Mapping Police Violence collected data on over 1,100 killings by police in 2021. We compiled this information from media reports, obituaries, public records, and databases like Fatal Encounters and the WashingtonPost. Despite the federal government’s efforts to create a national database on this issue, their Use of Force Data Collection program is expected to shut down this year because fewer than 60% of the nation's law enforcement reported data to the program. As such, this report represents the most comprehensive public accounting of deadly police violence in 2021. Our analysis suggests the majority of killings by police in 2021 could have been prevented and that specific policies and practices might prevent police killings in the future.

Scroll to explore the findings.
1,134 people were killed by police in 2021.
More people were killed by police in 2021 than almost any other year in recent history.

- **2021**: 1,134 killed by police
- **2020**: 1,127 killed by police
- **2019**: 1,096 killed by police
- **2018**: 1,144 killed by police
- **2017**: 1,092 killed by police
- **2016**: 1,070 killed by police
- **2015**: 1,102 killed by police
- **2014**: 1,049 killed by police
- **2013**: 1,087 killed by police
97% of people killed by police in 2021 were killed by police shootings. Tasers, physical force, and police vehicles accounted for most other deaths.
Officers were charged with a crime in only 11 of these cases. One percent of all killings by police.
Each year, fewer than 3% of killings by police result in officers being charged with a crime. Officers are disproportionately prosecuted by Black prosecutors — especially Black women. Representing only 1% of the nation’s elected prosecutors, Black women were 9% of prosecutors who charged officers for killing someone, 13% of prosecutors convicting officers and 20% of prosecutors charging officers in two or more deadly force incidents from 2013-2021.
We were able to identify officers in 434 cases. At least 16 had shot or killed someone before. 5 had multiple prior shootings.

- Officers identified (434)
- Officers with one prior shooting (11)
- Officers with two or more prior shootings (5)
- Officers not reported/unable to be identified (700)
Most killings began with police responding to **suspected non-violent offenses** or cases where **no crime** was reported. **117** people were killed after police stopped them for a traffic violation.

- Suspected non-violent offense or no reported crime (555)
- Traffic violation (117)
- Unknown (69)
In February 2021, the City of Berkeley enacted a new policy meant to restrict police from enforcing some traffic violations, including equipment violations like expired tags or tinted windows. While stops for equipment violations have declined since then, overall police traffic enforcement has not reduced substantially - indicating the need for more expansive restrictions on police traffic enforcement.
104 people were killed after police responded to reports of someone behaving erratically or having a mental health crisis.
Programs that send mental health providers instead of police to mental health-related 911 calls are beginning to be scaled up in some cities. Here are some examples, according to the latest data reported:

- Eugene, OR: CAHOOTS program responds to 40% of mental health or disorderly persons calls citywide

- San Francisco: Street Crisis Response Teams respond to 10% of mental health-related calls citywide

- Portland: Street Response Teams responds to 23% of unwanted persons, suspicious persons, and non-emergency welfare check calls in designated neighborhoods

- Denver: STAR program responds to 29% of welfare check, disturbance, suicidal or intoxicated persons calls in designated neighborhoods
78 people killed by police were **unarmed**.
Most **unarmed** people killed by police were **people of color**.
Black people were **more likely to be killed** by police, more likely to be **unarmed** and **less likely to be threatening someone** when killed.

### US Population
- **Black**: 13%
- **Hispanic**: 17%
- **White**: 63%
- **Other**: 7%

### All Killings by Police
- **Black**: 28%
- **Hispanic**: 19%
- **White**: 50%
- **Other**: 3%

### Unarmed
- **Black**: 38%
- **Hispanic**: 29%
- **White**: 32%
- **Other**: 1%

### Unarmed and Not Alleged to be Threatening
- **Black**: 39%
- **Hispanic**: 32%
- **White**: 27%
- **Other**: 2%
Police disproportionately kill Black people, year after year.

- **US Population**:
  - Black: 13%
  - Hispanic: 17%
  - White: 63%
  - Other: 7%

- **Killed by police in 2021**:
  - Black: 28%
  - Hispanic: 19%
  - White: 50%
  - Other: 3%

- **Killed by police in 2020**:
  - Black: 28%
  - Hispanic: 22%
  - White: 46%
  - Other: 4%

- **Killed by police in 2019**:
  - Black: 29%
  - Hispanic: 21%
  - White: 46%
  - Other: 4%

- **Killed by police in 2018**:
  - Black: 26%
  - Hispanic: 21%
  - White: 49%
  - Other: 4%
55 people killed by police had a vehicle as a weapon.
49 of these people were killed when police shot at a moving vehicle, a practice many experts say should be banned.
Experts, law enforcement groups, and the US Department of Justice recommend that police be **banned** from shooting at people in moving vehicles. These shootings are particularly **ineffective** and **dangerous**, since shooting the driver can make the vehicle an uncontrollable threat to both officers and the public.

Despite this, **most police departments continue to allow officers to shoot people in these situations.**
161 people killed by police were allegedly armed with a knife.
In many countries, police routinely disarm people who have knives **without shooting** them. In 2021, there were **2 fatal police shootings** in all of the United Kingdom, a country of 67 million people where police encounter knife attacks at a **similar rate** as US police. In Los Angeles alone, a city of 4 million people, LAPD officers fatally shot 8 people allegedly armed with knives in 2021.
Half of those killed by police were reportedly armed with a gun.
But 1 in 8 people with a gun were not threatening anyone when they were killed. They might have been de-escalated instead.
57% of killings by police in 2021 — 606 deaths — were **traffic stops**, police responses to **mental health crises**, or situations where the person was not reportedly threatening anyone with a gun. Creating alternatives responses to these situations could substantially reduce this violence nationwide.

- Mental Health/Welfare Check (104)
- Traffic Stop (117)
- Person Not Alleged to be Threatening with a Gun (385)
- Undetermined (72)
Which would mean substantially fewer people killed by police in almost every city.

- U.S. Marshals Service
- Los Angeles PD
- Houston PD
- San Antonio PD
- Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- Las Vegas Metropolitan PD
- Pennsylvania State Police
- Phoenix PD
- Chicago PD
- Metropolitan Nashville PD
- New York PD
- Riverside County Sheriff's Department
- Tucson PD
- Alaska State Troopers
- Bakersfield PD
- Colorado Springs PD
- Detroit PD
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Michigan State Police
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Departmen...
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College Station PD
Douglas County Sheriff’s Office
Escambia County Sheriff’s Office
Escondido PD
Glendale PD
Greenville County Sheriff’s Office
Indianapolis Metropolitan PD
Jackson PD
Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office
Kansas City, KS PD
Miami-Dade PD
Nevada Highway Patrol
New York State Police
Salt Lake City PD
Santa Fe County Sheriff’s Office
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Kern County Sheriff's Office
Knoxville PD
Lakeland PD
Lawton PD
Lompoc PD
Long Beach PD
Louisiana State Police
Louisville Metro PD
Madison County Sheriff's Office
Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
Memphis PD
Meridian PD
Mesa PD
Middlesboro PD
Milwaukee PD
Mobile PD
Montgomery County PD
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
Nampa PD
Nebraska State Patrol
Bellefontaine PD
Bentonville PD
Berrien County Sheriff's Office
Berwick PD, St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office
Bessemer City PD
Bettendorf PD
Biloxi PD, Harrison County Sheriff's Office
Bismarck PD
Bledsoe County Sheriff's Office
Boerne PD
Bogalusa PD
Bolivar PD
Bowie County Sheriff's Office
Boynton Beach PD
Bradley County Sheriff's Office
Braintree PD
Brevard County Sheriff's Office
Bristol PD
Broken Arrow PD
Brooklyn Center PD
Broward County Sheriff's Office
Brunswick County Sheriff's Office
Buckeye PD
Buena Park PD
Buffalo Grove PD
Bullitt County Sheriff's Office
Burbank PD
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Burleson County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety
Burnsville PD
Burton PD, Genesee County Sheriff's Office
Butler City PD
Butler County Sheriff's Office
Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office
Calaveras County Sheriff's Office
Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office, Lake Charles
Caldwell PD
Calexico PD
Calhoun County Sheriff's Office
Calumet City PD
Canon City PD
Cape Coral Police Department
Caribou County Sheriff's Office, Bannock County
Carmel PD
Carolina County Sheriff's Office
Carterville PD
Casa Grande PD
Casper PD
Cass County Sheriff’s Office
Catasaqua PD
Catoosa County Sheriff’s Office
Catskill PD
Cecil County Sheriff's Office, Maryland St...
Cedar Rapids PD
Celina PD
Centreville PD
Champaign PD
Chandler PD
Chanute PD
Charles County Sheriff’s Office
Charleston County Sheriff's Office
Chattanooga PD
Cherokee County Sheriff's Office
Cherryville PD
Chester County Sheriff’s Office
Chesterfield County PD
Chickasha PD
Chippewa County Sheriff's Office
Citrus County Sheriff's Office
Clay County Sheriff's Office
Clayton County Sheriff’s Office
Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office
Cleburne County Sheriff's Office
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Colorado State Patrol, Fountain PD
Commerce City PD
Conway PD
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Corbin PD
Corona PD
Corvallis PD
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Crawford County Sheriff's Office
Culpeper County Sheriff's Office
Cumberland County Sheriff's Office
Dade County Sheriff’s Office
Dallas County Sheriff's Department
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Daly City PD
Davenport PD
Davidson County Sheriff’s Office
Davis PD

Dayton PD, Montgomery County Sheriff's...

Dayton PD

De Soto Parish Sheriff's Office, Red River ...

De Soto PD

DeKalb County PD, Atlanta Police Depart...

DeKalb PD

Del Rio PD

Delano PD

Delaware State Police

Delta County Sheriff's Office

Deming PD, Luna County Sheriff's Office, ...

Denton County Sheriff's Office

Dickinson PD

Dolton PD

Dona Ana County Sheriff's Office

Dora PD

Doral PD

Dothan PD

Douglasville PD

Doyline PD, Webster Parish Sheriff's Office

Duncan PD

Dyer PD

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Georgetown PD
Georgia State Patrol
Georgia State Patrol, Tattnall County Sher…
Gilroy PD
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Graham County Sheriff's Office
Grand Junction PD, Mesa County Sheriff'…
Grandview PD
Grant County Sheriff's Department
Grantsville PD
Grayson County Sheriff's Office
Great Falls PD
Greeley PD
Green Bay PD
Green Forest PD
Greenfield PD
Greenville PD
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Guadalupe PD
Gulfport PD
Gunnison PD

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Chattanooga
Hamilton Township PD
Hancock County Sheriff's Office
Hardy County Sheriff's Office
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Harrison PD, Boone County Sheriff's Office
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Hawkins PD
Hayward PD
Hemet PD
Henderson PD
Henrico County PD

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Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office

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Hillsdale County Sheriff's Office

Hocking College PD

Holly Springs PD

Hollywood PD

Homestead PD

Hopkinsville PD

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Laurel PD
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Logan County Sheriff's Office
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Lonoke County Sheriff's Office
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Lovejoy PD
Loveland PD
Lowndes County Sheriff's Office
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Marion County Sheriff's Office
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Maryland State Police
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McCurtain County Sheriff's Office
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McKinney PD
Meade County Sheriff's Office, Clark County
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Melbourne PD, Florida Institute of Technology
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Mt. Juliet PD
Muhlenberg Township PD
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Murray PD
Muskogee PD
Nassau County Sheriff’s Office
National City PD
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Nevada County Sheriff’s Office
New Berlin PD
New Castle County PD
New Hampshire State Police, Claremont PD
Onondaga County Sheriff's Office, New York

Ontario PD, Malheur County Sheriff's Office
  Ontario PD
  Orange County Sheriff's Office
  Orem PD

Orlando PD, Orange County Sheriff's Office
  Overton County Sheriff's Office
  Oxford PD
  Page County Sheriff's Office
  Palm Bay PD

Pamlico County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina
  Parke County Sheriff's Office
  Parkersburg PD
  Pasadena PD

Paso Robles PD, San Luis Obispo Police Department
  Pasquotank County Sheriff's Office
  Pelican Bay PD
  Pender County Sheriff's Office
  Pennington County Sheriff's Office
  Peoria PD

Perry County Sheriff's Department, Arkansas
  Person County Sheriff's Office
  Pflugerville PD
  Pima County Sheriff's Department
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Red Bud PD
Redondo Beach PD
Reedsport PD, Douglas County Sheriff's Office
Reno PD
Renton PD
Rexburg PD
Rialto PD
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Richmond PD
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Riverside County Sheriff's Department, In...
Riverside County Sheriff's Department, P...
Roanoke County PD
Robbinsdale PD
Robeson County Sheriff's Office
Rock Island PD
Rogersville PD
Rosenberg PD
Round Rock PD
Rowan County Sheriff's Office
Roxboro PD
Royal Oak PD
Rushville PD
Rutland City PD
Sacramento PD
Salinas PD
Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office
Sampson County Sheriff's Office
San Diego County Sheriff's Office
San Fernando PD
San Francisco PD
San Gabriel PD
San Luis Obispo PD
San Marcos PD
San Pablo PD
Santa Rosa PD
Saugus PD
Scott County Sheriff's Office
Scottsbluff PD
Seekonk PD
Seminole County Sheriff's Office
Sharon Hill PD
Shawnee County Sheriff's Office
Shreveport PD
Signal Hill PD
Sioux Falls PD
Slidell PD, St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office
Smyrna PD

Snyder PD, Scurry County Sheriff's Office

South Carolina Highway Patrol

South Hill PD, Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

Spanish Fort PD, Daphne Police Department

Spartanburg PD, Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office

Speedway PD

Spokane County Sheriff's Office

Spokane PD

St. Charles County PD

St. Charles County Police

St. Clair County Sheriff's Office, Odenville

St. Clair County Sheriff's Office

St. Louis Metropolitan PD

Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office

Stephenson County Sheriff's Office

Stillwater County Sheriff's Office

Stratford PD

Suffolk County PD

Sullivan County Sheriff's Office

Sumrall PD

Sylvania Township PD

Syracuse PD

Tallahassee PD
U.S. Marine Corps Law Enforcement
Unified PD of Greater Salt Lake, West Vall...
University of California Berkeley Police
Upper Perikomen PD
VIA Transit PD
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Valencia County Sheriff’s Office
Van Buren County Sheriff’s Office
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Vernon Parish Sheriff’s Office
Villa Hills PD
Villa Park PD
Vineland PD
Virginia Beach PD
Waco PD
Wallkill PD
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Wasatch County Sheriff's Office, Summit ...
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Waterloo PD
Waterville PD
Waukesha PD
Waynesboro PD
Webb City PD
West Covina PD
West Liberty PD
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Westwego PD
White County Sheriff’s Office
Whittier PD
Wichita County Sheriff’s Office
Wichita Falls PD
Wilcox County Sheriff’s Office
Wilkes County Sheriff’s Office
Winter Haven PD
Winthrop PD
Wise County Sheriff’s Office
Wolcott PD
Worcester PD
Wylie PD
Wyoming Highway Patrol
Yazoo County Sheriff's Office, Yazoo City

Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office

Yorkville PD

Young County Sheriff's Office

Zapata Sheriff's Office
Together, we can end police violence.

This project was built with help from activists, researchers, and volunteers from across the country.

Data & Design Team:
Samuel Sinyangwe
Allie Monck
Mary Hammond
John Emerson

Email us with inquires or suggested additions to our database.

Download the database
Mapping Police Violence
Learn more about how police violence impacts communities

Police Scorecard
Search the largest database on policing in America