# Explanatory Notes

The 2020 Use of Force data includes Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) reportable uses of force and reportable force incidents that occurred between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. All data values represent information pulled from the Personnel Performance Management System (PPMS) as of October 20, 2021. ***Totals are subject to change due to investigative findings, audits, and data improvement processes.***

The 2021 Use of Force data includes Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) reportable uses of force and reportable force incidents that occurred between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021. All data values represent information pulled from the Personnel Performance Management System (PPMS) as of December 20, 2022. ***Totals are subject to change due to investigative findings, audits, and data improvement processes.***

As of January 1, 2022, MPD has an updated use of force policy. The data definitions below are consistent with the general orders that were in place when these incidents took place in 2020 and 2021: [**GO-RAR-901.07 (Use of Force)**](https://mpdc.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/mpdc/publication/attachments/20171103%20GO-RAR-901.07%20%28Use%20of%20Force%29.pdf)**, effective date November 3, 2017, and** [**GO-RAR-901.08 (Use of Force Investigations)**](https://mpdc.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/mpdc/publication/attachments/20170913%20GO-RAR-901.08%20%28Use%20of%20Force%20Investigations%29.pdf)**,** effective date September 13, 2017.

MPD defines use of force as any physical coercion used to effect, influence or persuade an individual to comply with an order from an officer.

1. The following actions are designated “reportable uses of force”:
	* Deadly force;
	* Serious use of force;
	* Use of a less-than-lethal weapon;
	* Any use of force indicating potential criminal conduct by a member; and
	* Any use of force resulting in injury or a complaint of injury or pain where the injury or pain is directly associated with a member’s use of force.
2. The following actions are designated “reportable force incidents” as long as the use of force does not result in injury or a complaint of injury or pain. In the data, all reportable force incidents are included as one unique type of use of force:
	* All solo or team takedowns, where there is no complaint of pain or injury; and
	* The drawing and pointing of a firearm at, or in the direction of, another person when no other force was used.

The Use of Force Incident worksheet represents all information obtained from the original allegation(s), which may include officers initially identified to have used force but later through the investigation, it was determined they did not use force. In addition, the records may not contain members who are later identified during an investigation to have been involved in the use of force incident but were not listed in the original allegation. We have undertaken a comprehensive process to fix these issues but as the audit is ongoing, data may be updated over time.