

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Public Affairs**

WEB CONTENT – Use of Force Webpage

CBP Use of Force

UOF stats topline

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is charged with enforcing the nation’s laws while protecting the civil rights and civil liberties of every individual with whom we interact. CBP’s authority to enforce the law, even to the point of lethal force, appropriately bears the burden of accountability, which includes integrity and transparency.

Since Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske’s Senate confirmation in March 2014, CBP has implemented and continues to implement significant policy, procedural, training and programmatic [reforms](#) that have equipped CBP law enforcement personnel to carry out their duties more safely and effectively. Reforms have also improved CBP’s ability to investigate and review use of force incidents to determine whether the application of force is consistent with the law and policy.

At the Commissioner’s direction, CBP published its use of force [policy](#) in May 2014 and use of force [statistics](#) October 2015. Furthering the Commissioner’s intent regarding transparency, CBP will update the UOF data on a monthly basis, which includes a breakdown by Sector, Field Office and Air and Marine region.

This data reflects individual applications of force, not incidents, by U.S. Border Patrol agents, CBP officers, and air interdiction agents. There may be multiple uses of force applied during an incident.

Use of Force applications declined more than 26 percent in Fiscal Year 2015, when compared to FY 2014. This reduction is especially significant, considering that assaults against agents and officers have essentially remained steady. During FY 2015, the U.S. Border Patrol recorded 337,117 apprehensions, which includes [unaccompanied children and families](#), and CBP officers stopped 225,342 inadmissible individuals from entering the United States through the nation’s ports of entry.

Below is a breakdown of CBP use of force statistics for Fiscal Years 2015 (October 2014 to September 2015) and FY2016 year to date (October 1, 2015 – February 29, 2016).

For reporting purposes, CBP categorizes use of force as either “firearm,” or “less-lethal device” or “other less lethal force.” A CBP law enforcement officer’s use of a baton, electronic control weapon, or other less-lethal device is reflected in the “Less-Lethal Device” column below. The “Other” column includes less-lethal uses of force, such as offensive driving techniques, physical strike or applications of force other than a firearm or less-lethal device.

This data reflects on-duty incidents.

CBP USE OF FORCE (FY 2016 Year to Date: October 1, 2015 - February 29, 2016)

	Firearm	Less Lethal Device	Other
AMO	0	4	0
OFO	3	14	7
USBP	4	167	82
Total	7	185	89

AMO: Air and Marine Operations, OFO: Office of Field Operations, USBP: U.S. Border Patrol

CBP USE OF FORCE (FY 2015)

	Firearm	Less Lethal Device	Other
AMO	3	18	3
OFO	2	57	14
USBP	23	415	221
Total	28	490	238

USBP USE OF FORCE (FY 2016 Year to Date: October 1, 2015 - February 29, 2016)

Note: BORTAC refers to USBP's border tactical teams that may not be assigned to a Sector.

	Firearm	Less Lethal Device	Other
Big Bend Sector	0	2	1
Blaine Sector	0	0	0
BORTAC	0	0	0
Del Rio Sector	0	2	0
Detroit Sector	0	1	0
El Centro Sector	0	59	6
El Paso Sector	0	21	4
Grand Forks Sector	0	0	4
Havre Sector	0	0	0
Houlton Sector	0	0	1
Laredo Sector	0	16	7
Ramey Sector	0	0	0
Rio Grande Valley Sector	1	19	23
San Diego Sector	1	17	7
Spokane Sector	0	0	0
Swanton Sector	0	0	0
Tucson Sector	2	30	26
Yuma Sector	0	0	3
USBP Total	4	167	82

USBP USE OF FORCE (FY2015)

Note: BORTAC refers to USBP's border tactical teams that may not be assigned to a Sector.

	Firearm	Less Lethal Device	Other
Big Bend Sector	5	6	1
Blaine Sector	1	1	0
BORTAC	1	1	3
Del Rio Sector	1	5	0
Detroit Sector	2	5	2
El Centro Sector	0	57	11
El Paso Sector	0	36	3
Grand Forks Sector	0	3	4
Havre Sector	0	1	0
Houlton Sector	0	1	0
Laredo Sector	1	45	12
Ramey Sector	0	1	0
Rio Grande Valley Sector	3	100	84
San Diego Sector	6	71	12
Spokane Sector	0	0	0
Swanton Sector	0	1	0
Tucson Sector	3	70	87
Yuma Sector	0	11	2
USBP Total	23	415	221

USE OF FORCE BY FISCAL YEAR

Fiscal Years 2011 - 2015

FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1179	932	1215	1037	756

Note: A previous edition of this webpage cited a total of 768 use of force incidents in Fiscal Year 2015. The number has been updated to 756 based on the integration of two data systems used to track use of force statistics.

USE OF FORCE BREAKDOWN BY FISCAL YEAR

Fiscal Years 2011 - 2015

	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY14	FY15
Firearm	60	58	48	29	28
Less Lethal	1119	874	1167	1008	728

ASSAULTS ON OFFICERS AND AGENTS

Fiscal Years 2011 - 2016 Year to Date: October 1, 2015 to February 29, 2016

This data reflects the total number of assaults against a CBP officer or agent reported in a given year.

	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY14	FY15	FY 16
Assaults	675	555	468	373	390	176

ASSAULT STATISTICS

Comparisons below reflect Fiscal Year 2016 (October 1, 2015 - February 29, 2016) compared to the same time period for Fiscal Year 2015. Fiscal Year 2016 includes one additional day due to leap year.

	FY 2015	FY 2016	% Change
AMO	7	8	14%
OFO	5	20	300%
USBP	187	148	-21%
Total	199	176	-12%

Tags:

[Statistics](#) [Leadership](#)