

2022

LEOKA IN TENNESSEE

- *MULTI-YEAR BREAKDOWN*
- *SITUATION ANALYSIS*
- *LEOKA BY LOCATION*



A PUBLICATION OF THE TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER | CJIS SUPPORT 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

August 2, 2023

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to present the 2022 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.

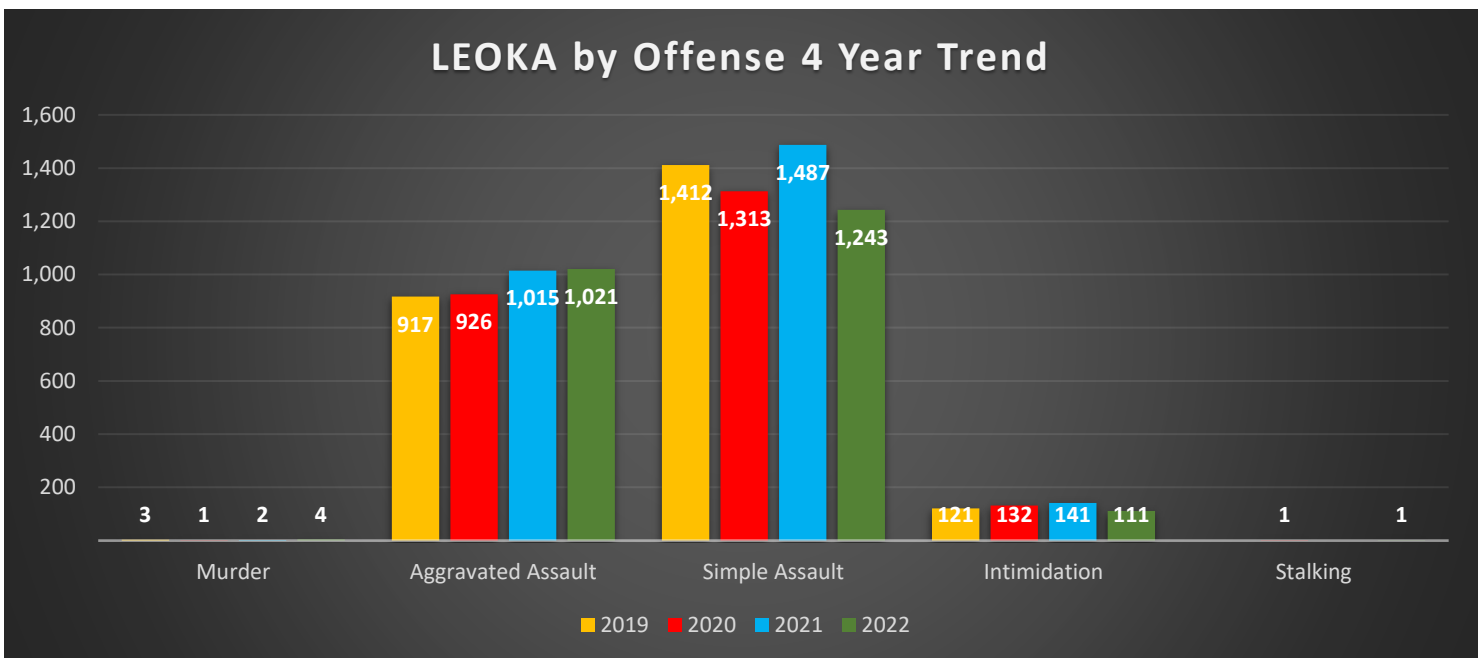
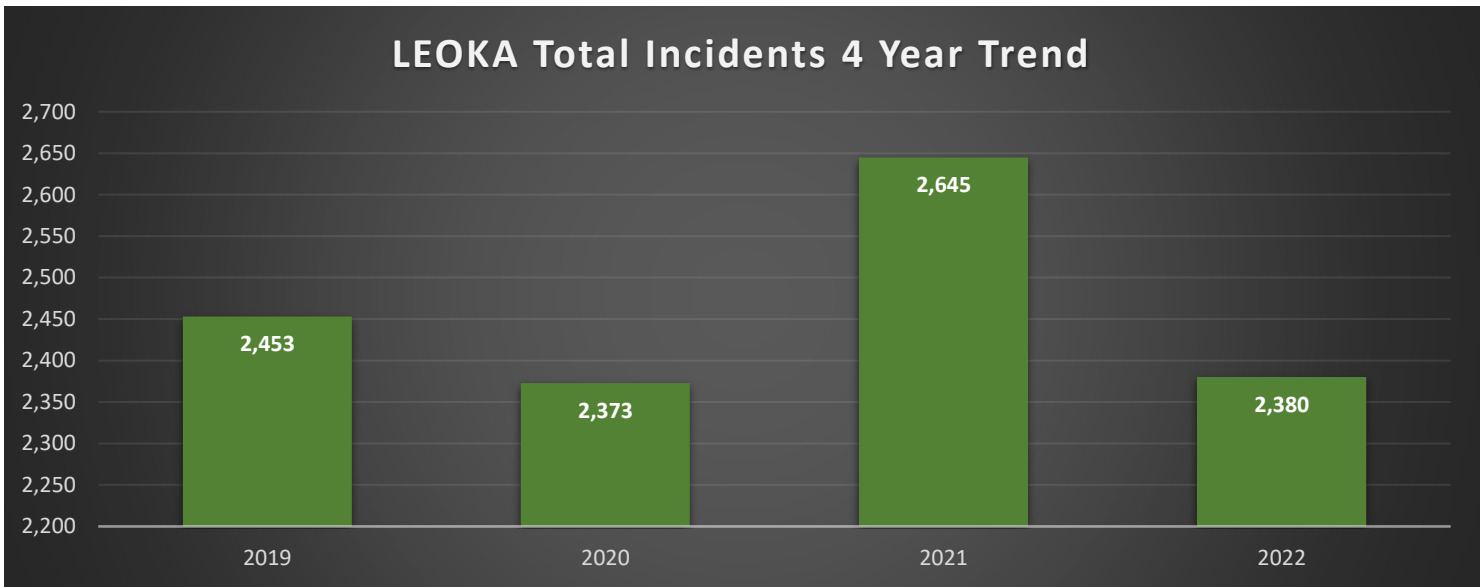
Sincerely,

Director
David B. Rausch



LEOKA 2022

This publication will examine incidents in which law enforcement officers were killed or assaulted in the line of duty in 2022. This information was collected through the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS). Incident-based reporting views a crime and all of its components as an “incident.” In order to obtain important information, facts recorded and preserved about the incident are organized into specific categories or segments. The vehicle used for recording these facts is a “data element.” Data elements provide information about the crime and the involvement of relevant victims, offenders, property, arrestees, etc. All data used in this publication was pulled on 7/10/23. Although the data may change, this report will not be updated.

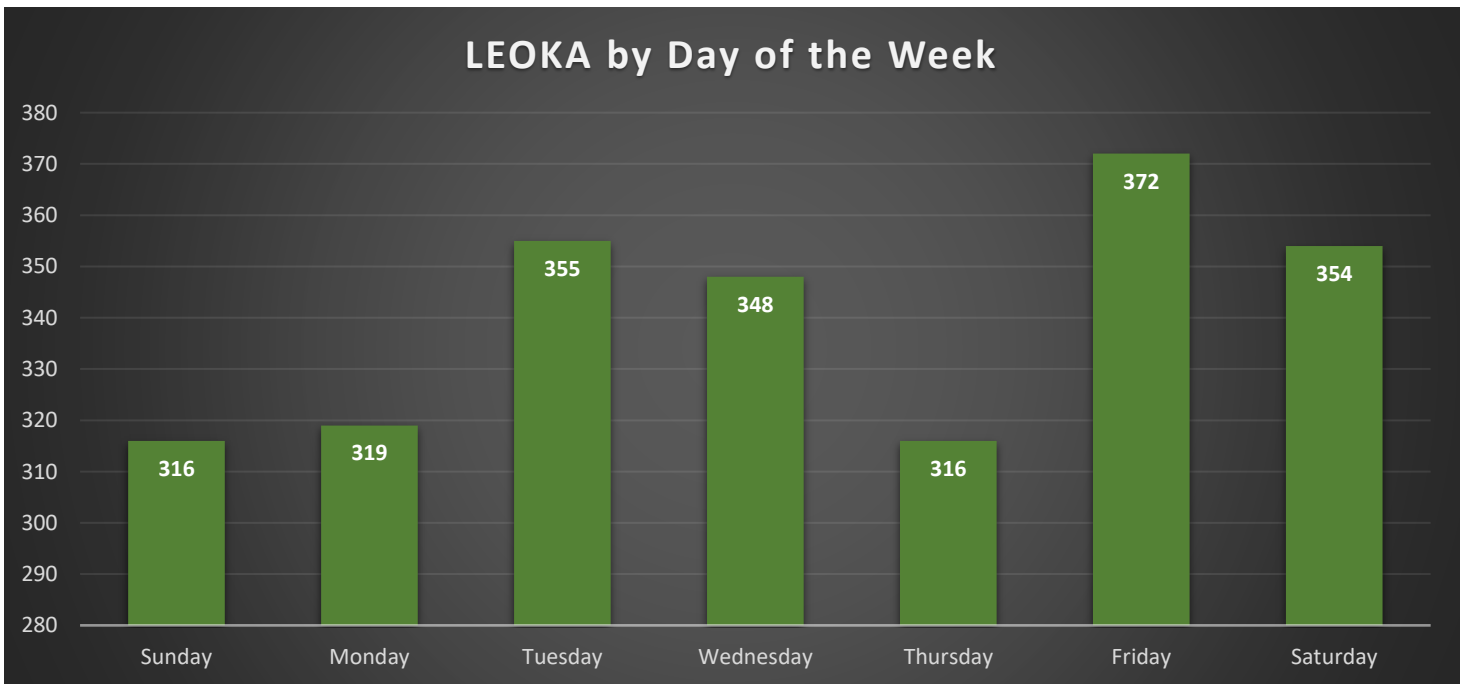


After an 11.46% rise of reported LEOKA incidents from 2020 to 2021, 2022 showed a drop back to nearly identical levels of 2020, or a drop of 10.02%. The majority of the reported decrease occurs in the form of a 16.41% drop in reports of Simple Assault in LEOKA incidents. Meanwhile, the other reported types of LEOKA crimes remained at similar levels of reporting, with Aggravated Assault, Murder, and Stalking showing a small rise in reports.

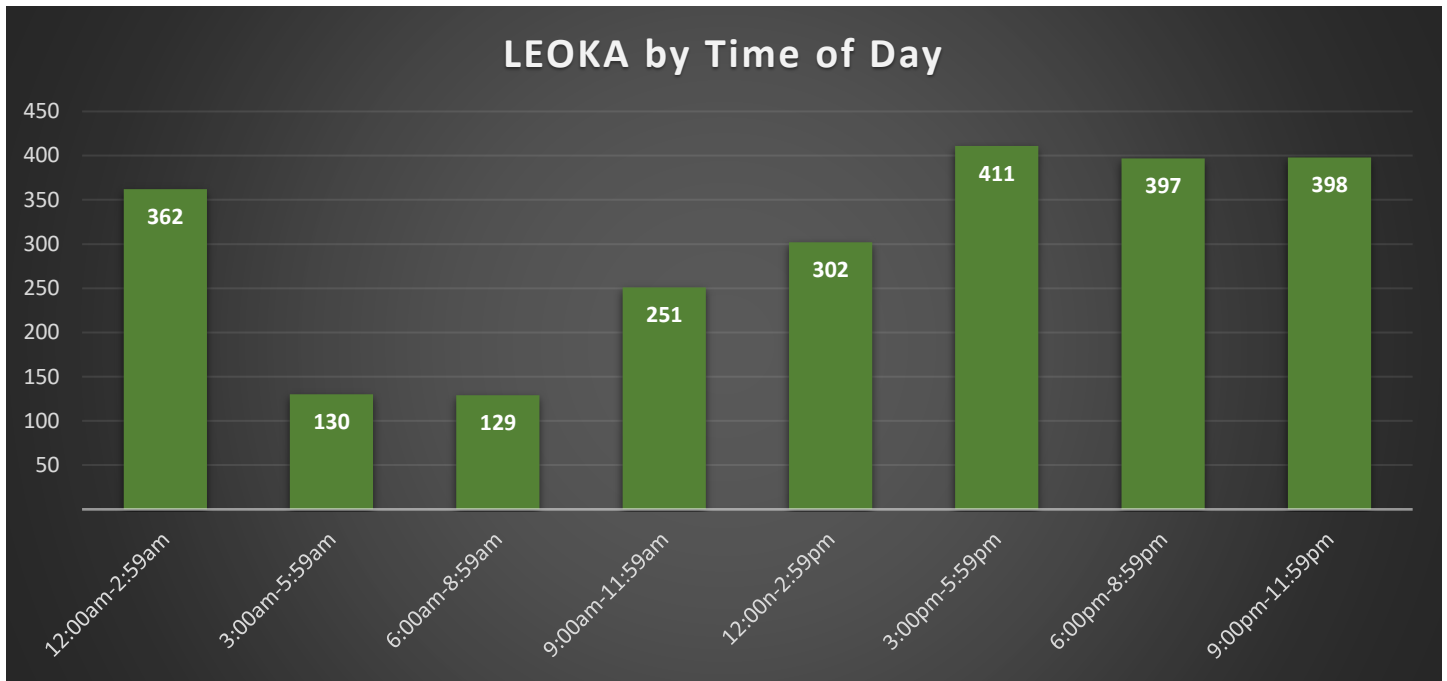
LEOKA BY OCCURRENCE



LEOKA incidents occur with a similar frequency throughout the year, with August comprising the most amount of incidents, 9.79%, and February having the least, 7.18%.



Much like the comparison of LEOKA incidents by month, looking at the days of the week in which incidents occur shows a relatively similar spread throughout the week. The numbers are highest on Friday, at 15.63% of incidents, while the lowest reported days for LEOKA incidents were Sunday and Thursday, each comprising 13.28% of reports.



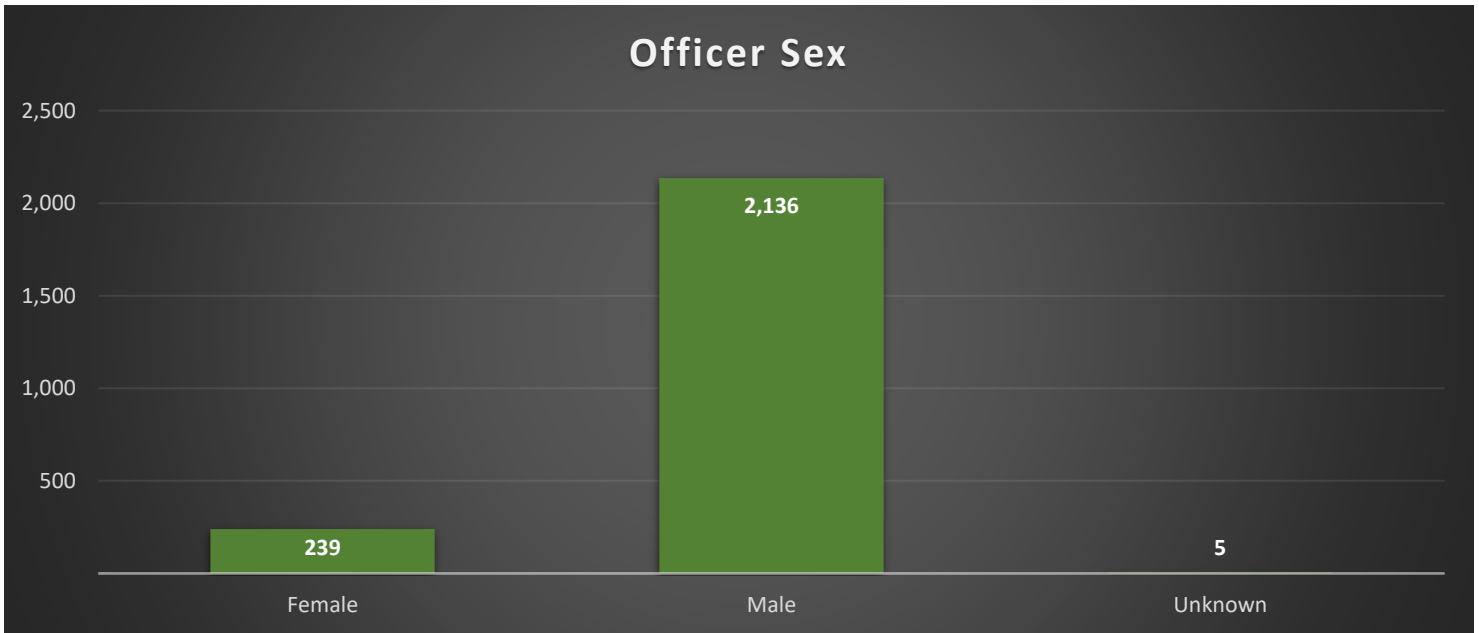
Examining when LEOKA incidents occur by time of day shows a relatively large variance between reported times with the highest amount of incidents being reported as afternoon transitions into early evening (3:00-5:59pm) with 17.27% of reports, with late night and early morning comprising the lowest number of incidents (3:00-5:59am and 6:00-8:59am) at 5.46% and 5.42% of reports respectively.

Number of Incidents and Specific Location Type	
Residence/Home	746
Highway/Road/Alley	695
Parking Lot/Garage	265
Jail/Prison	138
Hospital	86
Hotel/Motel/Etc.	78
School – Elementary/Secondary	73
Government/Public Building	51
Other/Unknown	47
Convenience Store	45
Restaurant	40
Service/Gas Station	29
Department/Discount Store	27
Field/Woods	26
Specialty store (TV, Fur, etc.)	25
Bar/Night Club	16
Park/Playground	15
Grocery/Supermarket	10
Church/Synagogue/Temple	9
School/College(Historical Only)	7
Commercial/Office Building	6
Air/Bus/Train Terminal	6
Auto Dealership New/Used	5
School – College/University	5
Dock/Wharf/Freight/Modal Terminal	5
Liquor Store	4
Camp/Campground	4
Shopping Mall	3
Arena/Stadium/Fairgrounds/Coliseum	3
Bank/Savings and Loan	2
Library	2
Lake/Waterway	2
Cemetery	2
Amusement Park	1
Pharmacy	1
Shelter - Mission/Homeless	1
Construction Site	1
Industrial Site	1

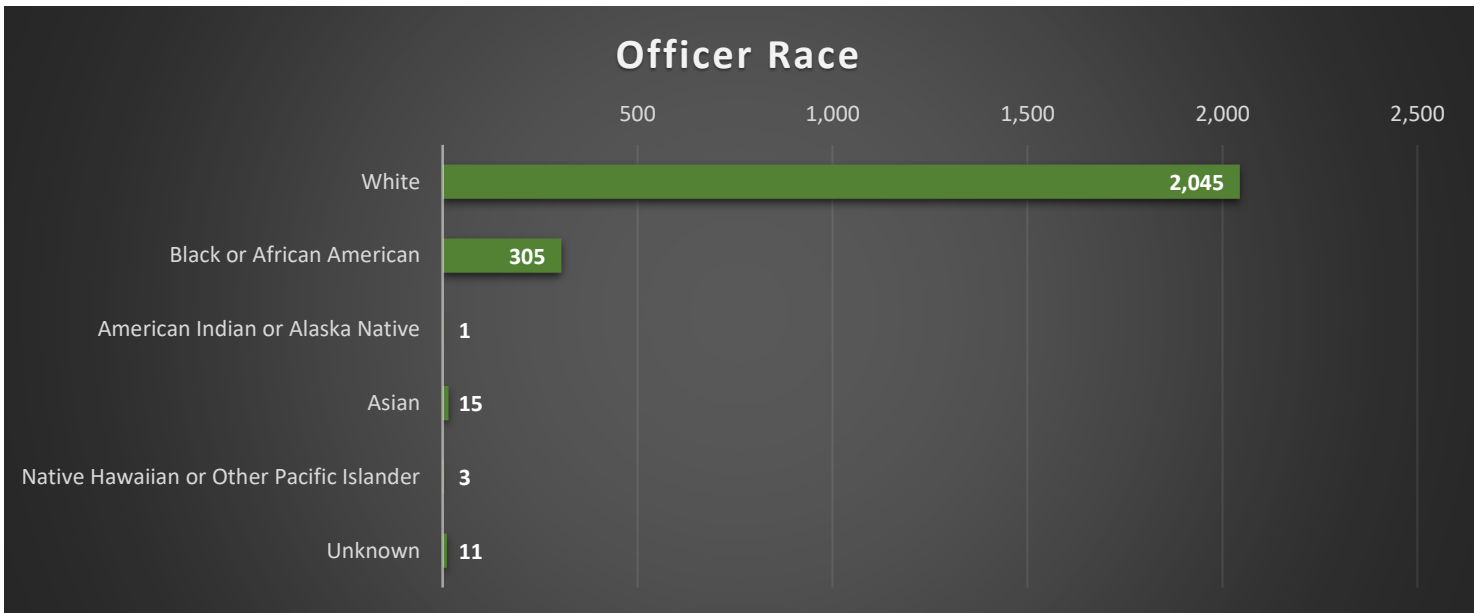
Examining the location types in which LEOKA incidents were reported as having happened showed a few location types as standing out for being common. The most common being Residence/Home at 30.06%. Following this were Highway/Road/Alley and Parking Lot/Garage at 28.00% and 10.68% respectively.

Please note that when an incident is entered, up to two location types may be selected for each given incident leading to a higher number of Location Types reported than incidents.

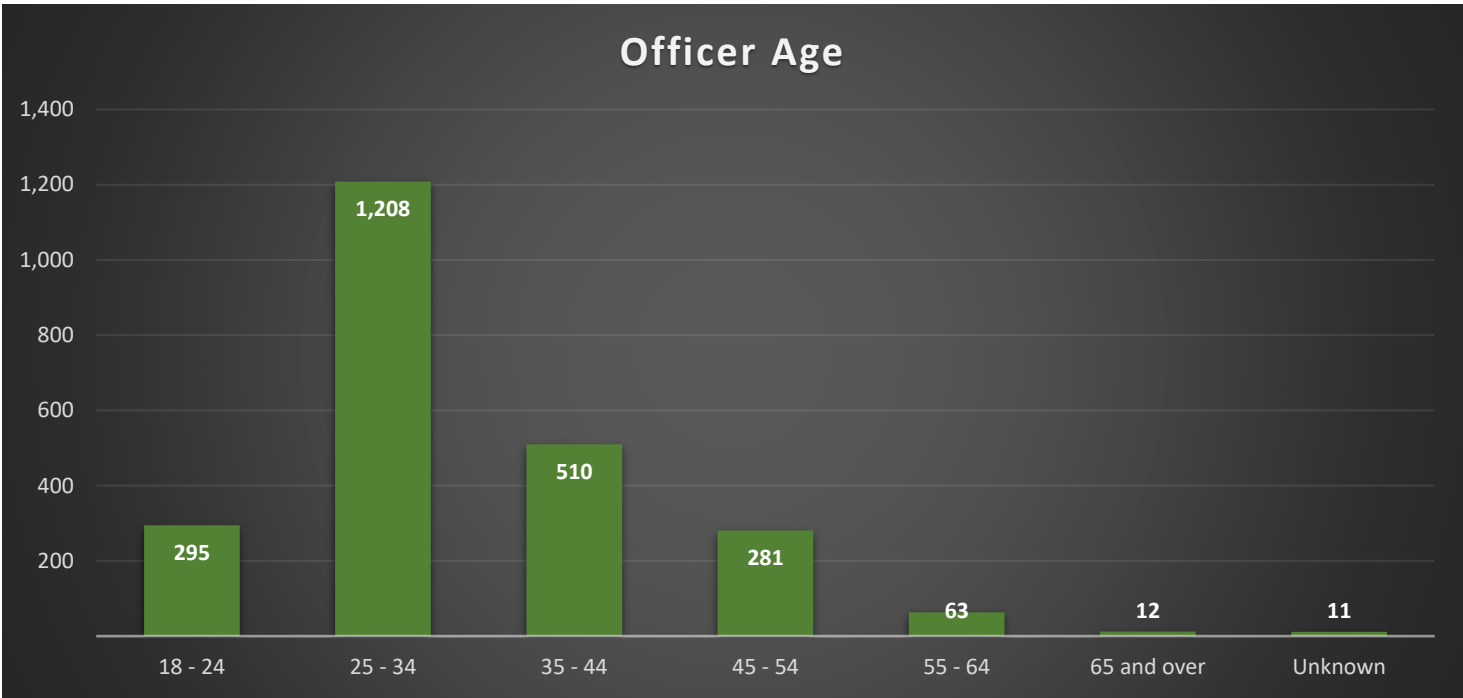
OFFICER DEMOGRAPHICS



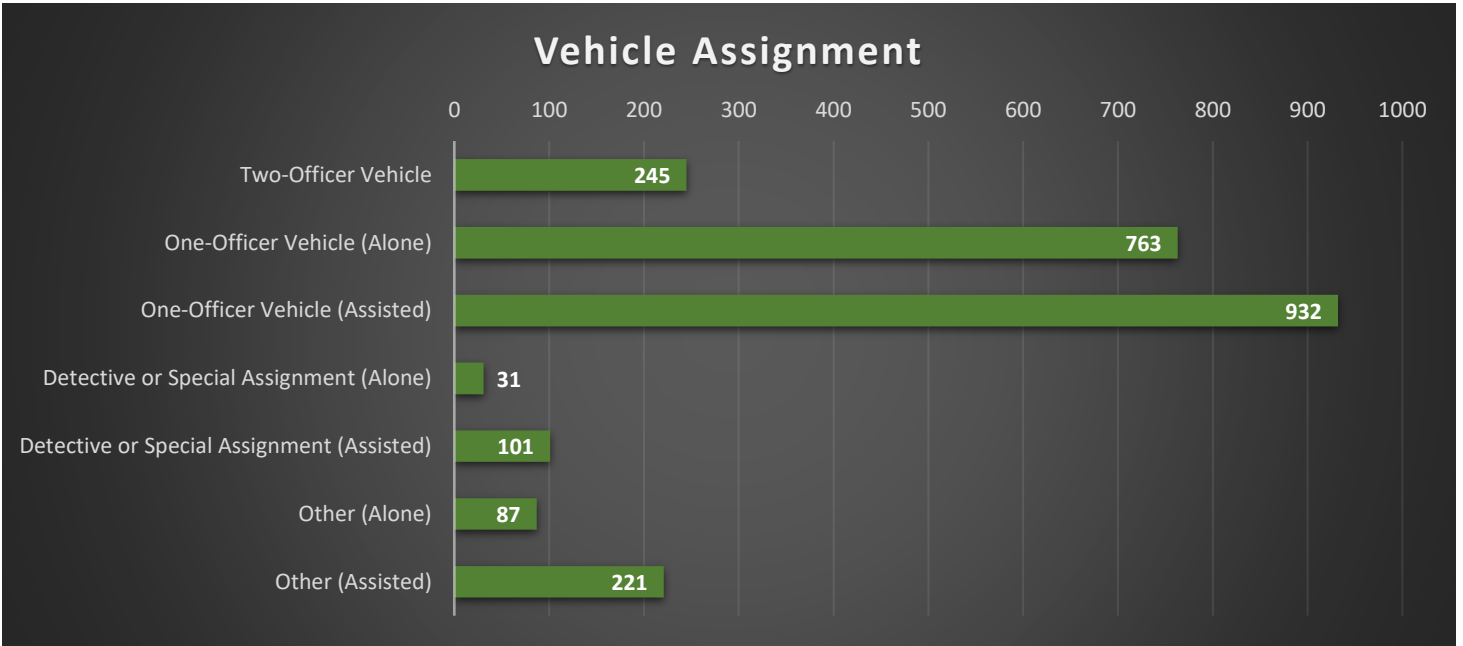
Breaking down the officers affected by LEOKA incidents shows that those officers categorized as Male made up 89.75% of reports. Females made 10.04% of reports with the remaining 0.21% reported as Unknown.



Officers who were killed or assaulted in 2022 fell almost entirely in the racial categories of either “White” or “Black or African American” with those comprising 85.92% and 12.82% of reported officers respectively. The remainder of reports were split between other racial groups or reported as being “Unknown.”



The ages of officers involved in LEOKA predominantly fell within the age range of 25-34 with 50.76% of reports having an age in those ten years reported. Following that are 35-44 and 18-24 with 21.43% and 12.39% of reported ages respectively. As ages advance and those ages reaching retirement ages are approached, the number of officers reported as having been affected by a LEOKA incident drops dramatically, with only 0.50% reported as being 65 or older.



A data point unique to LEOKA offenses is the officer's vehicle assignment at the time of an incident. In 2022, the majority of affected officers were reported as having been in One-Officer Vehicles, either Alone (32.06%) or Assisted (39.16%). Those listed in Two-Officer Vehicles comprised the next highest number of reports, albeit at a significantly lower rate of 10.29% of reported vehicle types.

LEOKA INJURIES & WEAPONS USED

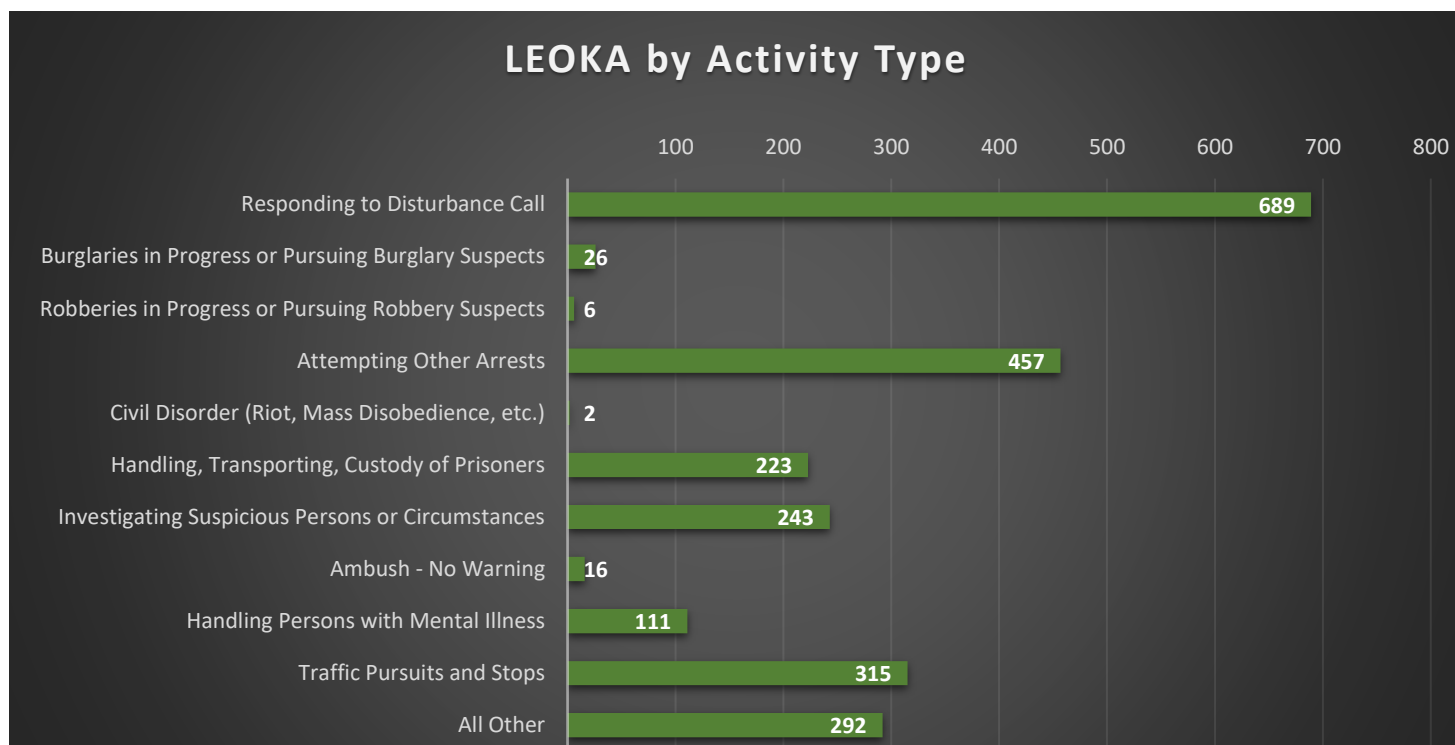
Injury Type	
None	1,721
Apparent Minor Injury	502
Severe Laceration	14
Other Major Injury	12
Possible Internal Injury	11
Apparent Broken Bones	8
Unconsciousness	2
Loss of Teeth	1

Per TIBRS, up to 5 injury types may be reported per victim. Injury Type is a required data element when Aggravated Assault and Simple Assault are reported. In 2022 there were a total of 2,271 reported Injury Types. However, the most commonly reported selection was None with 75.78% of reports. Besides this, the most common reported injury was Apparent Minor Injury comprising 22.10% of injuries entered. More severe injuries only accounted for 2.11% of Injury Types reported.

Weapon Type	
Personal Weapons (Hands, Fist, Feet, Arms, Teeth, Etc.)	1,202
Motor Vehicle/ Vessel	382
Handgun	252
Other	163
Knife/ Cutting Instrument (Icepick, Ax, Etc.)	100
Firearm (Type Not Stated)	99
Blunt Object (Club, Hammer, Etc.)	39
Rifle	34
Shotgun	19
Fire/Incendiary Device	8
Other Firearm	7
Asphyxiation (by Drowning, Strangulation, Suffocation, Gas)	2
Handgun – Automatic	1
Poison	1
Drug/Narcotics/Sleeping Pills	1
Explosives	1

Per TIBRS, up to 3 weapon types may be selected per incident. In 2022 a total of 2,311 weapon types were reported in conjunction with a LEOKA incident. Among these, Personal Weapons comprised the largest portion of reports at 52.01% of reported weapons. Following this were Motor Vehicle/Vessel (16.53%) and Handgun (10.90%).

LEOKA BY ACTIVITY TYPE



A unique facet of data collected in LEOKA cases is the circumstances as to why an officer was present during the commission of LEOKA incident. In 2022, the primary activity type reported was Responding to a Disturbance Call at 28.95% of incidents. Following this was Attempting Other Arrests at 19.20% of reports.

Activity Type	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault	Intimidation	Murder	Stalking
Responding to Disturbance Call	255	399	31	4	0
Burglaries in Progress or Pursuing Burglary Suspects	19	7	0	0	0
Robberies in Progress or Pursuing Robbery Suspects	5	1	0	0	0
Attempting Other Arrests	171	272	14	0	0
Civil Disorder (Riot, Mass Disobedience, etc.)	1	1	0	0	0
Handling, Transporting, Custody of Prisoners	25	184	14	0	0
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	116	124	3	0	0
Ambush – No Warning	13	3	0	0	0
Handling Persons with Mental Illness	44	65	2	0	0
Traffic Pursuits and Stops	244	50	21	0	0
All Other	128	137	26	0	1

Breaking down the Activity Types to which an officer was responding during a LEOKA incident shows that Simple Assault is the predominantly reported offense in most situations. The most notable exception was “Traffic Pursuits and Stops,” which seems to be the case because a motor vehicle is categorized by TIBRS as a type of weapon which, if used as such, would immediately elevate a Simple Assault to an Aggravated Assault.

CLEARANCES



Lastly, we examined how many LEOKA incidents were cleared in 2022. The majority of incidents were Cleared by Arrest at 75.88%, and an additional 2.23% were categorized as an Exceptional Clearance. Exceptional Clearance refers to cases in which the offender is known but due to a mitigating circumstance (such as the death of an offender or the victim refusing to cooperate), the incident is unable to be cleared by an arrest. The remaining 21.89% of incidents had not been cleared at the time the data for this publication was pulled.



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