

Albuquerque Police Department Monthly Use of Force Report

March 2026



Prepared by:

**Data Analytics Unit
April 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 - March 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 is categorized into three levels based on APD policy. Starting in April 2026 force will no longer be categorized into three levels. Instead it will be categorized into two levels: Use of Force and Serious Use of Force. For more information on APD's Standard Operating Procedures, see: <https://public.powerdms.com/COA>.

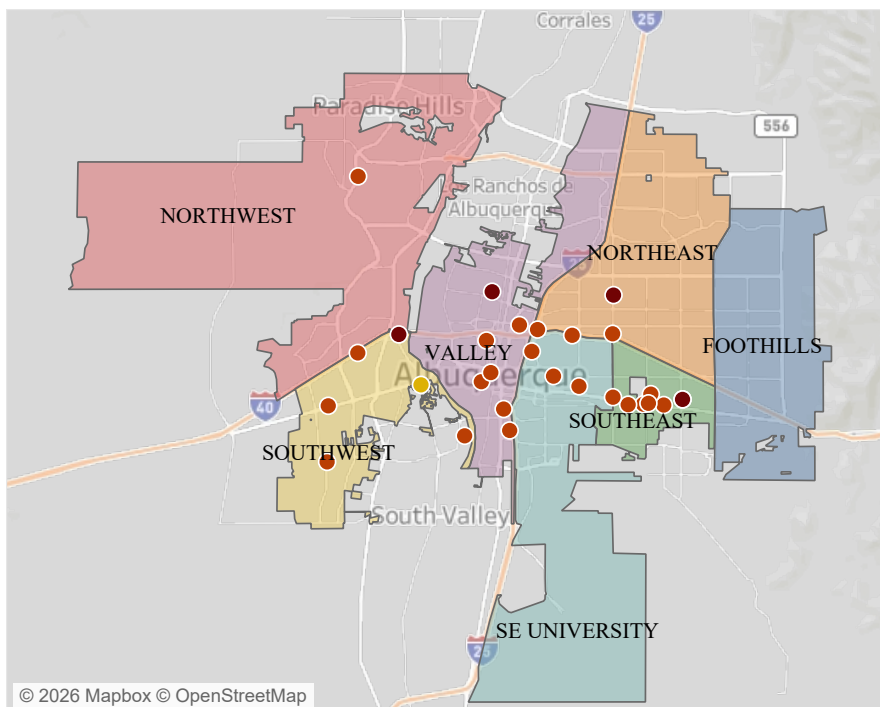
Total Use of Force Cases by Area Command and Level of Force

	Force Level			Grand Total
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Northeast	0	2	1	3
Northwest	0	1	0	1
Southeast	0	6	1	7
Southwest	1	3	1	5
University	0	4	0	4
Valley	0	6	1	7
Out of Area	0	1	0	1
Grand Total	1	22	4	27

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

Starting in mid April IAFD will be reviewing a random sample of Low Level Control cases.

Locations of Use of Force Cases



- Highest Force-Case Level
- Level 1
 - Level 2
 - Level 3

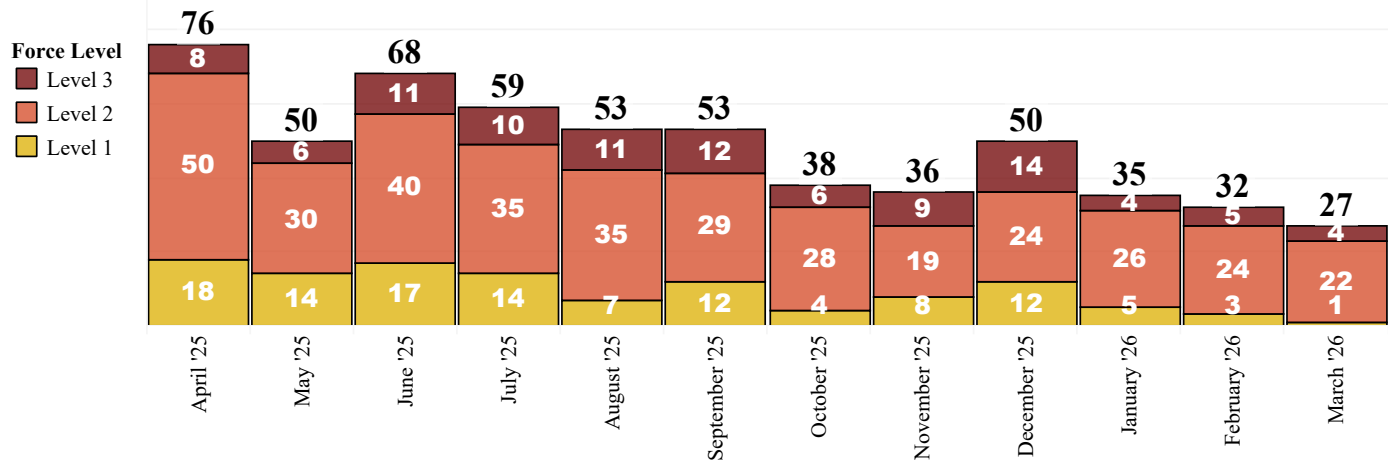
Note: Most force investigations in this report are open investigations since it reflects the previous month of data. As such, figures in this report are preliminary and subject to change as use of force investigations progress.



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

		April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	Grand Total
Foothills	Level 1	2	3	0	4	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	15
	Level 2	3	2	6	5	3	1	1	4	4	3	3	0	35
	Level 3	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	9
Northeast	Level 1	2	3	1	1	2	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	16
	Level 2	10	6	4	10	6	6	3	1	1	6	3	2	58
	Level 3	2	0	2	2	2	0	1	0	3	1	2	1	16
Northwest	Level 1	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	9
	Level 2	1	2	0	1	2	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	17
	Level 3	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Southeast	Level 1	5	4	5	6	0	1	3	0	1	4	1	0	30
	Level 2	17	6	13	8	11	10	12	2	9	7	8	6	109
	Level 3	2	2	1	1	2	4	1	0	4	0	1	1	19
Southwest	Level 1	1	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	11
	Level 2	5	4	4	6	3	2	2	5	2	3	0	3	39
	Level 3	0	0	1	4	1	3	2	4	1	0	1	1	18
University	Level 1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	7
	Level 2	3	2	7	4	3	6	3	0	4	2	1	4	39
	Level 3	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	7
Valley	Level 1	7	2	4	1	2	4	1	1	4	1	0	0	27
	Level 2	9	7	5	3	5	4	3	6	3	3	7	6	61
	Level 3	2	3	4	1	3	4	1	1	4	1	1	1	26
Out of Area	Level 1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Level 2	2	1	1	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	9
	Level 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
Grand Total		76	50	68	59	53	53	38	36	50	35	32	27	577



Use of Force Benchmarked Against Calls For Service and Arrests - March 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

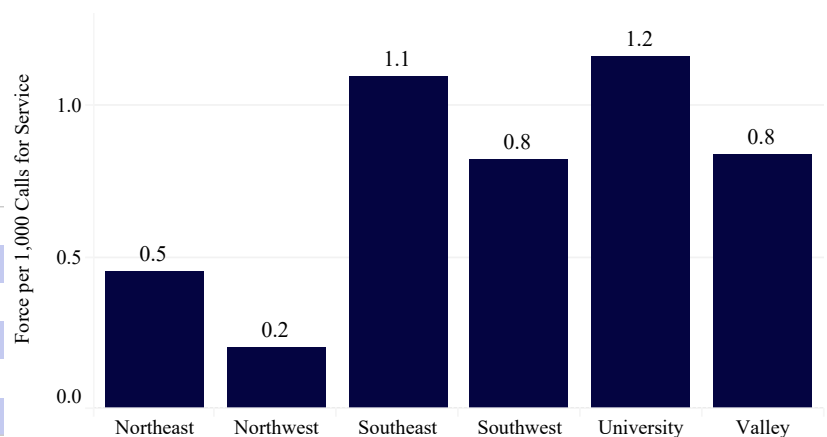
Total Calls for Service for Area Commands

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, March 2026

Area Command	Total Force Cases	Total CAD Calls	Force per 1,000 Calls
Northeast	3	6,614	0.5
Northwest	1	4,968	0.2
Southeast	7	6,393	1.1
Southwest	5	6,063	0.8
University	4	3,444	1.2
Valley	7	8,367	0.8

Force Rate per 1,000 Calls For Service



Custodial Arrests

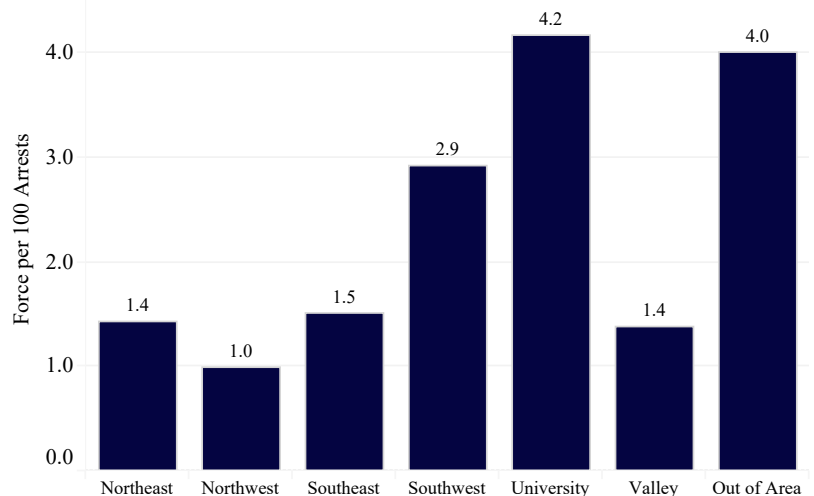
Total Custodial Arrests for Area Commands

Arrests include custodial arrests only and exclude summonses and citations.

Force per Arrest by Area Command, March 2026

Area Command	Total Force Cases	Total Arrests	Force Per 100 Arrests
Northeast	3	210	1.4
Northwest	1	101	1.0
Southeast	7	463	1.5
Southwest	5	171	2.9
University	4	96	4.2
Valley	7	506	1.4
Out of Area	1	25	4.0
Unknown	0	165	0.0

Force Rate per 100 Custodial Arrests

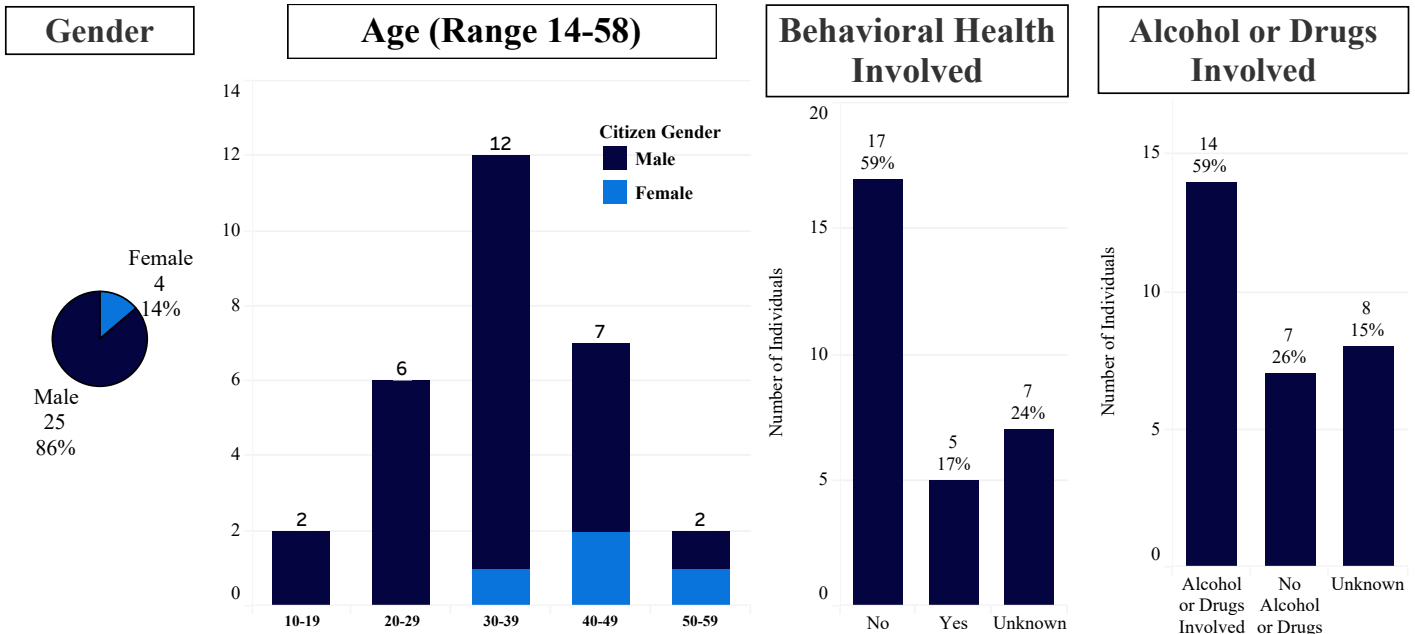




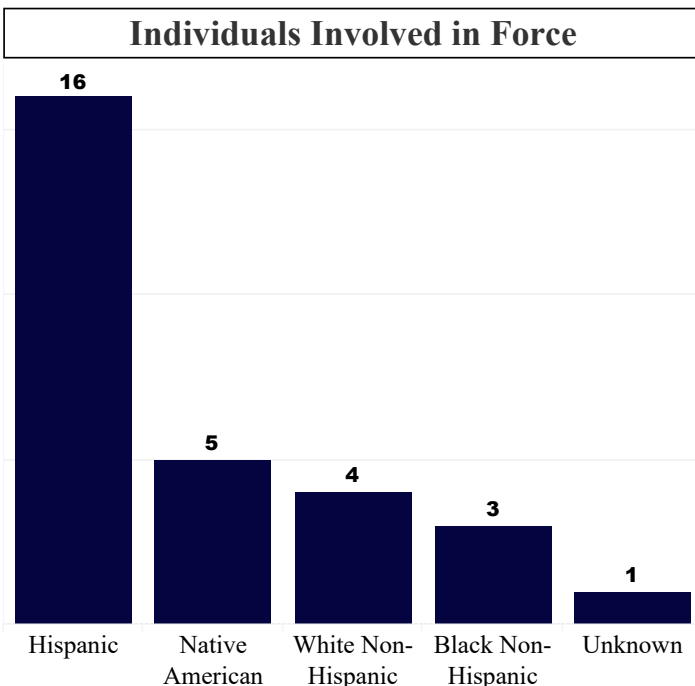
Demographics of Individuals Involved in Force - March 2026

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.



Race and Ethnicity



Force Rate per 100 Custodial Arrests, March 2026

Race/Ethnicity	Total Force	Total Arrests	Force Rate per 100 Arrests
Hispanic	16	736	2.2
Native American Non-Hispanic	5	210	2.4
White Non-Hispanic	4	544	0.7
Black Non-Hispanic	3	143	2.1
Asian Pacific Islander Non-Hispanic	0	10	0.0
Unknown	1	95	1.1

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.



Final Call Types and Types of Force Used - March 2026

Officers are dispatched to calls for service and the original and final type of call for service are tracked. The table on the right 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.

Final Call Types Associated with Force Events

Aggravated Assault/Battery	2
Automated License Plate Reader	1
Burglary Commercial	1
Burglary Residence	2
Cover Assistance	1
Disturbance	4
Family Dispute	4
Stolen Vehicle Found	1
Suicide	1
Suspicious Person(s)/Vehicle(s)	6
SWAT	1
Traffic Accident No Injuries	1
Wanted Person	2
Grand Total	27

Total Force Cases Where Each Type of Force Was Used

Empty Hand	Empty Hand: control	8
	Empty Hand: strike	1
	Empty Hand: takedown	11
Less Lethal	40mm	7
	ECW	10
	ECW: miss	1
Supervisory Orders	Ordered Force	2
Tactical	40mm CS Ferret	1
	Gas Plan	1
	K9 Apprehension - Bite	2
	NFDD	1
	Oc Spray	1

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.

Type of Show of Force	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25	Dec '25	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26
SOF: 40mm Impact Launcher	1	1	3	2	3	3	2
SOF: ECW	1	5	7	7	6	8	3
SOF: ECW,Firearm			2	2	1	1	
SOF: Firearm		10	13	15	12	12	5
SOF: OC Spray				1	1		
Grand Total	2	16	25	25	21	22	10



Completed Force Investigations - March 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 three Level 3 investigations with an approved 120-day extension.**

Level 1 Unit		IAFD (Level 2 and Level 3)	
Total Completed Investigations		Total Completed Investigations	
1		39	
Average Days to Completion		Average Days to Completion	
16.0		77.1	
Minimum Days to Completion	Maximum Days to Completion	Minimum Days to Completion	Maximum Days to Completion
16	16	55	117

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 March 2026

In Policy	39 (98%)
Out of Policy	1 (3%)
Grand Total	40 (100%)

Policy Outcomes by Area Command	
Foothills	0.0% (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases)
Northeast	0.0% (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases)
Northwest	0.0% (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases)
Southeast	0.0% (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases)
Southwest	0.0% (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases)
University	0.0% (0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases)
Valley	14.3% (100.0% of Out of Policy cases, 2.4% of total cases)
Out of Area	(0.0% of Out of Policy cases, 0.0% of total cases)
Grand Total	2.4% (100.0% of Out of Policy cases, 2.4% of total cases)

Policy Outcomes Prior 12 Months

