



## Officers Feloniously Killed

The following information concerns law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty in 2018 as a result of felonious incidents. The law enforcement officers included in this report met certain criteria, such as they had full arrest powers and they ordinarily wore/carried a badge and firearm.

### Overview

- In 2018, 55 law enforcement officers died from injuries incurred in the line of duty during felonious incidents. (See Table 1.)
- Line-of-duty deaths occurred in 28 states and Puerto Rico. (See Table 1.)
- By region, 26 officers were feloniously killed in the South, 12 officers in the Midwest, 12 officers in the West, 4 officers in the Northeast, and 1 officer in Puerto Rico. (See Table 1.)
- Of the officers feloniously killed, 28 were employed by city police departments, including 7 who were members of law enforcement agencies in cities with 250,000 or more inhabitants. (See Table 2.)

### Victim profile

- The average age of the officers who were feloniously killed in 2018 was 37 years old. (See Table 10.)
- The slain officers' average length of law enforcement service was 10 years. (See Table 11.)
- Of the officers who died due to felonious incidents in 2018, 52 were male and 3 were female. (See Table 15.)
- By race, 46 of the victim officers were White, 7 were Black/African American, and 2 were Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. (See Table 15.)

**Circumstances encountered by victim officer upon arrival at the scene of the incident (See Table 24.)**

- 23 officers died as a result of investigative or enforcement activities.
  - 8 were performing investigative activities.
  - 6 were involved in tactical situations.
  - 3 were investigating suspicious persons or circumstances.
  - 3 were interacting with wanted persons.
  - 2 were conducting traffic violation stops.
  - 1 was handling a person with a mental illness.
- 11 officers were ambushed (entrapment/premeditation).
- 6 officers were involved in pursuits.
  - 4 were involved in foot pursuits.
  - 2 were involved in vehicular pursuits.
- 4 officers responded to crimes in progress.
  - 2 were burglaries in progress.
  - 1 was a report of a person with a firearm (no shots fired).
  - 1 was a report of an other crime against property.
- 3 officers were involved in arrest situations.
  - All 3 were attempting to control/handcuff/restrain the offender(s) during the arrest situations.
- 2 officers were on administrative assignments while performing a prisoner transport.
- 2 officers were assisting other law enforcement officers in foot pursuits.

- 2 officers responded to disorders/disturbances.
  - 1 was responding to a disturbance call.
  - 1 encountered a domestic violence situation.
- 1 officer was involved in an unprovoked attack.
- 1 officer was performing traffic control (crash scene, directing traffic, etc.).

**Assignments (See Table 21.)**

- 36 officers were on assigned vehicle patrol when the felonious incidents occurred.
- 3 officers were assigned to investigative/detective duties.
- 3 officers were on tactical assignments (uniformed).
- 3 officers were on plainclothes assignments.
- 2 officers were on special assignments.
- 2 officers were conducting court/prisoner security.
- 2 officers were involved in other situations.
- 4 slain officers were off duty (but acting in official capacities) at the time of the incidents.
- 39 on-duty officers who died in 2018 were assisted at the times of the attacks.
- 12 on-duty officers were alone and unassisted at the times of the attacks.

**Weapons**

- Of the 55 officers feloniously killed in 2018, most (51) were killed with firearms. Of these, 37 were killed with handguns. (See Table 28.)
- 14 officers fired their weapons; 5 officers attempted to fire their weapons. (See Table 18.)

- 4 officers had their weapons stolen. (Based on Table 19.)
- 4 officers were killed with their own weapons. (Based on Table 19.)
- 23 officers were slain with firearms when they were less than 5 feet from the offenders. (See Table 32.)

### **Body armor**

- In 2018, 43 of the officers feloniously killed were wearing body armor at the time of the incidents. (See Table 35.)
- Of these officers, 40 were killed with firearms (see Table 36) and received the following wounds:
  - 16 suffered wounds to the front of the head.
  - 7 were shot in the front upper torso/chest.
  - 6 were shot in the neck/throat.
  - 5 were wounded in the side of the head.
  - 4 were shot in the rear of the head.
  - 1 was shot in the front lower torso/abdomen.
- In 1 incident, the location of the fatal wound could not be determined due to multiple wound locations.

### **Months, days, and times of incidents**

- More officers (8) died from felonious assaults that occurred in February than in any other month in 2018. (See Table 9.)
- More officers (13) were involved in fatal assaults that occurred on Wednesdays than on any other day of the week. (See Table 6.)

- 36 officers were fatally injured in assaults that happened between 12:01 p.m. and midnight. (See Table 7.)
- 19 officers were fatally injured in assaults that happened between 12:01 a.m. and noon. (See Table 7.)

### **Profile of alleged known assailants**

In 2018, 55 alleged offenders were identified in connection with the 55 law enforcement officers feloniously killed. Of those offenders, the following characteristics are known:

- The average age of the alleged offenders was 33 years old. (See Table 40.)
- The average height was 5 feet 10 inches tall, and the average weight was 183 pounds. (See Table 41.)
- 53 alleged offenders were male; 2 were female. (See Table 42.)
- 31 of the alleged offenders were White, 23 were Black/African American, and 1 was Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. (See Table 42.)
- 20 of the alleged offenders were under judicial supervision at the time of the incidents. (See Table 45.)
- 15 of the alleged offenders were under the influence of alcohol and/or a controlled substance at the time of the fatal incidents. (See Table 45.)
- 49 of the alleged offenders had prior criminal arrests. (See Table 46.)

Information about officers feloniously killed can be found in Tables 1-47.