of reported victims while Female officers accounted for 10.8% of the victims. There were victims with an Unknown gender that made up the other 0.8% of the victims. Officers between the age of 25-34 made up the highest amount with 52.1% of the reported victims while the second highest age group was 35-44 accounting for 19.3% of reported victims. White officers made up 89.5% of reported victims while Black or African American officers were the second most reported with 9.1% of reported victims.



Police officers who had a Vehicle Assignment of One-Officer Vehicle (Assisted) accounted for 40.8% of reported incidents, whereas One-Officer Vehicle (Alone) Vehicle Assignment totaled 33.4% of reported victims.



LEOKA Injuries and Weapons Used

Per TIBRS, up to five injury types can be reported per victim. Injury Type is a required data element when reporting Aggravated Assault and Simple Assault. There was a total of 2,206 reported Injury Types in 2020. The most reported Injury Type was None with 73.0% while 24.4% of the incidents reported were with an Apparent Minor Injury.

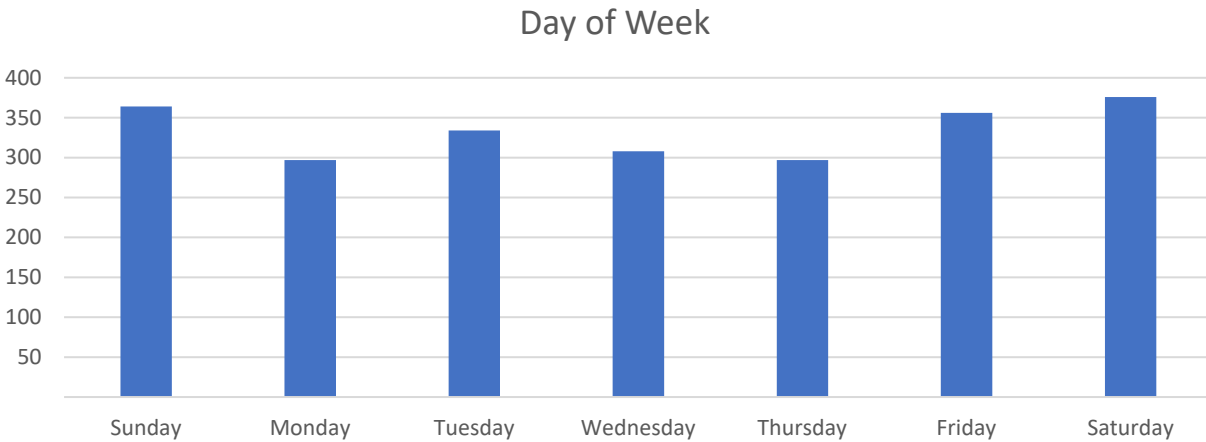
Injury Type	
None	1,611
Apparent Minor Injury	538
Apparent Broken Bones	15
Other Major Injury	14
Severe Laceration	13
Possible Internal Injury	9
Unconsciousness	6
Loss of Teeth	0

Per TIBRS, up to three weapons can be reported per incident. Personal Weapons were the most reported Weapon Type accounting for 53.3% of all weapon types reported. Motor Vehicle/ Vessel was the second most reported accounting for 17.5% of weapon types reported.

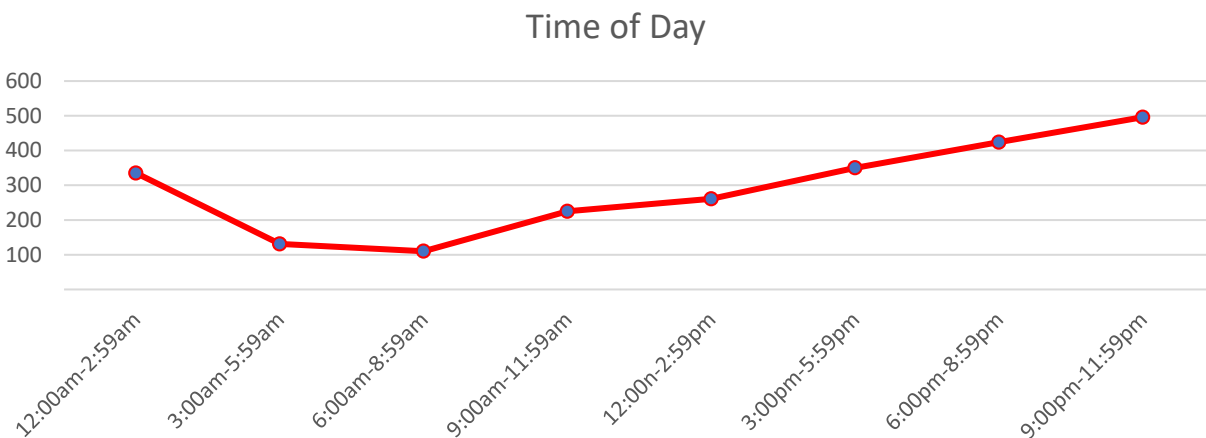
Weapon Type	
Personal Weapons (Hands, Fist, Feet, Arms, Teeth, Etc.)	1,227
Motor Vehicle/ Vessel	402
Other	197
Handgun	126
Knife/ Cutting Instrument (Icepick, Ax, Etc.)	87
Firearm (Type Not Stated)	57
Blunt Object (Club, Hammer, Etc.)	46
None	39
Unknown	31
Rifle	29
Explosives	23
Shotgun	14
Fire/ Incendiary Device	8
Other Firearm	5
Asphyxiation (by Drowning, Strangulation, Suffocation, Gas)	4
Drugs/ Narcotics/ Sleeping Pills	3
Handgun-Automatic	2
Rifle-Automatic	1

Timing of LEOKA Incidents

When looking at the LEOKA incidents and when they occurred during the week, Saturday was the most reported day with 16.1% of the incidents while Sunday was the second most reported totaling 15.6% in 2020. The lowest reported days of the week for LEOKA incidents were Monday and Thursday, both accounting for 12.7% of reported incidents.



The most frequently reported time of day for LEOKA incidents was the time period between 9:00pm- 11:59pm accounting for 21.3% while the second most frequently reported time was 6:00pm- 8:59pm reporting 18.2% of the LEOKA incidents in 2020. The lowest reported time of day for LEOKA incidents was the time period of 6:00am- 8:59am (4.7%).



LEOKA Locations

Number of incidents and specific location type	
Highway/Road/Alley	791
Residence/Home	689
Parking Lot/Garage	302
Jail/Prison	200
Hospital	73
Government/Public Building	61
Hotel/Motel/Etc.	47
Convenience Store	44
Department/Discount Store	30
School-Elementary/Secondary	27
Restaurant	26
Field/Woods	26
Other/Unknown	22
Bar/Night Club	15
Service/Gas Station	14
School-College/University	12
Church/Synagogue/Temple	11
Grocery/Supermarket	11
Park/Playground	8
Bank/Savings and Loan	6
Commercial/Office Building	5
Shopping Mall	4
Shelter-Mission/Homeless	4
Air/Bus/Train Terminal	4
Arena/Stadium/Fairgrounds/Coliseum	4
Construction Site	3
Pharmacy	3
Liquor Store	3
Doctor's Office	3
Specialty Store (TV, Fur, etc.)	2
Lake/Waterway	2
Abandoned/Condemned Structure	1
Rest Area	1
Camp/Campground	1
Daycare Facility	1
Auto Salvage/Junkyard	1
Auto Dealership New/Used	1

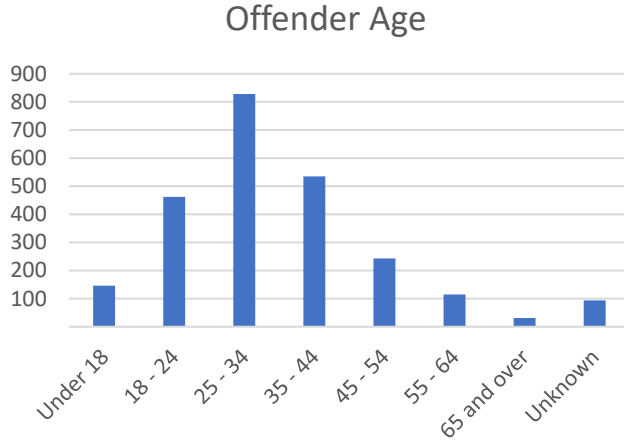
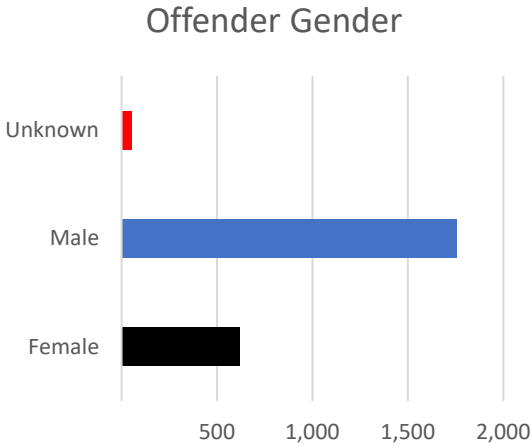
Per TIBRS, incidents may have a secondary location to provide a more descriptive location. There was a total of 2,458 location codes reported in 2020. The most frequently reported location was Highway/Road/Alley at 32.2% with the second most reported location was Residence/Home at 28.0%.

Aggravated Assault was the offense most associated with LEOKA incidents occurring at the location of Highway/Road/Alley making up over 56.1% of reported incidents at that location.

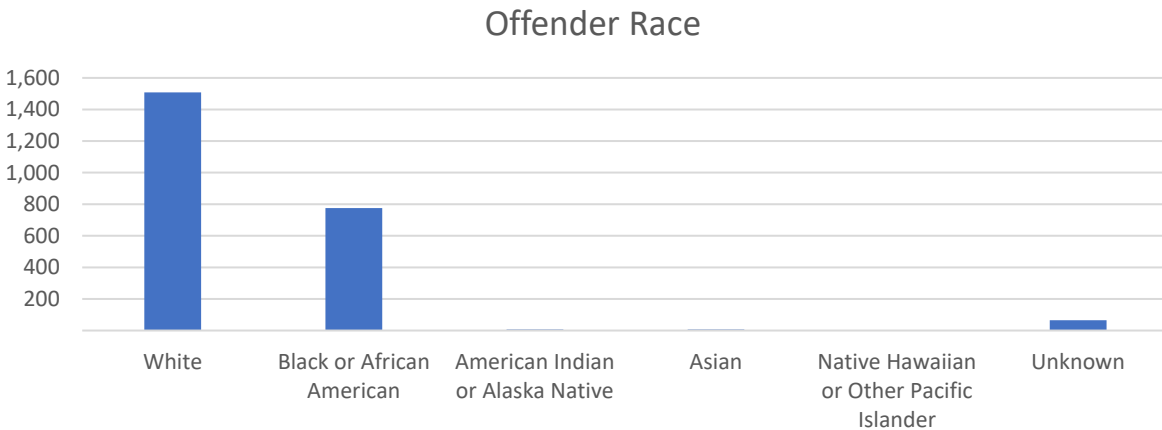
Simple Assault was the offense type that was most reported when the location was Residence/Home accounting for 65.7% of LEOKA incidents at that location.

Offender Analysis

Most offenders involved in LEOKA incidents were Male accounting for 72.3% while Female offenders made up 25.5% and an Unknown offender gender made up the remaining 2.2% of offenders reported. The most frequently reported age group for offenders was 25-34 with 33.7% with the second most reported age was 35-44 with 21.8%.



The highest reported Race for an offender was White with 63.9% and Black or African American was the second most frequently reported with 32.9%. Offenders with an Unknown Race made up 2.8% while American Indian (0.3%) and Asian (0.3%) accounted for the remaining offenders.



LEOKA Victims and Activity Type

Every time an officer is assaulted in the line of duty, the type of activity in which the officer was engaged at the time of the assault is reported. A total of 27.1% of LEOKA victims in 2020 reported an activity type of Responding to Disturbance Call. The second most frequently reported activity type was Attempting Other Arrests with 17.6%. The least reported activity type reported was Robberies in Progress or Pursuing Robbery Suspects at 1.8%.

Activity Type	
Responding to Disturbance Call	631
Attempting Other Arrests	410
Traffic Pursuits and Stops	335
All Other	278
Handling, Transporting, Custody of Prisoners	260
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	229
Handling Persons with Mental Illness	80
Ambush -No Warning	43
Burglaries in Progress or Pursuing Burglary Suspects	31
Civil Disorder (Riot, Mass Disobedience, etc.)	29
Robberies in Progress or Pursuing Robbery Suspects	6

The table below shows the specific offense that was identified with the Activity Types. Simple Assault was the most reported offense when the activity type was Responding to Disturbance Call accounting for 63.7% of all offenses with that activity type. Aggravated Assault was reported the most when the activity type was Traffic Pursuits and Stops.

Activity Type	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault	Intimidation	Stalking
Responding to Disturbance Call	199	402	30	0
Burglaries in Progress or Pursuing Burglary Suspects	15	16	0	0
Robberies in Progress or Pursuing Robbery Suspects	3	3	0	0
Attempting Other Arrests	119	270	21	0
Civil Disorder (Riot, Mass Disobedience, etc.)	5	21	3	0
Handling, Transporting, Custody of Prisoners	40	209	11	0
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	112	100	16	1
Ambush – No Warning	34	8	1	0
Handling Persons with Mental Illness	26	50	4	0
Traffic Pursuits and Stops	243	76	16	0
All Other	111	138	29	0



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, September 2021. Publication Authorization Number 348095, electronic copies only. This publication was promulgated at a cost of \$0.00 per copy.