

Albuquerque Police Department Monthly Use of Force Report

April 2026



Prepared by:

**Data Analytics Unit
May 6, 2026**

Note: This report presents preliminary information from departmental data. All figures in this report are subject to change as additional information becomes available.



Total Use of Force Events - April 2026

This report provides a monthly overview of use of force events involving Albuquerque Police Department (APD) personnel. APD is committed to using force to achieve lawful objectives in instances where use of force is objectively reasonable, necessary, and minimal, given the totality of circumstances (see SOP 2-52: Use of Force – General). When force is not consistent with these standards of conduct (SOP 2-52: Use of Force- General), APD takes corrective actions which may include discipline.

APD's jurisdiction includes the City of Albuquerque which is divided into seven Area Commands.

Force was categorized into three levels based on APD policy. Starting in April 2026 force is no longer categorized into three levels. Instead it is categorized into two levels: Use of Force and Serious Use of Force. *For the purposes of this report, we have grouped Use of Force incidents with Level 2 Force and Serious Use of Force Incidents with Level 3 Force.* For more information on APD's Standard Operating Procedures, see: <https://public.powerdms.com/COA>.

Total Use of Force Cases by Area Command and Level of Force

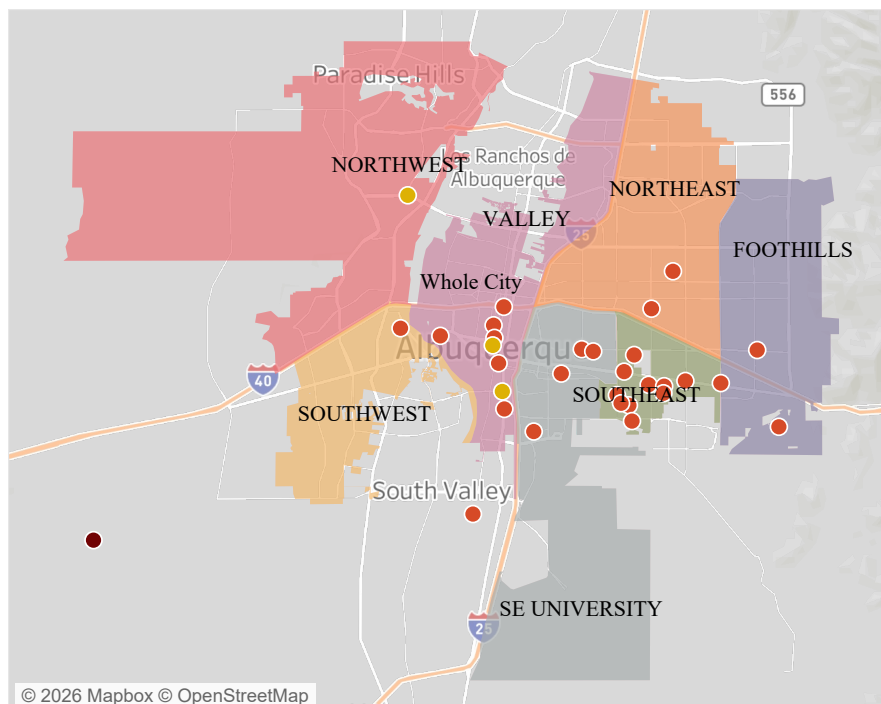
	Level 1	Level 2 & UOF	Level 3 & SUOF	Grand Total
Foothills	0	2	0	2
Northeast	0	2	0	2
Northwest	1	0	0	1
Southeast	0	12	0	12
Southwest	0	1	0	1
University	0	3	0	3
Valley	2	6	0	8
Out of Area	0	1	1	2
Grand Total	3	27	1	31

As APD's new Force classifications went live in the middle of April 2026, reporting on force with both systems is complicated. However, in April 2026, there were no Serious Use of Force incidents, and only 6 Use of Force incidents across the department.

Level 1 Use of Force has been on a steady decline (see past reports). Under the new policy, which went live in mid April, much of what was Level 1 Force is classified as Low Level Control. Low Level Control will be reportable as part of the uniform incident report and reviewed by the officers supervisor to ensure that it was reasonable, minimal and that a lawful objective was present.

Starting in mid April IAFD has been reviewing a random sample of Low Level Control cases.

Locations of Use of Force Cases



- Level 1
- Level 2 & UOF
- Level 3 & SUOF

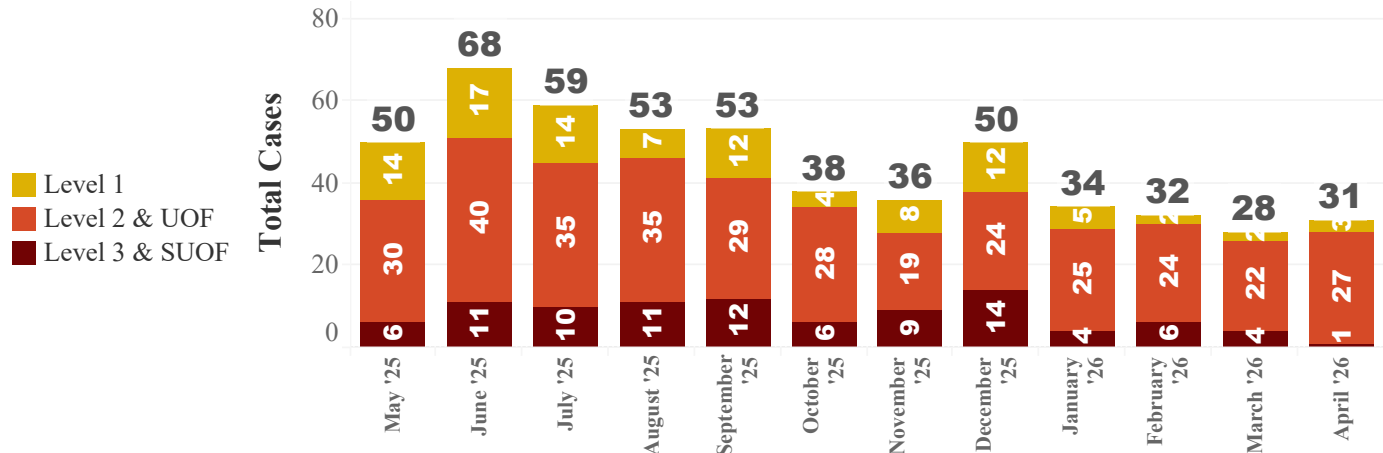
Note: Most force investigations in this report are open investigations since it reflects the previous month of data. As such, figures in this report are preliminary and subject to change as use of force investigations progress.



Use of Force Totals by Month - Past 12 Months

APD tracks use of force data over time to examine trends in use of force. For annual trends, see APD's Annual Use of Force Reports. This page reports monthly totals of all use of force for APD.

Total Uses of Force by Month and Level of Force



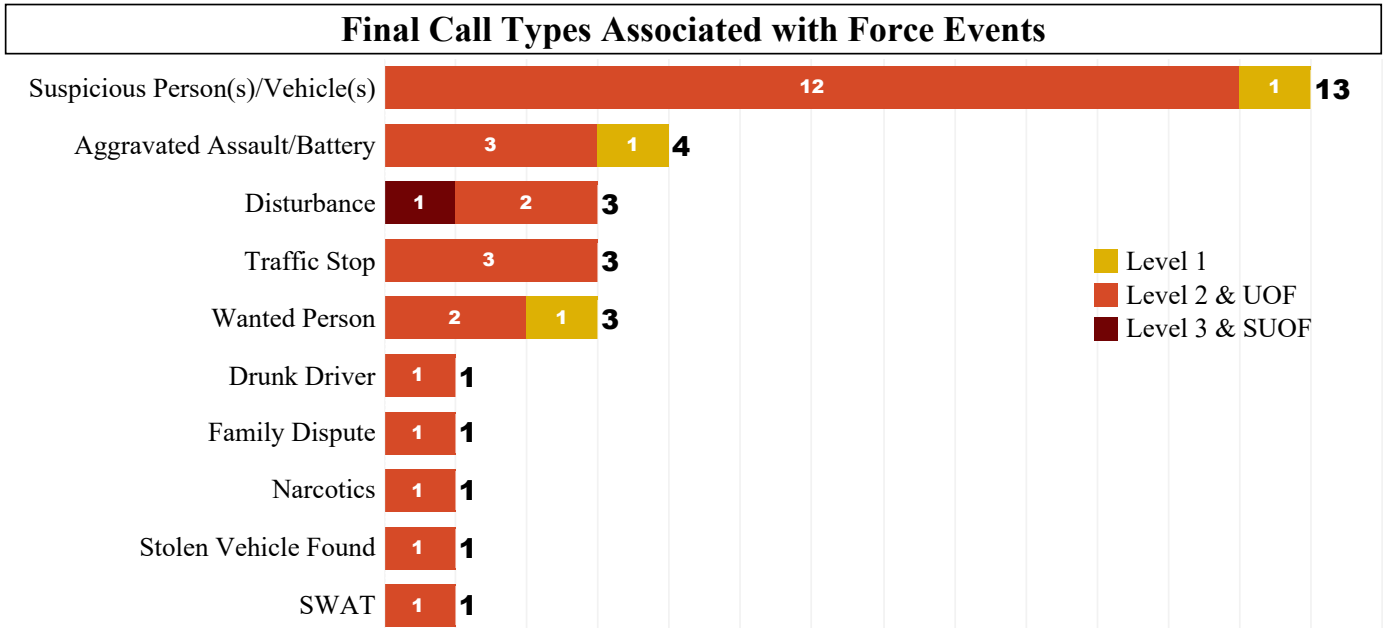
Total Uses of Force by Month and Area Command

		May '25	June '25	July '25	August '25	September '25	October '25	November '25	December '25	January '26	February '26	March '26	April '26	Grand Total
Foothills	Level 1	3		4	1	3			2					13
	Level 2 & U..	2	6	5	3	1	1	4	4	2	3	1	2	34
	Level 3 & S..		1		2	1		1	1	2				8
Northeast	Level 1	3	1	1	2	1		4	2					14
	Level 2 & U..	6	4	10	6	6	3	1	1	6	3	2	2	50
	Level 3 & S..		2	2	2		1		3	1	2	1		14
Northwest	Level 1		2			2		1	2				1	8
	Level 2 & U..	2		1	2	1	2	1	1	3	2	1		16
	Level 3 & S..		1	1				1			1			4
Southeast	Level 1	4	5	5		1	3		1	4	1			24
	Level 2 & U..	6	13	8	11	10	12	2	9	7	8	5	12	103
	Level 3 & S..	2	1		2	4	1		4		1	1		16
Southwest	Level 1	2	2	2	1			1			1	2		11
	Level 2 & U..	4	4	6	3	2	2	5	2	3		2	1	34
	Level 3 & S..		1	4	1	3	2	4	1		1	1		18
University	Level 1		2	1	1	1		1	1					7
	Level 2 & U..	2	7	4	3	6	3		4	2	1	5	3	40
	Level 3 & S..	1	1	2	1	2		1						8
Valley	Level 1	2	4	1	2	4	1	1	4	1			2	22
	Level 2 & U..	7	5	3	5	4	3	6	3	3	7	6	6	58
	Level 3 & S..	3	4	1	3	4	1	1	4	1	1	1		24
Out of Area	Level 1		1											1
	Level 2 & U..	1	1		2		2					1	1	8
	Level 3 & S..						1	1	1				1	4
Grand Total		50	68	59	53	53	38	36	50	34	32	28	31	532

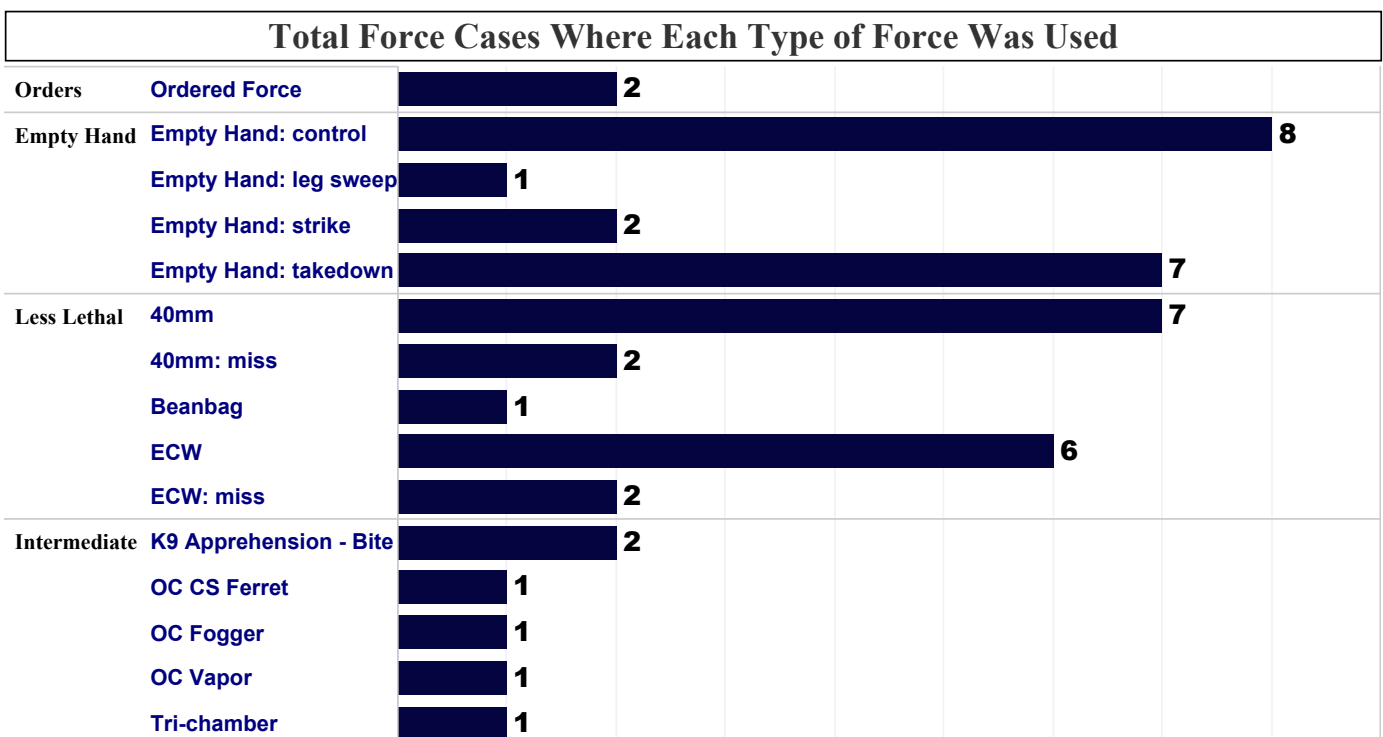


Final Call Types and Types of Force Used - April 2026

Officers are dispatched to calls for service and the original and final type of call for service are tracked. The chart below shows the final call types for all calls involving force during the month.



Below, the total number of cases is shown that included the type of force. In any single force case, multiple officers are usually involved and multiple types of force can be used. The bars on the graph will sum to a number greater than the total force cases due to multiple types of force being used in one case and the case being represented in multiple bars.





Show of Force and Low Level Control Tactics - April 2026

Cases Where Shows of Force Are The Only Method Applied by Month

As of September 20, 2025, APD amended its use of force SOPs to specify that shows of force (i.e. pointing a firearm, ECW, or 40mm launcher) at a person are no longer uses of force according to APD policy. Shows of force are tracked as part of uniform incident reports and supervisors review the incidents to ensure each was reasonable, necessary, and minimal in the circumstances. Due to this subset of cases no longer being counted in force totals, cases where there is a show of force only are included below to for improved comparison of force cases over time.

	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26
SOF Firearm						6	12	11	9	9	2	10
SOF ECW					1	3	8	6	4	4	1	8
Unspecified SOF						2	4		2	1	6	2
SOF 40mm Impact Launcher					1		3	2	1	2	1	4
Handgun: pointing	2	3	2	1	2							
ECW: Painting	1	2	2		2							
SOF OC Spray								1	1			
40mm: pointing		1										
Rifle: pointing			1									
Grand Total	3	5	5	1	6	11	26	18	15	14	10	22

Low-Level Control Tactics

Per APD SOP 2-53-3-DD, "a Low-Level Control Tactic is a physical technique used to move, guide, restrain an individual, or stop an individual's resistance, that results in temporary pain or superficial wounds. Superficial wounds include minor bleeding, scrapes, bruises, cuts, or abrasions." Under SOP, "a low-level control tactic is not a use of force". The use of low-level control tactics are reported as part of the uniform incident report, and so are reviewed by an officer's supervisor and generally not by IAFD.

As the new force policy, implemented in mid-April, does not have an equivalent for Level 1 force, much of what was Level 1 force will be reported as low-level control tactics. Below, we report trends in low level control tactics for the past 12 months.

	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26
LLCT only	166	185	186	226	193	226	233	232	279	240	256	238
Other Force Used	30	39	39	33	28	37	34	51	33	31	32	29
Grand Total	196	224	225	259	221	263	267	283	312	271	288	267



Use of Force Benchmarked Against Calls For Service and Arrests - April 2026

Officers are required to only use force when necessary to achieve a lawful objective. When officers have more contacts with individuals, it is likely that there will be more uses of force. To control for factors that may contribute to higher or lower uses of force in a given month, this page shows the number of uses of force relative to the number of calls for service and the number of arrests made. For a detailed discussion of the method used on this page, see APD's 2024 Annual Use of Force Report. **Total force counts on this page may be higher than the previous page if a case involves more than one use of force in different Area Commands.**

Calls for Service

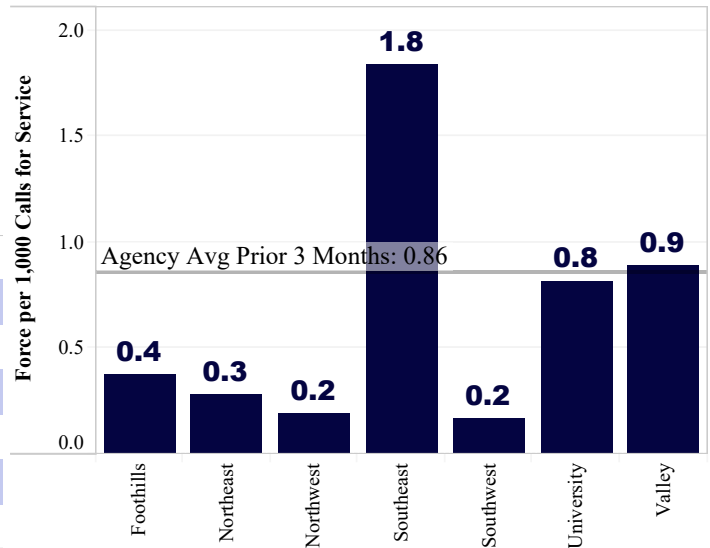
Total Calls for Service for Area Commands

Excludes calls for service where contact with an individual was unlikely, see Annual Use of Force report for full methodology.

CAD Calls by Area Command, April 2026

Area Command	Total Force Cases	Total CAD Calls	Force per 1,000 Calls
Foothills	2	5,352	0.4
Northeast	2	7,236	0.3
Northwest	1	5,205	0.2
Southeast	12	6,536	1.8
Southwest	1	5,906	0.2
University	3	3,677	0.8
Valley	8	9,007	0.9

Force Rate per 1,000 Calls For Service



Custodial Arrests

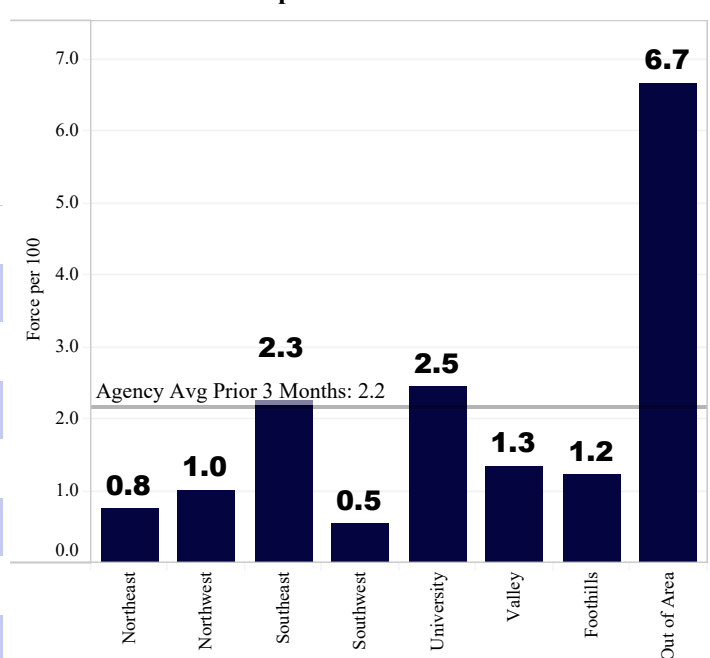
Total Custodial Arrests for Area Commands

Arrests include custodial arrests only and exclud summonses and citations.

Force per Arrest by Area Command, April 2026

Area Command	Total Force Cases	Total Arrests	Force per 100 Arrests
Foothills	2	164	1.2
Northeast	2	263	0.8
Northwest	1	98	1.0
Southeast	12	530	2.3
Southwest	1	185	0.5
University	3	122	2.5
Valley	8	596	1.3
Out of Area	2	30	6.7

Force Rate per 100 Custodial Arrests

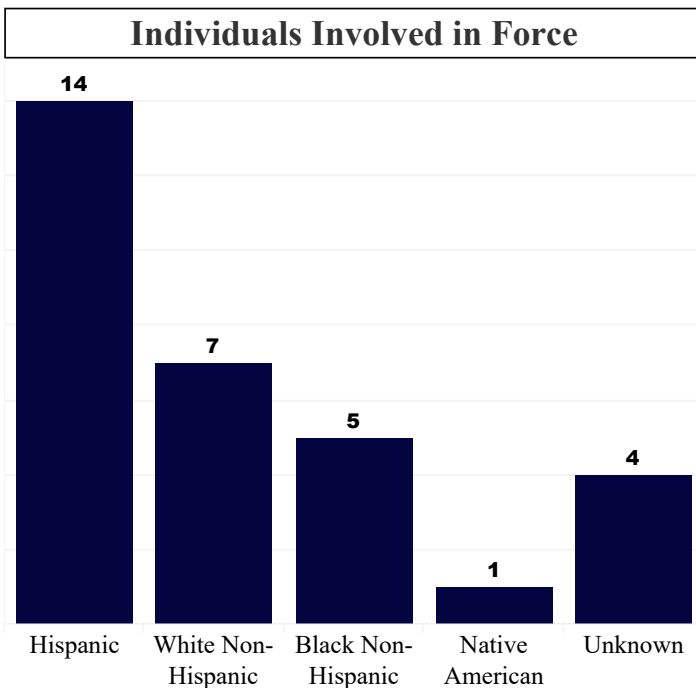
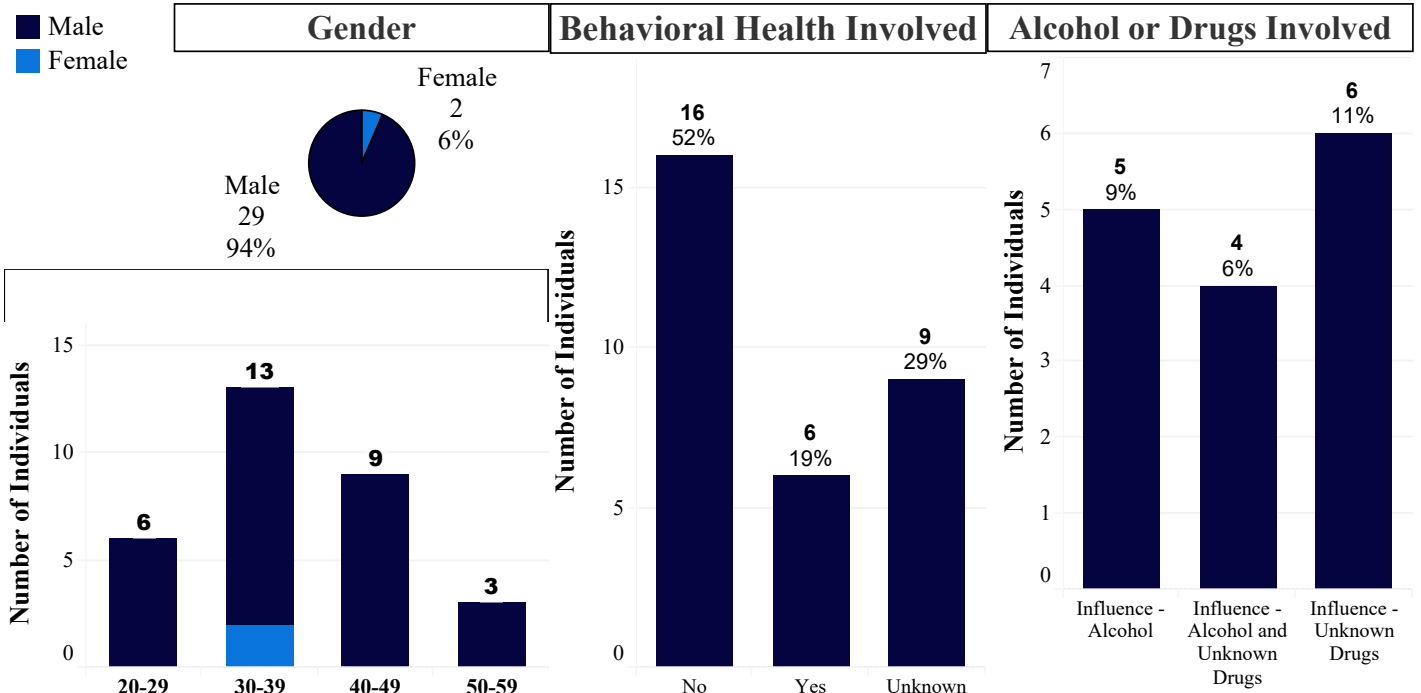




Demographics of Individuals Involved in Force - April 2026

APD records information about individuals involved in use of force incidents. Citizen information is based on what the individual reported or, if not reported by the individual, on the investigators observations on scene and through review of body-worn camera video. Information may change as investigations progress.

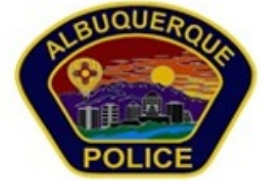
Note: Totals on different characteristics may differ due to missing values being excluded.



Force Rate per 100 Custodial Arrests, April 2026

Race/Ethnicity	Total Force	Total Arrests	Force Rate per 100 Arrests
Hispanic	14	850	1.6
White Non-Hispanic	7	655	1.1
Black Non-Hispanic	5	157	3.2
Native American Non-Hispanic	1	215	0.5
Asian Pacific Islander Non-Hispanic	0	9	0.0
Unknown	4	119	3.4

Note: Table shows the number of people involved in force interactions. One person may be counted more than once if they are involved in multiple uses of force.



Completed Force Investigations - April 2026

APD has two processes for force investigations based on the level of force. Level 1 force is investigated by the Level 1 force investigation unit. The Level 1 unit is required to complete investigations within 24 days (if all extensions are requested and approved).

Level 2 and Level 3 force are investigated by the Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD). IAFD also investigates any Level 1 force where a Lieutenant or above was involved or Level 1 force if another person at the same event had a higher level of force used. These investigations must be completed within 90-days. All force investigations are investigated to determine whether the actions of the officer(s) involved were consistent with department policy. **IAFD had one Level 3 investigation with an approved 120-day extension.**

Level 1 Unit		IAFD (Level 2 and Level 3)	
Total Completed Investigations		Total Completed Investigations	
3			
Average Days to Completion		Average Days to Completion	
13			
Minimum Days to Completion	Maximum Days to Completion	Minimum Days to Completion	Maximum Days to Completion

All Force Cases

APD strives to only use force that is objectively reasonable, necessary to achieve lawful objectives, and proportional to the resistance from the individual involved, and minimal based on the totality of the circumstances. APD uses a preponderance of evidence standard to determine whether the force met policy requirements. After investigation, force is deemed in policy when every force technique is used correctly and was found to be reasonable, necessary, proportional, and minimal as defined in SOP 2-52: Use of Force - General. If any officer's force techniques used were determined to be out of policy, the entire force case or interaction is considered to be out of policy.

Dispositions of Force Investigations Completed in April 2026

In Policy	40
Out of Policy	1
Grand Total	41

Policy Outcomes by Area Command

Foothills	0 (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases for AC)
Northeast	0 (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases for AC)
Northwest	1 (100.0% of Out of Policy cases, 20.0% of total cases for AC)
Southeast	0 (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases for AC)
Southwest	0 (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases for AC)
University	0 (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases for AC)
Valley	0 (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases for AC)
Out of Area	0 (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases for AC)
Grand Total	1 (100.0% of Out of Policy cases, 2.4% of total cases for AC)

Policy Outcomes Prior 12 Months

