



Division of Criminal
Justice Services

Criminal Justice Statistical Report

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Arrest-Related Deaths Report

Arrest-Related Deaths Incidents Report
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

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Overview

State law requires each police department, sheriff's office, and the New York State Police to report to the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) incidents involving arrest-related deaths. The law (Appendix A) defines an arrest-related death as one "...that occurs while an individual is in law enforcement custody or during an attempt to establish custody including, but not limited to, deaths caused by any use of force."

The law also requires DCJS to publish an annual report and make case-level data available to the public monthly. This report summarizes arrest-related deaths reported by police departments and sheriffs' offices to DCJS from Jan. 1, 2021, through Dec. 31, 2021. Date of the incident, location of the incident (village, town or city), county, reporting agency, circumstance surrounding the death, the sex, race, ethnicity and age of the individual are required to be reported. Appendix B contains additional details.

Reported Incidents (data reported as of Jan. 6, 2022)

- Seven law enforcement agencies reported seven arrest-related deaths in 2021: The Auburn Police Department, Chemung County Sheriff's Office, DeWitt Police Department, Oneonta Police Department, Syracuse Police Department, the Walkkill Police Department, and the state Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Law Enforcement.
- Six deaths resulted from use of force and one death was from natural causes.
- Four deaths occurred during the agency's response to unlawful or suspicious activity, two occurred while officers were making arrests, and one occurred during medical, mental health, or welfare assistance.
- Five individuals were white, non-Hispanic males and two individuals were white, non-Hispanic females.
- Individuals were 17, 23, 30, 31, 33, 53, and 55 at the time of their death.

Case-level data, which will be updated monthly, is available on the "Arrest-Related Deaths" tab on the Statistics page of the DCJS website.

Note: *The New York City Police Department did not report arrest-related death incidents in time to be included in this report. NYPD data will be added to the case-level data file online when it is reported to DCJS.*

Appendix A

Executive Law §837-v*2 – Arrest-Related Deaths Statute

Reporting duties of law enforcement departments with respect to arrest-related deaths.

1. The chief of every police department, each county sheriff, and the superintendent of state police shall promptly report to the division any arrest-related death, disaggregated by county. The data shall include all information the division shall report pursuant to the requirements of subdivision five of this section.
2. The initial report required by this subdivision shall be for the period beginning six months after the effective date of this section and shall be submitted on an annual basis thereafter. Each annual report shall be submitted no later than February first.
3. The division shall make the information required by subdivision one of this section available to the public by posting it on the website of the division. With respect to the information required by subdivision one of this section, the division shall update such information on a monthly basis and such information shall be posted in alphanumeric form that can be digitally transmitted or processed and not in portable document format or scanned copies of original documents.
4. The division shall promulgate regulations to effectuate the reporting of data from law enforcement departments sufficient to make the reports required by subdivision five of this section.
5. The division shall submit to the governor and the legislature an annual report of arrest-related deaths disaggregated by county. An arrest-related death is a death that occurs while an individual is in law enforcement custody or during an attempt to establish custody including, but not limited to, deaths caused by any use of force. Such report shall include the following information:
 - (a) the number of arrest-related deaths;
 - (b) the race, ethnicity, age, and sex of the individual;
 - (c) the zip code or location where the death occurred; and
 - (d) a brief description of the circumstances surrounding the arrest-related death.

Appendix B

Data Collection

The Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the state Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) developed an automated system to collect arrest-related death incident data. This system allows law enforcement agencies to comply with the arrest-related deaths reporting requirement and allows DCJS to track reporting compliance.

Data Elements and Values

Date of Incident	Subject Sex
County (where incident occurred)	Male
Law Enforcement Agency	Female
Location of Incident	Unknown/Not Reported
City, Town, Village where incident occurred	Subject Race
Circumstance Surrounding Death	White
Response to Unlawful or Suspicious Activity	Black
Follow up Investigation	Asian
Executing Arrest	American Indian/Alaskan Native
Traffic Stop	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
Medical, mental health, or welfare assistance	Unknown/Not Reported
Service of a warrant	Subject Ethnicity
Routine patrol other than traffic stop	Hispanic
Transporting/Holding Arrestees	Non-Hispanic
Demonstration	Unknown/Not Reported
Service of a court order	Subject Age
JAIL - Responding to a Disturbance	Age in Years
JAIL - Assault/Fighting Other Inmate or Officer	Unknown/Not Reported
JAIL - Discovery/Removal of Contraband	Manner of Death
JAIL - Escape/Attempted Escape/Capture/Return	Use of Force
Other	Natural Causes