

**2025
RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE
AND
ASSAULT ON OFFICER ANALYSIS
REPORT**

CAPTAIN JOHN LAVOIE
1/6/2025



Response to Resistance and Assault on Durham **Police Officer Analysis – 2025**

Executive Summary

The Durham Police Department has completed its annual analysis of force-related incidents for the period January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. Captain John Lavoie, a 15-year veteran of New Hampshire law enforcement and the Durham Police Department, conducted this analysis.

Documents reviewed include all 2025 Response to Resistance Reports, related arrest and offense reports, supplemental police reports, shift schedules, and the training records of all involved officers.

Whenever an officer uses any physical force greater than the simple application of handcuffs to safely bring a suspect into custody, a standardized "Response to Resistance Report" must be completed. This report, along with any related documents, is forwarded to the Deputy Chief of Police for review. If the Deputy Chief determines that the actions comply with department policies and applicable laws, the report is sent to the Captain for further analysis and data collection.

If the Deputy Chief or Captain identifies a potential policy violation, the report is forwarded to the Chief of Police, and an Internal Affairs investigation is initiated. Since 1996, no use of force incident has resulted in a violation of department policy or applicable laws. Additionally, there have been no flawed or outdated policies identified during this period.

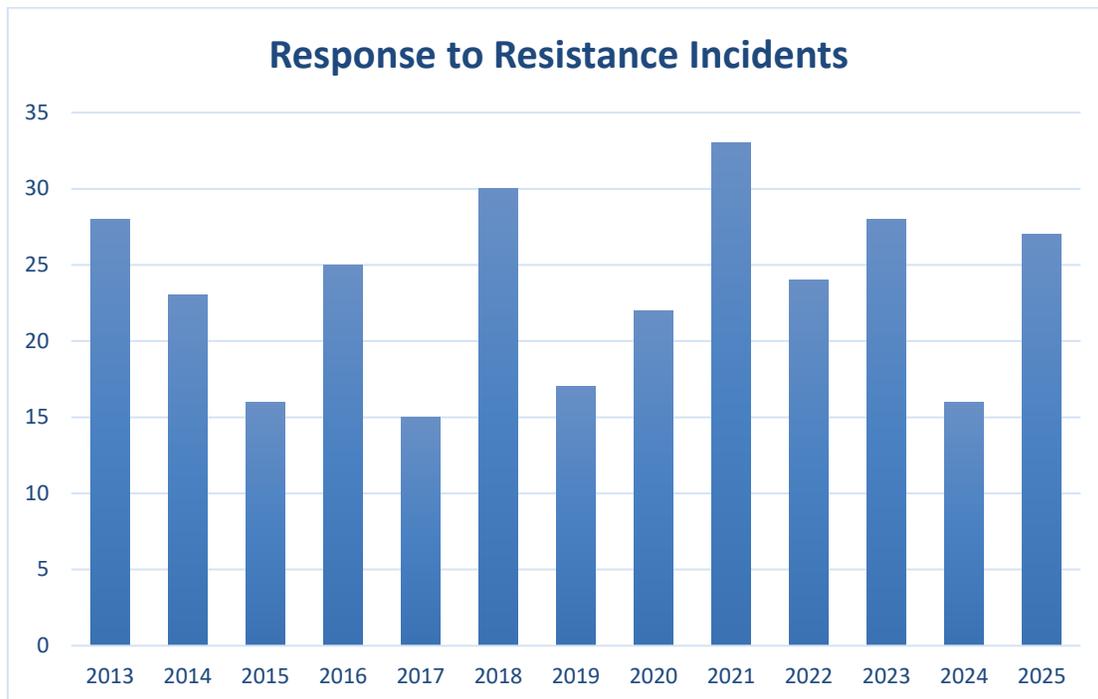
Full Report

In 2025, an analysis on all assaults of police officers in the Town of Durham was conducted to determine trends or patterns that will allow the department to enhance officer safety, revise policy, or address training needs. In 2025, there were 27 incidents reported by the Durham Police Department involving the use of force against 28 different people. Five of those incidents resulted in either an actual assault on an officer(s) or attempted assault on the officer(s) involved.

In 2020, most of the department's Use of Force policies were updated to follow the recommended guidelines provided by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Annually, these policies are reviewed. As has been the case in the last five years, the review in 2025 did not find any need to update or modify any policies involving force.

Response to Resistance Incidents

In 2025, the Durham Police Department experienced a 6.7% increase in calls for service from 2024. In 2024 there were 16 Response to Resistance reports, compared to 27 in 2025.



Calls for Service

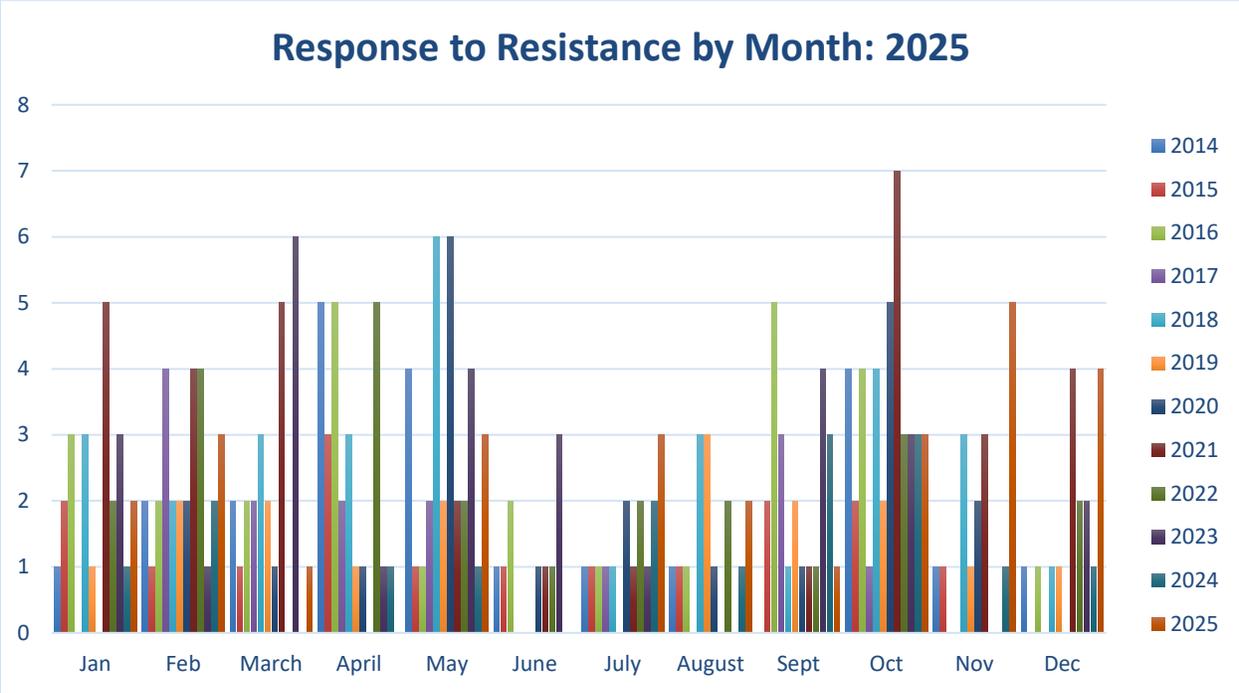
In previous reports and analysis, a pattern was identified that the Response to Resistance is inconsistent and does not increase or decrease equally from year to year. Instead, data shows a trend that incidents increase one year, fall the next, then increase the following – a “see-saw” like action. We continue to monitor the response to resistance incidents on a yearly basis, looking at data and actions that may influence these trends.

The Durham Police Department responded to 22,295 calls for service in 2025, an increase of 6.7% from 20,897 in 2024. Officers used physical force in 27 incidents, representing only 0.12% of total calls. This low percentage highlights the department’s emphasis on patience, professionalism, and the principles of conflict resolution and de-escalation.

Of the 27 incidents in 2025, five incidents involved an actual or attempted assault on an officer. The analysis revealed no identifiable trends or patterns, other than that four out of the five assault or attempted assault incidents related to mental health related activities. There was nothing in the analysis that identified a need to make any changes to existing policies or practices.

The analysis also revealed that there were 13 incidents where department members ended the suffering of an injured animal. Those incidents are not factored into this report for analysis purposes.

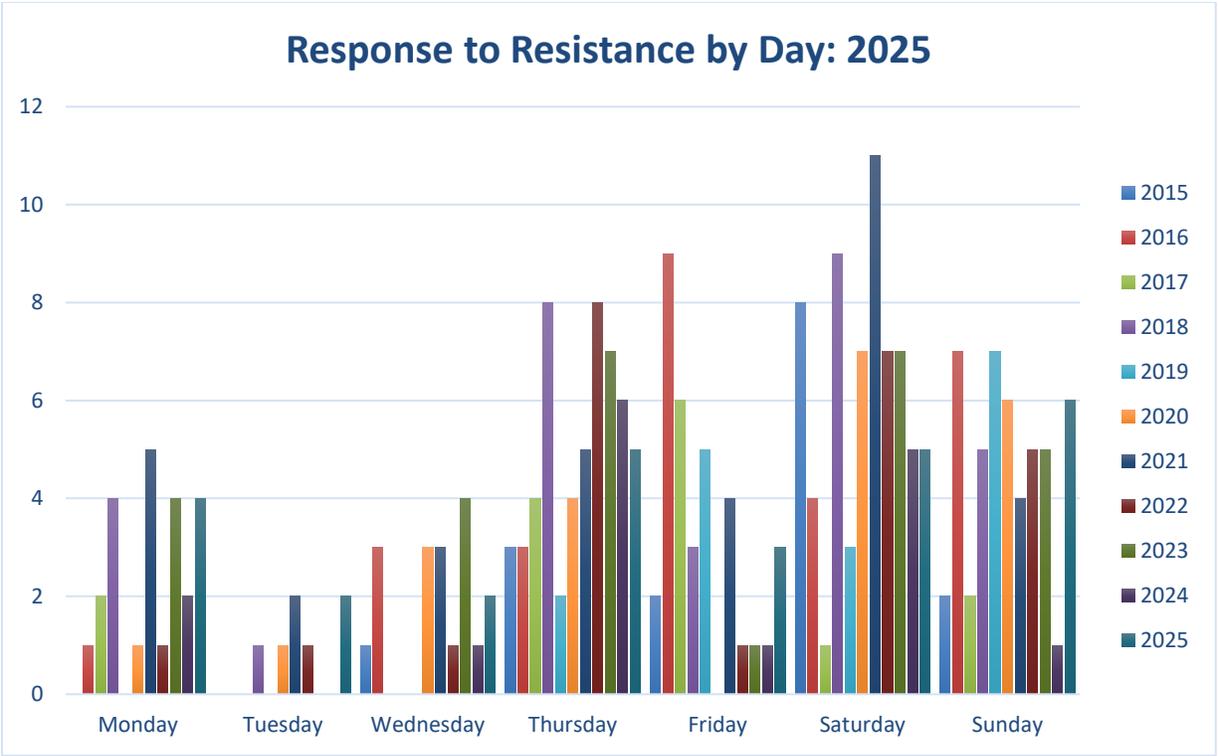
The following statistical analysis serves to correspond to each category that encompasses the department’s response to resistance reports. The goal is to analyze how that breakdown applies to response to resistance incidents occurring in the Town of Durham and how the response by Durham officers affects the safety of the community. Mutual aid calls and response to resistance actions by members of the Stafford County Regional Tactical Operations Unit (SCRTOU) have been included in this analysis.



Response to Resistance by Month: 2025

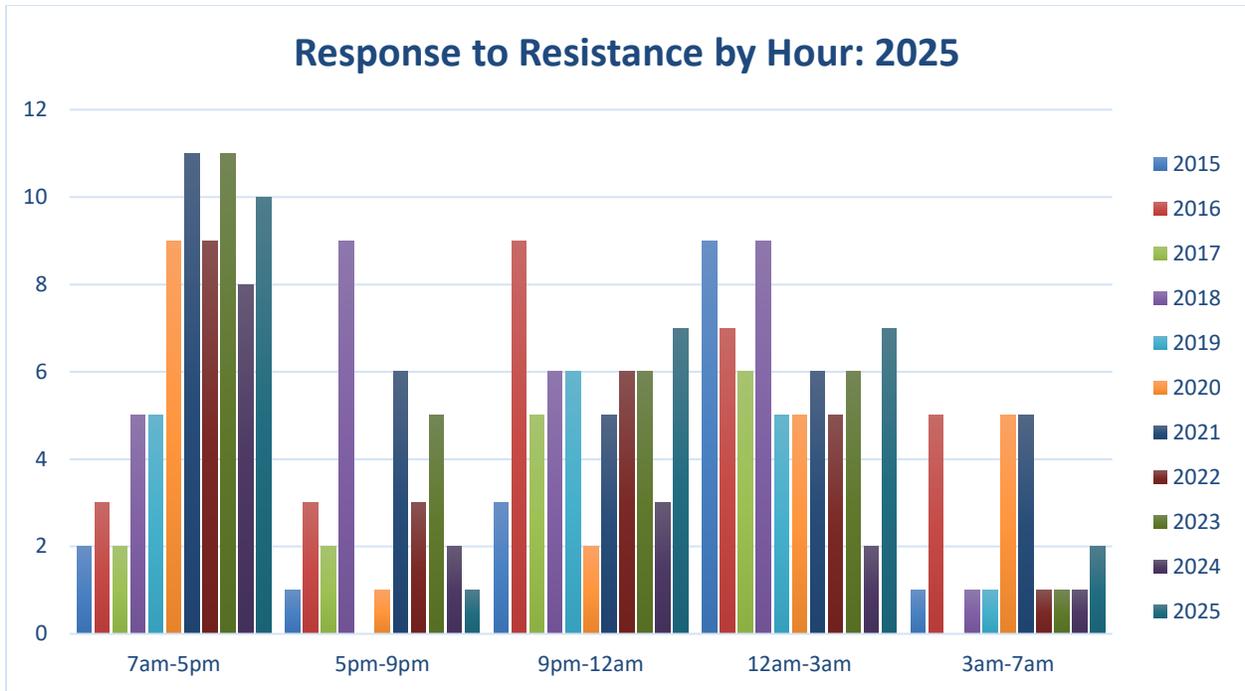
This chart represents a review of response to resistance activity for the past ten years by month. In 2025, Durham officers have responded to acts of resistance during every month except April and June. In previous years, we noted that the beginning of the University of New Hampshire (UNH) academic school year, identified as the end of August to midway through October, remained relatively steady regarding assault patterns. Five of the 27 incidents reported in 2025 involved UNH students directly.

As in previous years, it is the conclusion of this report that the agency continues to monitor the activity and maintain the current staffing strategy, which is strategically posting additional officers on patrol for both spring and fall. We have identified no obvious pattern that would cause alarm or suggest we change our current strategy.



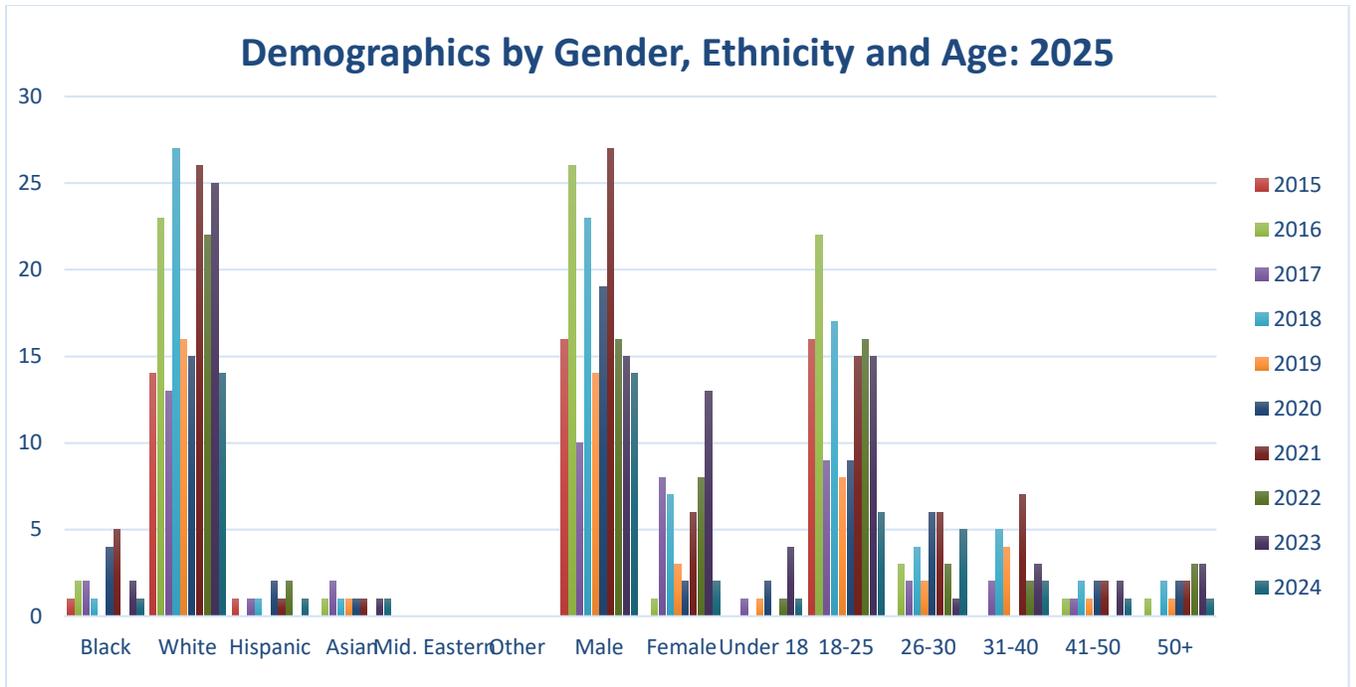
Response to Resistance by Day: 2025

This chart illustrates that in 2025, the majority of response to resistance incidents occurred on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. The highest number of incidents, six, occurred on Sunday in the early morning hours between midnight and 5:00 AM.



Response to Resistance by Hour: 2025

Analyzing our 2025 response to resistance data hour-by-hour illustrates that the most physically dangerous hours for a Durham officer are between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM. There were nine incidents of force that occurred between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM. For the last six years, this analysis has identified that most of our response to resistance incidents occurred between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM. A review of the response to resistance incidents that occurred in 2020 through 2025, during the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM, revealed no apparent pattern of specific types of calls where any type of force was needed. However, between the hours 9:00 PM and 12:00 AM, a much narrower time frame, we encountered seven response to resistance incidents. Between 12:00 AM and 3:00 AM, there were six response to resistance incidents. Our dayshift, between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM, has administrative staffing and detectives that supplement our patrol coverage. I recommend keeping our additional staffing, through normal shift schedules and additional coverage shifts, between 9:00 PM and 3:00 AM. This data is valuable information to the department when factoring in shift coverage or any possible modifications to the schedule.



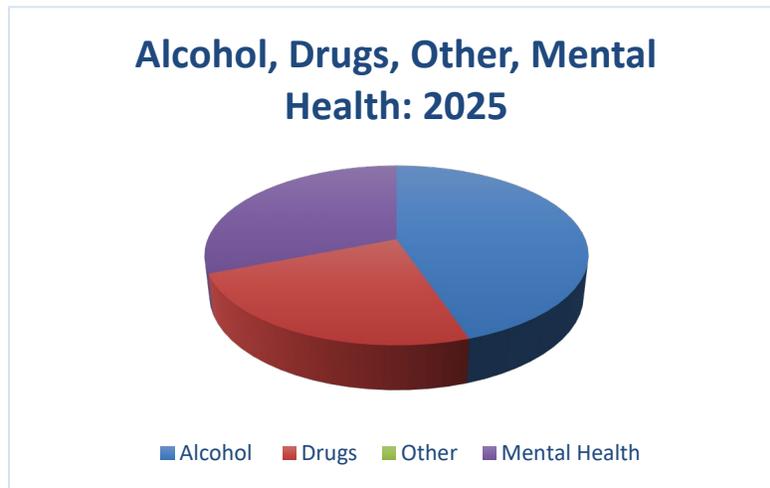
Demographics by Gender, Ethnicity and Age: 2025

In 2025, two people were under the age of 18, twelve people we encountered were between the ages of 18 and 25, one was between the ages of 26 and 30, seven were between the ages of 31-40, one was between the ages of 41 and 50, and five were over 50 years old. The oldest suspect involved in a response to resistance incident this year was 88 years old, and the youngest was 14 years old.

The demographic data has remained consistent over the past ten years. As in previous years, our use of force instructors should continue to take this fact into account when evaluating use of force lesson plans. Officers should always be reminded during training that there is no instance when an officer should make assumptions due to the apparent age, gender, or ethnicity of a suspect.

In 2025, 21 of the suspects we encountered were males, and seven were females.

White males and females accounted for 27 of the 28 response to resistance encounters by members of the Durham Police Department. There is no pattern that would suggest any form of bias by any individual officer or the agency. The analysis of response to resistance reports allows for the conclusion that all persons encountered are treated fairly and equally with the officers' response appropriate to the level of force necessary to affect a lawful arrest.



Alcohol/Drugs/Mental Health and Other: 2025

Alcohol and drugs continue to play a significant role in poor judgment and decision making by persons who are subjected to a lawful arrest. Out of 27 response to resistance incidents, 20 of the people taken into custody were under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of both. There is no definitive pattern concerning the types of calls that officers respond to that involve the consumption of alcohol or drugs. Four incidents involved members of the Strafford County Regional Tactical Operations Unit (SCRTOU) responding to a neighboring community. Although officers provided mutual aid assistance to both the University of New Hampshire Police and several other area municipalities throughout the year, there were no response to resistance related incidents reported in any of those situations.

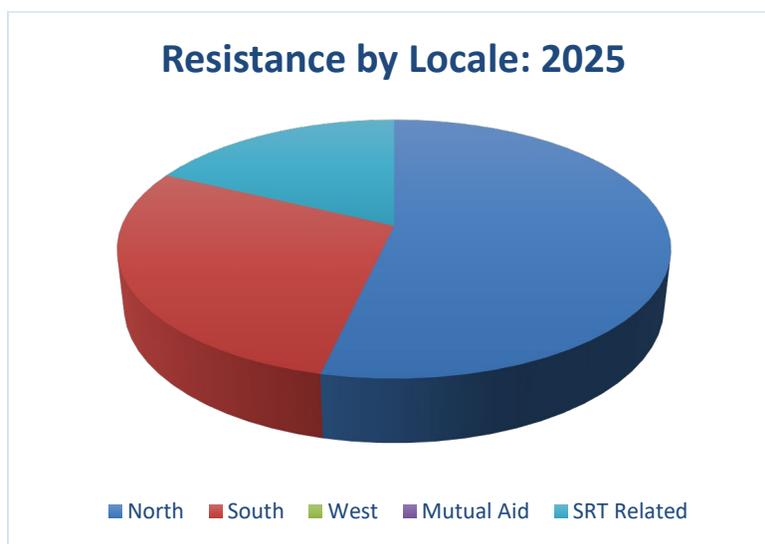
Mental health issues continue to play a significant role in calls involving some form of resistance. Of the suspects encountered in 2025, nine people were suffering from some type of mental health issue at the time of the encounter.

The Durham Police Department’s field training program and in-service training programs continue to prioritize de-escalation technique training and awareness. In 2021, the department was awarded a grant to send a supervisor and a patrol officer to Tennessee to become instructors in de-escalation. In 2025, all department personnel completed a mandatory two-hour de-escalation training put on by the police academy. There are numerous other de-escalation related training scenarios that are presented to officers during firearms recertification, TASER recertification, and Defensive Tactics training simulations where officers apply training to live actions and demonstrations.

Officers continue to receive annual training in identifying possible mental health related issues, as well as learning appropriate interaction methods. Mental health issues often

intersect with response to resistance incidents due to symptoms of agitation and erratic behavior that can manifest while in crisis. However, it remains critical that Durham officers understand the extra level of patience and restraint that may be required when dealing with a person who may be in crisis. In 2025, the department conducted a thorough policy review related to: Involuntary Emergency Admission (IEA), Mental Illness Awareness, Suicide, Mental Illness, and Response(s) Involving Juveniles.

As mental health related calls continue to rise around the country, I recommend that the department continues to remain invested in mental health related trainings for officers and best practice suggestions from mental health professionals and groups.



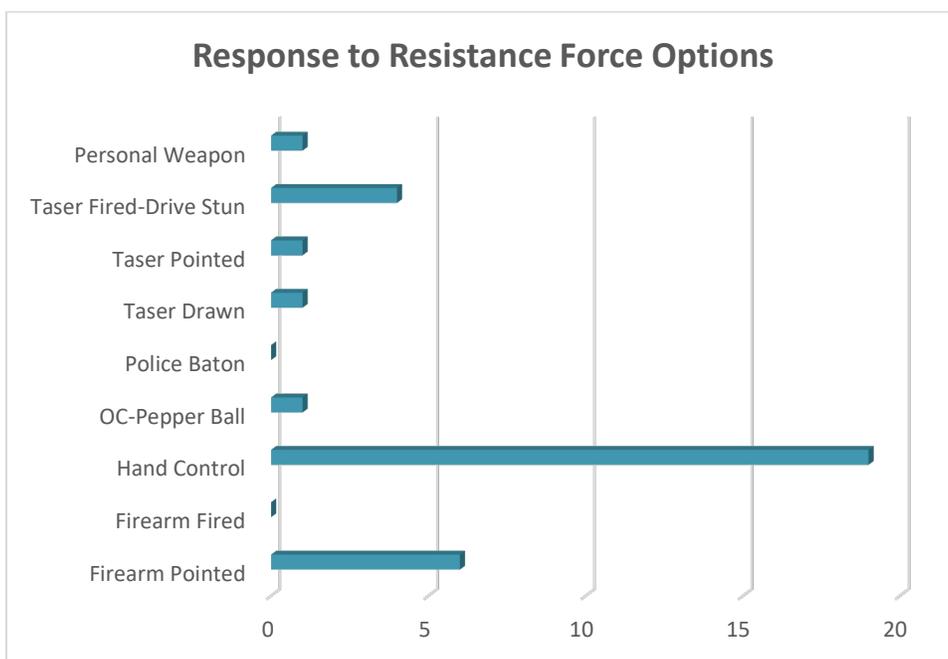
Response to Resistance by Location: 2025

The Durham Police Department assigns officers on duty to sectors identified as North, South, and West. Of the 27 responses to resistance reviewed in 2025, none occurred on the western side of town. The West Sector is made up of off-campus student housing such as “The Lodges” located on Mast Road, and “The Cottages” located off Technology Drive.

In 2025, 15 of the department’s 28 (about 54%) response to resistance encounters took place in the North Sector. The North Sector includes all businesses, residences, properties, and roadways north of Main Street. This sector is predominantly off-campus student housing, fraternal organizations, liquor establishments, and food/beverage stores that remain open late at night or into the morning hours. Several major arteries lead to these areas, and they are heavily traversed by vehicle and pedestrian traffic. There was no discernable pattern identified in the North Sector for this analysis.

Durham Police Officers responded to eight calls for service resulting in resistant behavior south of Main Street. The South Sector includes businesses, residences, properties, and roadways south of Main Street. This sector is similar to the make-up of the North Sector, but it does not include fraternities and sororities or the volume of student related housing that is in the North Sector. The South Sector does not usually produce the level of foot traffic typically found in the North Sector. There was no discernable pattern identified in the South Sector for this analysis.

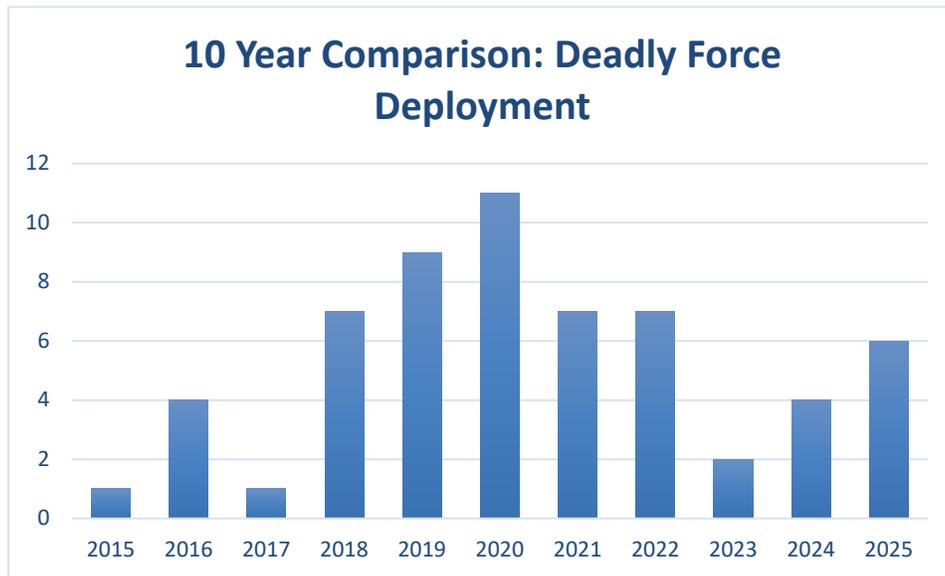
There were five response to resistance encounters that involved Special Response Team (SRT) activations by members of the Durham Police Department who are assigned to the Stafford County Regional Tactical Operations Unit (SCRTOU).



Force Methods/Types/Tools: 2025

Deadly Force Related

In 2025, there were six documented incidents where a Durham officer displayed the threat of deadly force. The Incidents where deadly force was displayed are listed in the Response to Resistance Summaries portion of the analysis. There were no incidents involving a firearm being discharged.



Our analysis found that in 2025, the number of times an officer had to resort to the display of deadly force increased slightly from 2024. The display of deadly force in 2025 was also lower than five of the last seven years of analysis. (SRT/SCRTOU callout display of deadly force incidents were not recorded in these statistics until 2018. Since that time they have been incorporated into the department deadly force deployment chart.)

Hand Control Tactics

The use of “hands-on” control tactics is the principal method used by officers to subdue and ultimately gain control of suspects. Nineteen of our response to resistance incidents involved the officer taking a person into custody through the utilization of hand control tactics. In several incidents it took more than one officer to gain control and compliance of the suspect. Hand control tactics may include grappling/wrestling with the suspect or physical control only. Basically, this equates to holding onto the suspect and guiding him/her as they walk towards a transport vehicle or taking them to the ground to gain control. The department must continue to prioritize defensive tactics training, with an emphasis on “hands-on” control techniques. In 2026, the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council (PSTC) is transitioning and implementing a new certification for department instructors that will replace Defensive Tactics with Control and Arrest Tactics courses. Currently, the Durham Police Department has one instructor certified in Defensive Tactics. I recommend we transition this current instructor to the new certification and add a second instructor to assist with training patrol officers throughout the year.

Personal Weapons as Striking Tools

There was one incident involving an officer physically striking a suspect with a personal weapon as a striking tool. This incident is detailed in the Response to Resistance Summaries portion of the analysis. The incident involved an officer striking a suspect with his knee on the suspect's side while fighting with the suspect to gain control of him and get him handcuffed.

Application of Handcuffs

Traditional hinged handcuffs were used while taking suspects into custody. Handcuffs were double locked and checked for looseness every time it was possible to do so relative to the violent behavior of the suspect. There were no incidents where flex-cuffs were used in Response to Resistance type incidents. *

(*Flex-cuffs, also known as plastic handcuffs, are a form of physical restraint for the hands or legs made of plastic, which fit most body types.)

Disarmed or at Risk of Being Disarmed

In 2025, no incident involved an officer being disarmed or at risk of being disarmed.

Contributing Factors

In 2025, Durham officers confronted multiple suspects on several different occasions. In a university community setting, officers often encounter multiple suspects or deal with large crowds/gatherings. Confronting suspects in large crowds, such as social gatherings, can offer significant challenges. The Durham Police Department understands the delicate nature of these gatherings and officers are taught to use common sense and an abundance of caution when forced to make arrests in such situations.

In 2025, 13 Durham officers indicated that the low light was a factor when dealing with an individual in a response to resistance situation. All officers in the department have received low light training in 2025 as a part of the semi-annual firearms training.

Several incidents related to an officer's knowledge or suspicion that a suspect possessed a weapon.

Injuries

In 2025, two Durham officers sustained minor injuries while in the act of taking a person into custody. One officer was hit in the face by the suspect and received a scratch. Another officer had abrasions to their knees during a struggle taking a suspect into

custody while on the paved portion of a roadway. In both situations, neither officer required any medical treatment or transportation to a hospital.

Approximately 61% of the time there was a Response to Resistance Report instance, an ambulance was called to evaluate the suspect. During 2025, four of these incidents were related to abrasion type injuries where it was believed that the injuries occurred during the course of the officer trying to apprehend the suspect. Most of the injuries were related to hands, elbows, or knees. The majority of the injuries were documented from the suspects falling while running, prior to an officer making any physical contact with the suspect.

There were eight medical evaluations that were requested by officers due to other circumstances during the Response to Resistance incident. Examples of these circumstances are intoxication related concerns, mental health related issues, panic and anxiety related issues post arrest, and for pre-existing injuries not caused by the actual Response to Resistance incident the suspect was involved in but instead injured during a physical altercation that led to a police response.

It is evident from this analysis that Durham officers use the minimum amount of force necessary when taking a person into custody. Previous annual analysis reports reference our hiring practices and our annual use of force training playing vital roles in how Durham officers treat people in custody. I believe that to still be the case.

Our hiring practices continue to be centered on identifying mature officers that reflect a calm and patient demeanor when communicating in stressful situations. Our training focuses on the appropriate amount of force needed during response to resistance encounters, including when that force should stop, and signs and symptoms that would indicate to an officer the suspect is in distress; both mentally and physically. Our policies and training also further clarify when an officer has the duty to intervene to stop unlawful and unsafe actions against those in our custody.

Plainclothes vs. Uniformed Patrol

In 2025, no plainclothes officers were involved in a response to resistance situation without there also being a uniformed patrol officer on scene. All uniformed officers had their badges clearly displayed. In 2025 all incidents involving the presence of a police car on scene, a marked patrol car was prominent. This is not to say that unmarked cars were not on scene, but each incident utilized at least one marked patrol vehicle.

Officers involved in response to resistance encounters were wearing the appropriate style uniform for the time of year or assignment. There is no obvious pattern that shows the style of uniform playing a role in the outcome of an encounter.

Verbal Directions

Officers shouted verbal commands during all reported incidents where it was necessary to do so. Officers made every effort to identify themselves as Durham Police Officers and continued to repeat commands when necessary, directing suspects and involved people with what to do.

TASER

The Taser is a brand of conducted energy weapon (CEW) that is an important tool that filled the continuum between Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) and deadly force and proves to be a desirable alternative method of force that substantially limits injury to the suspect and the responding police officer.

The Taser can be deployed two ways, firing the weapon or drive-stun, at the officers discretion based on the circumstances of the incident. Firing the weapon happens when the officer pulls the trigger, and a pre-loaded cartridge shoots two prongs attached to wires. The prongs puncture through the suspects skin and an electric charge is delivered to the suspect. The charge causes neuromuscular incapacitation for five seconds. The electric charge disrupts voluntary muscle control making movements difficult, allowing for an officer to move to the suspect and safely restrain them.

Drive-stunning the suspect involves pressing front of the weapon directly against the body of the suspect. The officer can control the delivery of shock by pressing and releasing an arc button on the side of the weapon. A drive-stun is not likely to incapacitate a suspect, instead it is used for temporary pain compliance, either to gain control of a suspect, or to create distance from an officer. Because direct contact is required in this method, officers are trained to use this only in close quarter situations or when probe deployment has proven to be ineffective.

All information concerning a Taser deployment (weapon fired or drive-stun) is recorded to the Taser device and downloaded for analysis by certified instructors. Information is recorded to analyze if the Taser was working properly, how many deployments happened, and what input the officer gave to the weapon during the duration that it was powered on.

In 2025, officers of the Durham Police Department deployed their Taser four times to subdue a suspect. This incident is detailed in the Response to Resistance Summaries portion of this analysis. All four deployments are from the same incident on the same suspect. In the incident, the first deployment (weapon fired) had only limited incapacitation and the suspect ripped the wires and probes from his body. The second deployment (weapon fired), from the same officer, caused successful incapacitation of the suspect, but when another officer approached the suspect to take him into custody

and control, the suspect ripped the wires and probes from his body, charged at another officer and assaulted him by punching him in the face. Another officer fired his Taser at the suspect, which had no effect. This same officer fired again and caused a full body muscular incapacitation. Officers were then able to secure the suspect with handcuffs.

On two separate occasions in 2025, Durham officers removed their Taser from their holster and pointed it, or displayed it, at a suspect threatening its use but not deploying (firing or arcing) it.

As agency personnel encounter more and more incidents involving mental health, the Taser provides the officer with a much safer and less-lethal use of force option.

OC/Pepper Spray

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) is derived from hot chili peppers. Unlike tear gas, it is highly concentrated of natural substances and therefore deemed biodegradable. OC acts as an inflammatory to the mucous membranes of humans and animals. When applied to the face, it typically causes swelling of the mucous membranes, involuntary closing of the eyes, gagging, coughing, shortness of breath, and an intense feeling of burning on the exposed areas.

In 2025, officers of the Durham Police Department had no documented incidents of using OC spray to subdue a suspect. OC spray remains an effective tool when in close quarters or when the Taser does not affect the suspect in the manner anticipated. It is clear that OC spray can reduce injuries. I recommend that we continue to keep this non-lethal option available to sworn officers.

Police Expandable Straight Baton

The “Police Expandable Straight Baton”, formally known as the ASP Straight Baton, was designated as an “optional” tool on the Use of Force Continuum in 2011. At that time, several of the officers voiced concern and lack of confidence in the straight baton as an effective tool. There were no documented uses of the straight baton in 2025, nor was it used in any manner during the previous ten years. It is my recommendation that the department continue to train in the use of the baton and provide officers with the option to carry it on duty if they choose to do so. When trained properly, and with individual practice, the baton can be a very effective option on the Force Continuum.

PepperBall Projectile

PepperBall air powered launchers deploy small non-lethal projectiles similar to paintballs. The projectiles contain Pelargonic Acid and Vanilly Amide (PAVA). PAVA is an organic compound but is commonly manufactured synthetically and is similar to OC. It acts as an inflammatory agent to the mucous membranes of humans and animals.

When the powder contacts the face, it typically causes swelling of the mucous membranes, involuntary closing of the eyes, gagging, coughing, shortness of breath, and an intense feeling of burning on the exposed areas. PepperBall launchers are used by members of the Durham Police Department to control and disperse large crowds of moving or resisting demonstrators or to prevent self-destructive acts of violence, such as any violent or potentially violent act by a suspect that is attempting or threatening to commit suicide or serious bodily injury to themselves by any means.

In 2025, there was one incident involving the deployment of PepperBall. The incident is included in the Response to Resistance Summary portion of this analysis. In that incident, the deployment was against a single suspect who had an edged weapon and was actively committing serious bodily injury to himself, while threatening to commit serious bodily injury to anyone who came near him.

The PepperBall projectile has remained an important tool on the Force Continuum for officers to be able to consider. Not only for celebratory riots, civil disturbances, and the dispersing of large crowds, but also for those situations in which less lethal means for self-destructive acts of violence present. It is important that the organization continue to train and explore optional methods of deployment regarding the use of PepperBall or similar products.

Assaults or Suspected Assaults on Durham Police Officers in 2025

The following is an analysis of all assaults or attempted assaults on police officers in the Town of Durham for 2025. This analysis began in 2017 and is conducted annually to determine trends or patterns that allows the department to enhance officer safety, revise policy, or address training needs. In 2025, of the 27 responses to resistance reported by officers of the Durham Police Department, five resulted in an attempted or actual assault of the officer involved.

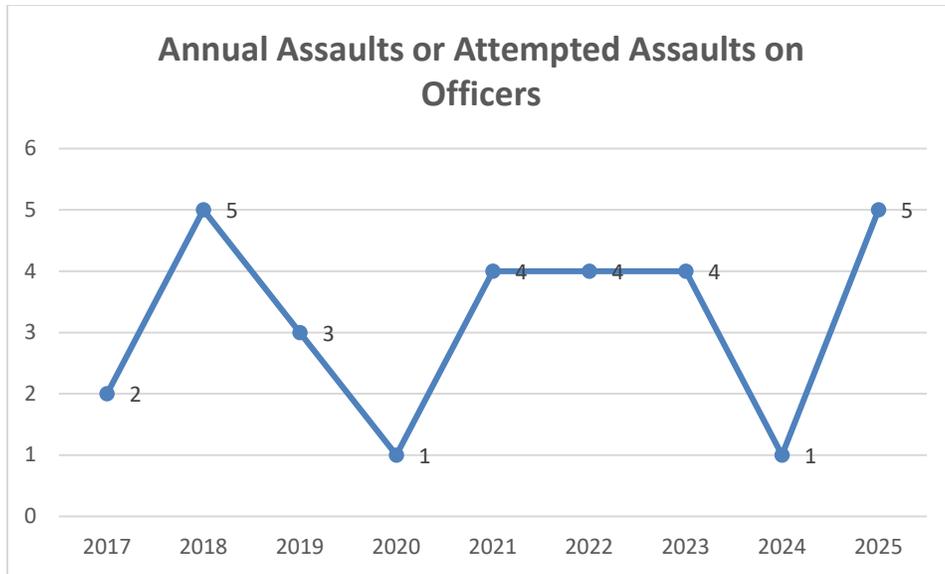


Chart A: Annual Assaults or Attempted Assaults on Officers

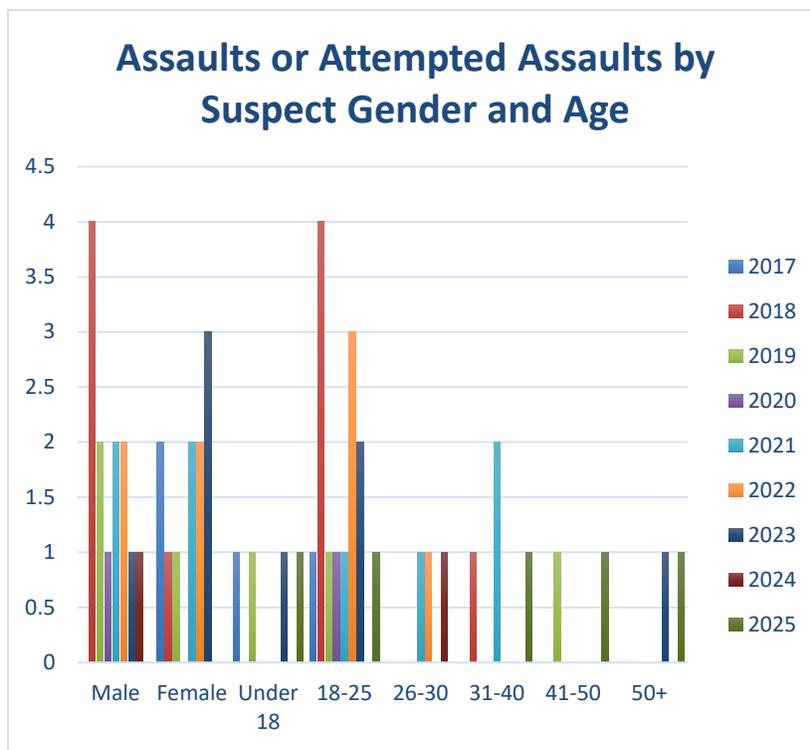


Chart B: Assaults or Attempted Assaults by Suspect Gender and Age

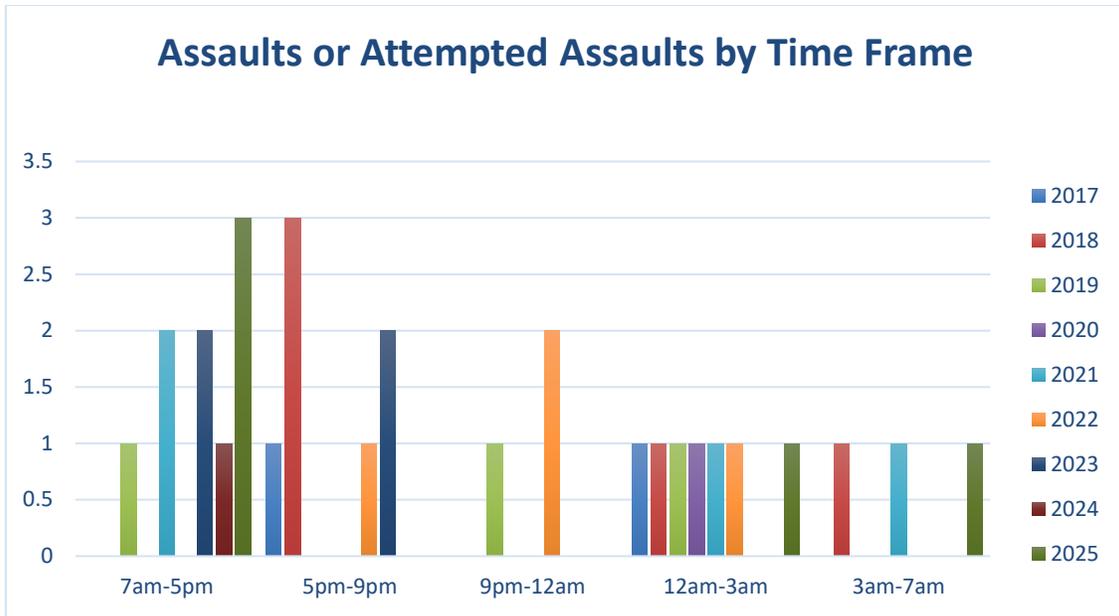


Chart C: Assaults or Attempted Assaults by Time Frame

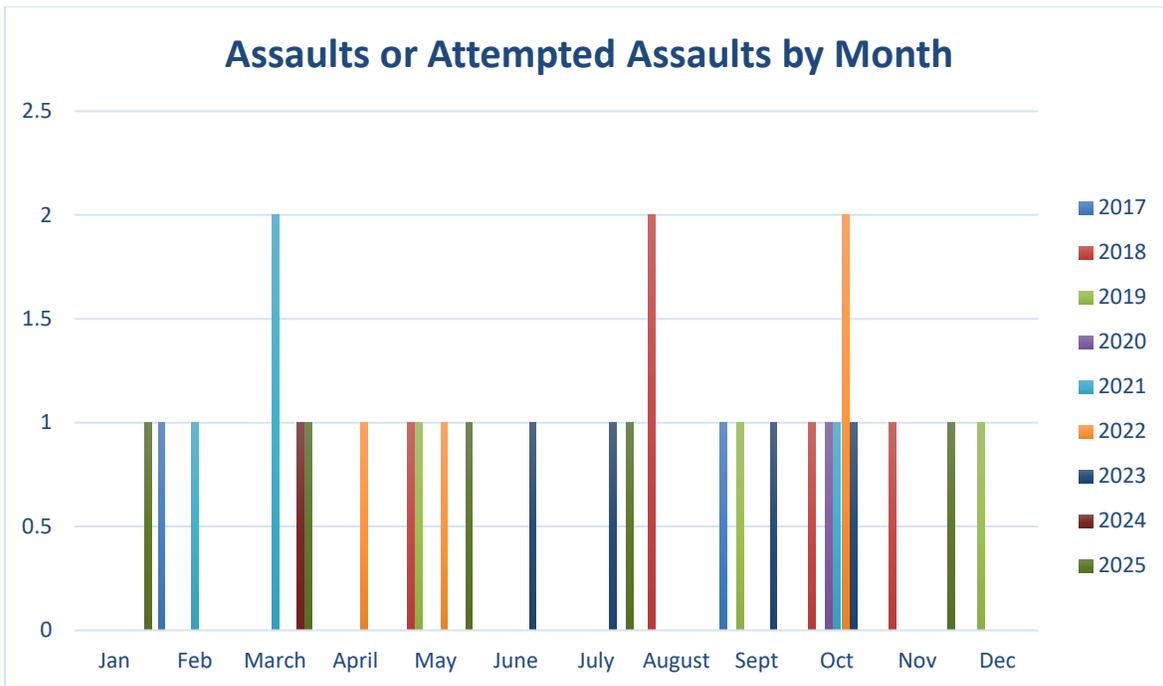


Chart D: Assaults or Attempted Assaults by Month

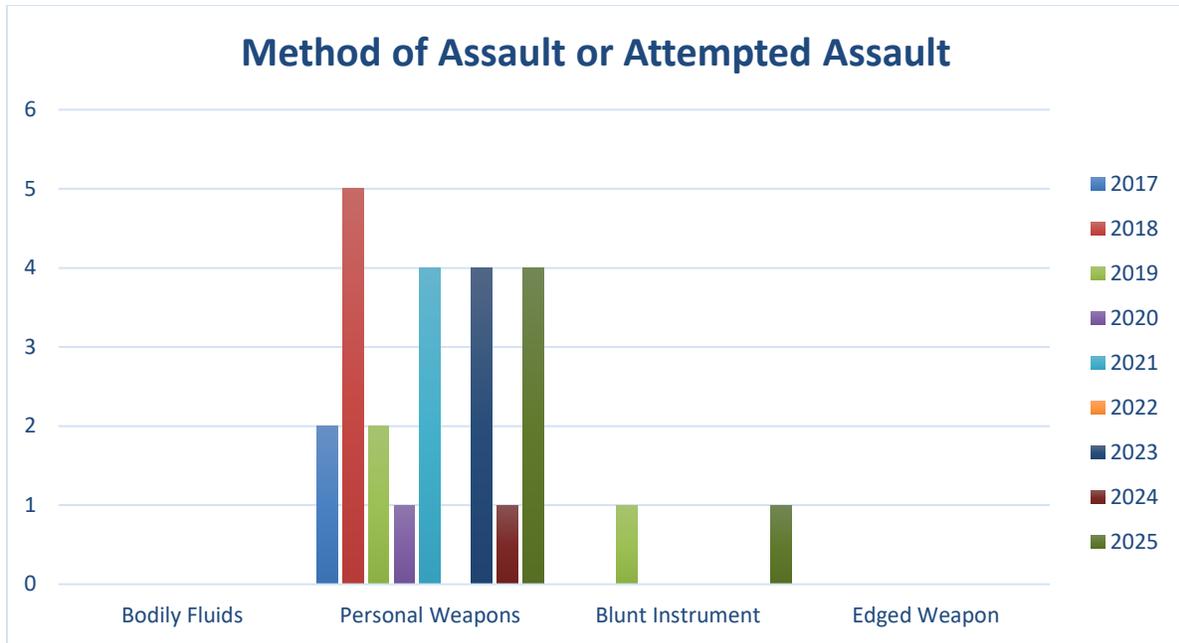


Chart E: Method of Assault or Attempted Assault

Assaults on Durham Police Officers: Trends or Patterns

The analysis over the past nine years shows no emerging trends that would affect our current staffing levels or shift allocations.

What continues to remain true is the importance of our agency personnel continuing to train with both lethal and less-lethal weapons, such as the Taser and OC.

Suspects primarily use hands, feet, biting, or spitting as methods of assault. One attempted assault involved the use of walking/ski poles, classified as a “blunt instrument” in the above chart. Officers primarily use hands-on tactics to prevent the various types of resistance they encountered. It verifies that our officers are using the appropriate level of force when dealing with suspects, armed or unarmed, with weapons.

I recommend that we continue to prioritize our defensive tactics training, transitioning to the new control and arrest tactics courses, and remind our officers to remain vigilant no matter the time of day or month, and regardless of gender or age of a suspect when dealing with a hostile situation.

Officer Data: In 2025, the age and relative experience of officers reporting the application of force when responding to resistance generates no discernable pattern.

Identified Deficiencies/Suggestions for Improvement

- Identify new instructors for the Control and Arrest Tactics instructor certifications that will be offered by PSTC in 2026.
- Due to the amount of new hire officers in 2024 and 2025, prioritize training and re-certifications of Taser, Firearms, PepperBall, and Defensive Tactics/Control and Arrest Tactics courses in 2026.

Positive Efforts

- The state of New Hampshire now requires more minimum training hours (24) per officer, per year, than ever before. This training includes mandatory compliance in several courses, including, Mental Health, Ethics, De-Escalation, and Bias.
- Emergency tactical first aid was taught to all officers in 2024. This training included tourniquet application and tactical considerations when moving victims. It has now been incorporated into annual training with defensive tactics and firearms.
- Individual tourniquets continue to be purchased for all sworn officers to carry with them during their patrol shifts. Additional kits and tourniquets were placed in all marked patrol cars and detective unmarked cars.
- The agency has continued to review and modify existing policies to maintain best practices related to police response to force.
- Instructors continue to ensure that the firearms, less lethal, and hands-on defensive tactics training plan outlines are consistent and complement each other.
- The agency continues to be transparent by posting all Response to Resistance policies, and this analysis, online.

Recommended Action Steps

- The department should continue refresher training in Use of Force policies and Duty to Intervene policies/trainings.
- The agency should continue refresher training in Ethics, Bias, De-escalation, Standards of Conduct, and Mission and Values to ensure that our officers understand that the agency is committed to a “Guardian” culture. It is critical that we continue to ensure the officers understand and embrace the premise that policing in Durham exists to provide services in a compassionate and unbiased manner.

- Continue to seek mental health, domestic violence, and suicide related awareness training.
- Increase practical training in the use of defensive tactics/control and arrest tactics, and utilize simulators for both Use of Force and de-escalation style training.
- Continue our practice of training in low-light conditions.
- Continue to provide specialized training for Use of Force instructors and make every effort to identify qualified officers to join the team of certified instructors.
- The department must continue to evaluate all force continuum options; ensuring that whenever new technology emerges, officers are being provided with the most advanced tools and training. By maintaining best practice standards, it will allow our officers to utilize the least amount of force necessary when attempting to gain compliance from a resisting suspect.
- Continue training in verbal de-escalation strategies that have been proven effective to lessen the need to respond to violent offenders with force.

Response to Resistance Summaries

The following are summaries of all 27 response to resistance incidents, involving 28 different people, in 2025 where Durham officers used any level of force beyond the application of handcuffs:

RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE NARRATIVES – SUMMARY (INFORMATION REDACTED)

*Note – “BOLO” stands for Be On the Look Out, a common term used by law enforcement as a bulletin to on duty officers, typically aired by dispatchers via radio and issued by a neighboring jurisdiction.

1. Friday, 01/10/2025 – 2213 hours
An officer conducted a motor vehicle stop on Dover Road for an equipment violation. During the investigation, the operator was found to have a suspended license and habitual offender status. When informed he was under arrest, the operator physically resisted by pulling away and twisting his body. With assistance from a second officer, control was gained and the individual was handcuffed without further incident.

2. Thursday, 01/23/2025 – 1230 hours
Officers responded to a BOLO regarding a runaway juvenile believed to be in the Dover Road area. The juvenile was located nearby and attempted to avoid officers and leave the scene. When officers attempted to detain her, she struck an officer multiple times and continued to resist by attempting to kick the officer. Officers placed her on the ground and applied handcuffs. EMS evaluated minor injuries, and the juvenile was transferred to the requesting agency.
3. Saturday, 02/02/2025 – 0026 hours
An officer observed what appeared to be an active assault involving three individuals on Jenkins Court. Upon intervention, two involved parties attempted to flee. One individual was pursued, taken to the ground, and arrested. The second individual was later located and arrested. Both arrests were completed without further resistance.
4. Thursday, 02/13/2025 – 2355 hours
Officers responded to a report of a man damaging property with an axe inside an apartment building on Strafford Avenue. The individual exited into the hallway holding a hatchet. After officers issued commands at gunpoint, the individual immediately complied, dropped the weapon, and was taken into custody without further incident.
5. Sunday, 02/16/2025 – 0015 hours
An officer observed a group dragging an apparently unconscious female across Main Street. During a welfare check, the female became irate and attempted to leave. She resisted when the officer attempted to detain her, pulling and twisting away. With the assistance of a second officer, she was restrained, handcuffed, and taken into custody.
6. Monday, 03/03/2025 – 1456 hours
An officer initiated contact with a known unlicensed driver operating a motor vehicle. The individual attempted to flee on foot after stopping his vehicle, but returned when ordered to stop. During the interaction, the individual became emotionally unstable and attempted to injure himself by slamming his head on the windshield of his vehicle. When officers attempted to take him into custody for safety reasons, he resisted and was taken to the ground and handcuffed. EMS evaluated him with no injuries reported.
7. Friday, 05/16/2025 – 1000 hours
Officers responded to a reported disturbance on Newmarket Road that had occurred inside a vehicle that was traveling through the area. When contacted by police, a passenger in the vehicle became aggressive, struck a police cruiser

with his fists, ignored commands to stop, advanced toward officers, and physically assaulted an officer. Multiple taser deployments were required before officers were able to gain control and apply handcuffs. The individual was charged with multiple offenses, including felony charges for strangling the driver of the car while it was moving and cruelty to an animal that was in the vehicle.

8. Monday, 05/12/2025 – 1030 hours

Officers and EMS responded to a residence for a reported mental health crisis involving a suicidal individual. The individual attempted to flee and physically resisted officers. Officers took the individual to the ground, applied handcuffs, and transported him to the hospital for evaluation. No injuries were reported.

9. Saturday, 05/24/2025 – 2300 hours

During a traffic stop on Newmarket Road, a driver provided false identifying information and attempted to re-enter his vehicle, where a knife was visible and in close proximity to his reach. Officers intervened to prevent access to the weapon and took the individual into custody without further incident. Upon confirming the driver's actual identity, it was confirmed that he had an outstanding felony warrant for his arrest.

10. Monday, 07/07/2025 – 1106 hours

Officers responded to reports of staff from a behavioral health and developmental living program restraining a woman experiencing a mental health crisis near Bunker Lane. Officers assisted with restraints and applied a spit mask while EMS responded. The woman was transported to the hospital for evaluation.

11. Tuesday, 07/08/2025 – 0730 hours

Officers returned to Bunker Lane for a follow-up incident involving the same individual as in the previous summary. When staff attempted to retrieve personal property, the individual became aggressive and was attempting to assault staff. Officers and staff restrained her by holding her arms and legs, and she was briefly handcuffed until she became composed. Handcuffs were then removed and she was treated and transported by EMS.

12. Wednesday, 07/30/2025 – 0706 hours – **SCRTOU operation**

Durham officers assisted the Strafford County Regional Tactical Operations Unit (SCRTOU) in Dover, NH, with a barricaded subject armed with a knife. The subject resisted commands and attempted to assault officers. After multiple less-lethal attempts by non-Durham members of the SCRTOU, two Durham officers assigned to SCRTOU brought the subject to the ground through hand control and applied handcuffs. The subject continued to resist and tried to kick and pull away from the officers.

13. Sunday, 08/03/2025 – 0032 hours

During a downtown foot patrol, an officer observed an individual acting suspicious near closed businesses, who fled when approached by a uniformed patrol officer. The individual was pursued, fell after tripping on a storm drain, and was taken into custody at Taser point - without any deployment. Charges included criminal mischief (vandalism) and resisting arrest.

14. Sunday, 08/31/2025 – 0034 hours

An officer contacted an individual for an open container of alcohol violation. The individual provided false information and fled. After a foot pursuit and physical struggle, officers gained control and applied handcuffs. No injuries were reported.

15. Friday, 09/19/2025 – 0020 hours

Officers located an intoxicated female on Mill Road requiring medical assistance. While being prepared for transport, she became combative. The woman began to try to slap, kick, and pull away from officers and EMS workers. Officers assisted medical personnel in securing her for safe transport.

16. Thursday, 10/09/2025 – 2239 hours

Officers observed a heavily intoxicated male urinating in public, downtown. When officers attempted to arrest him, he fled and resisted. Officers took him to the ground and handcuffed him. There were minor injuries (abrasions) to both the suspect and an officer.

17. Saturday, 10/25/2025 – 2117 hours

An officer contacted a subject for an open container of alcohol violation. The subject fled on foot and was tackled and arrested without further resistance.

18. Saturday, 10/25/2025 – 2349 hours

Officers attempted to detain a female for an open container of alcohol violation on Madbury Road. She resisted efforts to place her in handcuffs and tried to walk away from officers. While being handcuffed, the woman tried to pull her arms away from officers. Officers were able to hold the woman against a wall to restrain her, and she was handcuffed and arrested.

19. Saturday, 11/22/2025 – 2150 hours

Officers intervened in a physical altercation outside a downtown establishment. The involved individual continued to resist officers while they were taking him into custody, including trying to assault and grab an employee of the involved establishment by the neck. The suspect was eventually handcuffed and charged with multiple offenses.

20. Sunday, 11/27/2025 – 0027 hours

Officers contacted a juvenile for an open container of alcohol violation. The juvenile fled, was pursued on foot, taken to the ground, and handcuffed.

21. Tuesday, 11/25/2025 – 0915 hours – **SCRTOU operation**

Durham officers assisted SCRTOU with a search warrant execution in Dover, NH, where a drug operation was believed to be taking place. While executing the search warrant, a male occupant of the apartment being searched failed to follow verbal commands. It was also identified that he had an outstanding felony arrest warrant. He was pulled from the apartment using hand control by a Durham officer assigned to SCRTOU and handcuffed without further incident.

22. Tuesday, 11/25/2025 – 0915 hours – **SCRTOU operation**

Durham officers assisted SCRTOU with a search warrant execution in Dover, NH, where a drug operation was believed to be taking place. While executing the search warrant and after the previously mentioned summary occurred, another male occupant of the apartment who was identified as having an outstanding felony level warrant, exited the apartment building. A Durham officer assigned to the SCRTOU directed the male out of the building at gunpoint. The male did not comply with any verbal commands. Another team member (non-Durham officer) tackled the man to the ground and handcuffed him.

23. Thursday, 11/27/2025 – 0548 hours – **SCRTOU operation**

Durham officers assigned to SCRTOU executed a search warrant related to an armed robbery investigation in Dover, NH. A suspect exited the residence and was taken into custody while officers provided lethal and less-lethal cover while the suspect was taken into custody by other non-Durham officers.

24. Sunday, 11/30/2025 – 0554 hours

Officers responded to a missing person call involving an elderly individual experiencing cognitive impairment. The individual resisted medical intervention and attempted to strike responders with ski/walking poles. Officers assisted medical personnel in safely restraining and transporting the individual for evaluation.

25. Saturday, 12/06/2025 – 2219 hours

Durham officers assisted New Hampshire State Police with a motor vehicle pursuit involving a violent felony suspect. The vehicle, which had tire deflation devices deployed on it by State Troopers outside of Durham, became disabled and inoperable on Route 4 in Durham. Durham officers pointed their firearms at the vehicle while the suspect refused to obey verbal commands and held a knife out of the window and toward officers. The suspect then began to harm himself

with the knife and threatened suicide. A Durham officer deployed less-lethal PepperBall projectiles into the cab of the vehicle that the suspect was in, before the suspect was taken into custody by State Police.

26. Monday, 12/15/2025 – 0630 hours – **SCRTOU operation** (in Durham)
Durham officers assigned to SCRTOU assisted with serving arrest and search warrants on Newmarket Road for a suspect wanted on felony weapon charges. The suspect complied with commands and was taken into custody without incident. A Durham officer pointed their firearm at the suspect prior to him being taken into custody.
27. Wednesday, 12/17/2025 – 1645 hours
Durham officers were notified of a motor vehicle complaint alleging reckless driving on Route 4. An officer spotted the described vehicle and conducted a motor vehicle stop to investigate. The officer noted that the operator was impaired by alcohol and was unsafe to drive. The male driver refused to cooperate with the officer's command to exit the vehicle after being told he was under arrest. The male pulled his arms and hands away from the officer while still seated inside his vehicle. The male was pulled from the vehicle and arrested. He was evaluated by EMS for pre-existing medical conditions.
28. Thursday, 12/18/2025 – 0100 hours – **SCRTOU operation**
A Durham officer assigned to SCRTOU assisted with a barricaded male in the City of Dover. The male had reportedly been involved in a dispute with a roommate, who he threatened with a firearm. Upon the arrival of uniformed Dover Police officers, the male suspect shot a firearm that he possessed and retreated into his residence where he refused to exit at police commands. After some time, the suspect exited and the Durham officer assigned to SCRTOU pointed his firearm at the suspect until he was taken into custody by other officers.

Conclusion

After reviewing all relevant data from previous years, I conclude that in 2025, there is no developing pattern to suggest that any officer is using force greater than what is reasonable and necessary to affect the arrest or detention of violently resisting persons. There is no data that suggests any Durham officer is acting in an aggressive manner. The evidence over the years is compelling and proves that Durham officers use an extreme amount of restraint and professionalism when under duress, when provoked, and when threatened with harm. I believe it is a credit to our instructors, hiring process, field training program, as well as adherence to sound policy and procedures under the Commission

on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) accreditation process that allows our success to continue.