



LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER DEATHS

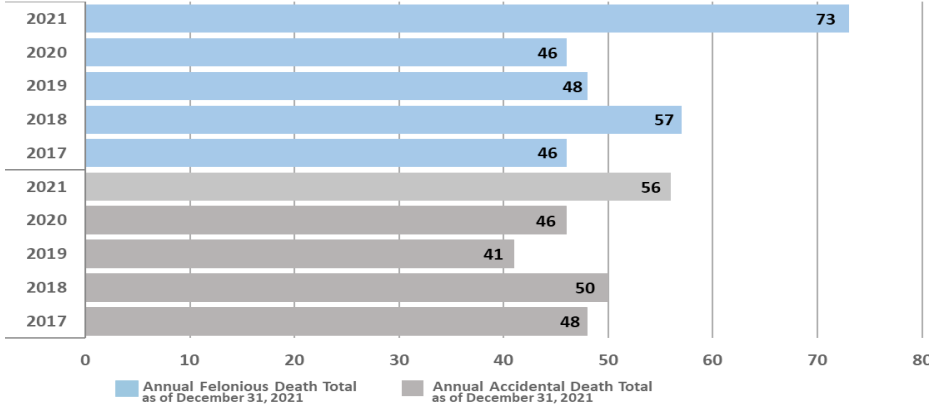
01/01/2021-12/31/2021

This is a graphic presentation of data regarding line-of-duty deaths, both felonious and accidental, collected from law enforcement agencies across the United States and U.S. territories by the FBI's Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted Data Collection. This preliminary information is provided for officer safety studies, training, and other initiatives. The data are also published annually in the *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* publication.

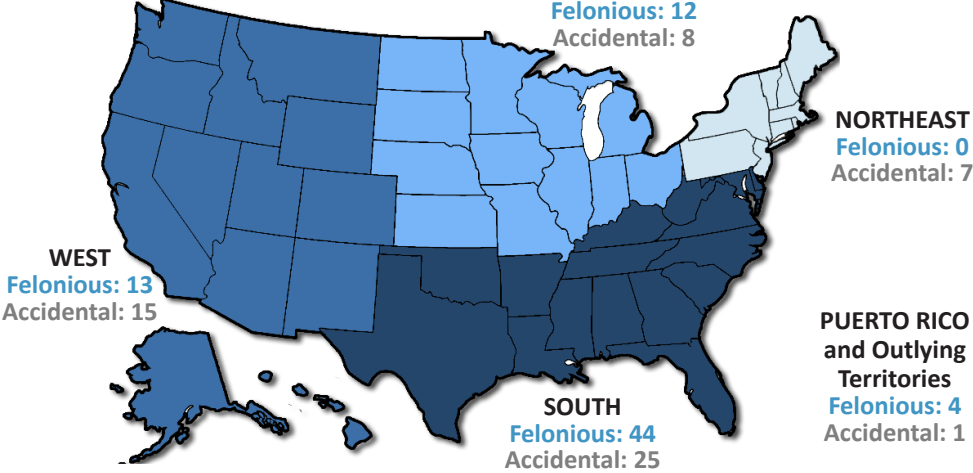
KEY OBSERVATIONS

The 73 law enforcement officers feloniously killed in 2021 represent a 58.7 percent increase compared to the 46 officers killed in 2020 and the highest total since 2011. Of the 73 felonious deaths in 2021, 61 involved firearms, 6 involved vehicles used as weapons, and 4 involved personal weapons. Of the 46 total felonious deaths in 2020, 41 were firearm-related, 4 were vehicle-related, and 1 involved personal weapons. In 2021, unprovoked attacks (24), investigative/enforcement activities (9), ambushes (8), and pursuits (8) were the cause for 67.1 percent of the felonious deaths (49 out of 73); in 2020, those 4 circumstances combined represented 39.1 percent of the deaths (18 out of 46). The preliminary reporting of 24 unprovoked attacks resulting in officer deaths remains a concern, because this circumstance significantly outpaced all other felonious officer deaths in 2021 and reached the highest total in over 30 years of reporting. Accidental law enforcement deaths increased 21.7 percent when comparing calendar year 2021 (56) to 2020 accidental deaths (46). The deaths were the result of motor vehicle crashes (31), pedestrian officers struck by vehicles (21), and drowning (4). The southern region had the most law enforcement deaths with 69 deaths total (44 felonious, 25 accidental). In 2021—although not represented in the below graphic—279 officers died from the following medical conditions: 257 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty from illnesses related to COVID-19, 17 officers died due to heart attacks, 3 officers succumbed to cancer, 1 officer died due to other natural causes, and 1 officer died from conditions associated with responding to the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

Officer Deaths by Year



Officer Deaths by Region



Circumstances of Officer Deaths

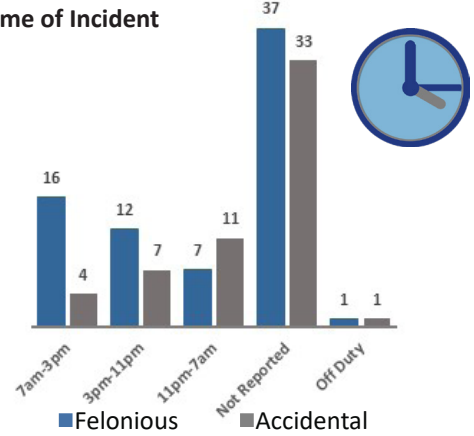
Felonious	Accidental
73	56
0 Administrative assignment	31 Motor vehicle crash
8 Ambush (entrapment/premeditation)	2 Assisting/investigating vehicle crash
4 Arrest situation	0 Assisting motorist
1 Assisting another law enforcement officer	0 Engaging in vehicle pursuit
0 Assisting motorist	1 Escorting dignitary or funeral
0 Citizen complaint	1 Overseeing work zone
2 Crime in progress (robbery, burglary, etc.)	17 Patrolling
7 Disorder/disturbance (domestic disturbance, civil disorder, etc.)	1 Performing traffic control
0 Encounter/assist an emotionally disturbed person	0 Performing traffic stop
9 Investigative/enforcement (Drug-related matter, wanted person, traffic violation stop)	5 Responding to emergency
1 Out of service (court, dining, etc.)	3 Responding to nonemergency
1 Providing/deploying equipment (flares, traffic cones, etc.)	0 Training
8 Pursuit	1 Other
1 Report of crime (robbery, burglary, etc.)	21 Pedestrian officer struck by vehicle
0 Respond to alarm (audible/silent)	9 Assisting/investigating vehicle crash
1 Serving/attempting to serve court order (eviction notice, subpoena, etc.)	2 Assisting motorist
6 Tactical situation	2 Providing/deploying equipment
0 Traffic control (crash scene, directing traffic, etc.)	0 Engaging in foot pursuit
24 Unprovoked attack	0 Overseeing work zone
0 Other	2 Patrolling
	5 Performing traffic control
	0 Performing traffic stop
	0 Training
	1 Other
	4 Drowning
	0 Fall
	0 Firearm-related incident
	0 Aircraft crash



Officer Deaths by Month

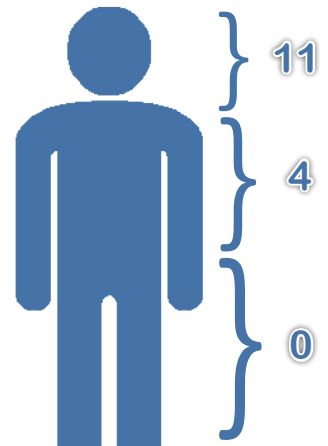
Month	Felonious		Accidental	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
Jan	4	6	5	6
Feb	4	6	3	4
Mar	7	6	3	6
Apr	4	8	4	4
May	4	7	4	7
Jun	5	4	4	5
Jul	3	8	6	3
Aug	2	5	2	4
Sep	4	4	5	3
Oct	4	8	5	8
Nov	2	5	1	2
Dec	3	6	4	4

Time of Incident



Location of Fatal Firearm Wound

Location	Felonious Killing
Front head	4
Rear head	0
Side head	3
Neck/throat	4
Shoulder (upper torso) area	1
Front upper torso/chest	2
Rear upper torso/back	0
Front lower torso/abdomen	1
Rear lower torso/back	0
Front below waist/groin area	0
Rear below waist/buttocks	0
Arms/hands	0
Front legs/feet	0
Front legs	0
Rear legs	0
Feet	0
Multiple locations, unable to determine fatal wound	4
Fatal wound location not reported	42



Weapons Used by Offender

Weapon	Felonious Killings
61 Officers killed with firearms	61
15 Handguns	15
11 Rifles	11
2 Shotguns	2
31 Not reported	31
2 Unknown	2
6 Vehicles	6
2 Knives/cutting instruments	2
4 Personal weapons (hands, fists, etc.)	4
0 Blunt Instrument (club, brick, etc.)	0



Distance from Firearm

Distance	Felonious Killings
0 - 5 ft	8
6 - 10 ft	5
11 - 20 ft	3
21 - 50 ft	2
51+ ft	4
Not reported	31
Unknown	8



Clearances of Incidents

Clearance Status	Felonious Killings
63 Cleared	63
5 Uncleared	5
92.6%	

Incidents and Victims

Category	Felonious Killings
68 Incidents	68
73 Victims	73

