DATA BRIEF
POLICE VIOLENCE IS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

Violence perpetrated by law enforcement is a critical public health issue. Prior studies show Black people experience a higher risk of police-inflicted violence, which leads directly to injury, psychological harms, and death. Beyond effects on the victims themselves, police violence affects the mental and physical health of Black families and communities. The data on this page shows that the vast majority of individuals killed by police since 2013 in Philadelphia have been Black, and the vast majority of these incidents have occurred in predominantly Black or Latino neighborhoods. These are the same neighborhoods that experience other health inequities, demonstrating a disproportionate burden of other health threats as well.

Homicides* by Police from 2013-2020 and Black and Hispanic Population in Philadelphia by Police District

Average Annual Rate of Homicides by Police
Per 1 Million of Total Population (2013-2019)

Black People Were Victims of Homicide by Police in Philadelphia at 9.2 X the Rate of White People

*Homicides by police officers includes by firearm, taser, or baton.
Harmful police practices also include non-fatal use of a firearm by police and unwarranted interactions with police such as stop-and-frisks without suspicion. As with fatal shootings, the map below shows most non-fatal shootings by police occur in Philadelphia’s Black and Brown communities. The 15th, 22nd, 24th, and 39th police districts serve the North and lower North areas of Philadelphia and have experienced the highest number of non-fatal police shootings.

**Non-fatal Shootings by Police from 2015-2020 and Black and Hispanic Population in Philadelphia by Police District**

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**Stop and Frisk Practices of the Philadelphia Police Department**
A recent ACLU analysis examined a random sample of pedestrian stops by the Philadelphia Police Department during Q3 & Q4 of 2019. Black people are over 70% more likely to be stopped by police than white people. Black people are over 80% more likely to be frisked during a pedestrian stop than white people.

**Race of all pedestrians who were stopped, Q3 & Q4 - 2019**
- Black: 71%
- White: 7%
- Latino: 22%

**Race of all pedestrians who were frisked, Q3 & Q4 - 2019**
- Black: 82%
- White: 12%
- Latino: 6%

Hispanic and Latino categories are both used in this data visualization to remain consistent with the sources of this data. Hispanic and Latino are not meant to be used interchangeably.

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**REFERENCES AND OTHER RESOURCES**

For more information on our sources of data and for a complete list of references, please visit us online at: drexel.edu.uhc/resources/briefs.

**CITATION**

The mission of the Drexel Urban Health Collaborative is to improve health in cities by increasing scientific knowledge and public awareness of urban health challenges and opportunities, and by identifying and promoting actions and policies that improve population health and reduce health inequities.

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