



## Officers Feloniously Killed

The following information concerns law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty in 2019 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 2019, 48 law enforcement officers died from injuries incurred in the line of duty during felonious incidents. (See [Table 1.](#))
- Line-of-duty deaths occurred in 19 states and Puerto Rico. (See [Table 1.](#))
- By region, 27 officers were feloniously killed in the South, 9 officers in the Midwest, 9 officers in the West, 1 officer in the Northeast, and 2 officers in Puerto Rico. (See [Table 1.](#))
- Of the officers feloniously killed, 25 were employed by city police departments, including 7 who were members of law enforcement agencies in cities with between 100,000 and 249,999 inhabitants. (See [Table 2.](#))

### Victim profile

- The average age of the officers who were feloniously killed in 2019 was 40 years old. (See [Table 10.](#))
- The slain officers' average length of law enforcement service was 13 years. (See [Table 11.](#))
- Of the officers who died due to felonious incidents in 2019, 45 were male and 3 were female. (See [Table 15.](#))
- By race, 40 of the victim officers were White, 7 were Black/African American, and 1 was Asian. (See [Table 15.](#))

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

- 15 officers died as a result of investigative/enforcement activities.
  - 6 were conducting traffic violation stops.
  - 4 were performing investigative activities.
  - 2 were interacting with wanted persons.
  - 2 were investigating drug-related matters.
  - 1 was investigating a suspicious person or circumstance.
- 9 officers were involved in tactical situations.
  - 3 were involved in barricade/hostage situations.
  - 3 were serving/attempting to serve search warrants.
  - 2 were serving/attempting to serve arrest warrants.
  - 1 was reported in the category titled “*other tactical situation.*”
- 5 officers were victims of unprovoked attacks.
- 4 officers responded to crimes in progress.
  - 2 were robberies.
  - 1 was a larceny-theft.
  - 1 was reported in the category titled “*other crime against property.*”
- 3 officers were involved in vehicular pursuits.
- 3 officers were attempting to restrain/control/handcuff offenders during arrest situations.

- 3 officers were assisting other law enforcement officers.
  - 2 with vehicular pursuits.
  - 1 with foot pursuit.
- 3 officers responded to disorders/disturbances.
  - 2 were responding to disturbances (disorderly subjects, fights, etc.).
  - 1 was responding to a domestic violence situation.
- 2 officers were ambushed (entrapment/premeditation).
- 1 officer was serving/attempting to serve a court order (eviction notice, subpoena, etc.).

**Assignments (See Table 21.)**

- 30 officers were on assigned vehicle patrol when the felonious incidents occurred.
- 4 officers were on special assignments.
- 3 officers were assigned to investigative/detective duties.
- 3 officers were on tactical assignments (uniformed).
- 2 officers were working undercover.
- 1 officer was reported to be working in the category titled “*other assignment*.”
- 5 slain officers were off duty (but acting in official capacities) at the time of the incidents.
- 26 on-duty officers who died in 2019 were assisted at the times of the attacks.
- 17 on-duty officers were alone and unassisted at the times of the attacks.

## **Weapons**

- Of the 48 officers feloniously killed in 2019, most (44) were killed with firearms. Of these, 34 were killed with handguns. (See Table 28.)
- 10 officers fired their weapons; 6 officers attempted to fire their weapons. (See Table 18.)
- No officers' weapons were stolen during the incidents. (Based on Table 19.)
- 14 officers were slain with firearms when they were less than 5 feet from the offenders. (See Table 32.)

## **Body armor**

- In 2019, 30 of the officers feloniously killed were wearing body armor at the time of the incidents. (See Table 35.)
- Of these officers, 29 were killed with firearms (see Table 36) and incurred the following wounds:
  - 8 were shot in the front upper torso/chest.
  - 6 suffered wounds to the front of the head.
  - 3 were wounded in the side of the head.
  - 2 were shot in the neck/throat.
  - 2 were shot in the rear of the head.
  - 2 were shot in the front lower torso/abdomen.
  - 2 were shot in the shoulder (upper torso) area.
  - 2 were shot in the rear lower torso/back.
  - 1 was shot in the rear upper torso/back.
  - 1 was shot in the front below the waist/groin area.

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

- More officers (8) died from felonious assaults that occurred in December than in any other month in 2019. (See Table 9.)
- More officers (15) were involved in fatal assaults that occurred on Saturdays than on any other days of the week. (See Table 6.)
- 34 officers were fatally injured in assaults that happened between 12:01 p.m. and midnight. (See Table 7.)
- 13 officers were fatally injured in assaults that happened between 12:01 a.m. and noon. (See Table 7.)
- The time of the assault was not reported for 1 of the officers.

## **Profile of alleged known assailants**

In 2019, 49 alleged offenders were identified in connection with the 48 law enforcement officers feloniously killed. Of those offenders, the following characteristics are known:

- The average age of the alleged offenders was 31 years old. (See Table 40.)
- The average height was 5 feet 10 inches tall, and the average weight was 181 pounds. (See Table 41.)
- 48 alleged offenders were male; 1 was female. (See Table 42.)
- 28 of the alleged offenders were White, 15 were Black/African American, and 1 was Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. Race was not reported for 5 of the alleged offenders. (See Table 42.)
- 12 of the alleged offenders were under judicial supervision at the time of the incidents. (See Table 45.)
- 9 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.)
- 36 of the alleged offenders had prior criminal arrests. (See Table 46.)

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