



OHIO ARREST-RELATED DEATHS – 2016

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Ohio Arrest-Related Deaths – 2016

Background

An arrest-related death (ARD) is defined as any death (e.g., gunshot wound, cardiac arrest, or drowning) that occurs during an interaction with state or local law enforcement personnel, including those that occur:

- Shortly after freedom to leave is restricted.
- During an attempt to arrest or in the process of arrest.
- Without any direct action by law enforcement. This would include deaths attributed to suicide, intoxication, accidental injury, medical emergencies or health complications¹.
- After law enforcement have established physical custody of an arrestee. These in-custody deaths can occur at the scene of the incident, during transport or while the suspect is being held at a law enforcement facility².

It should be noted that not all deaths that occur during an interaction with state or local law enforcement personnel are reported to the ARD program, and they include:

- Deaths of bystanders, hostages and law enforcement personnel.

¹ This results in a more inclusive characterization of arrest-related deaths than officer involved shootings or justifiable homicides by law enforcement.

² Once an arrestee is arraigned or custody of the individual is transferred to a jail or prison, the death is no longer within the scope of the arrest-related death program.

Highlights

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In 2016, the Office of Criminal Justice Services collected reports for 40 confirmed arrest-related deaths in Ohio. Homicide by law enforcement personnel accounted for 70% of those reported incidents.

Of the 40 arrest-related deaths, there were a total of 38 men and 2 women. Forty-five percent were White males and Blacks males accounted for 43 percent of the deaths.

Sixty-three percent of arrest-related incidents were initiated based on a civilian's request for response to criminal or suspicious activity.

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- Deaths by federal law enforcement. However, fatal incidents that include interactions between federal law enforcement, along with state or local law enforcement are reportable to the ARD program³.
- Deaths of wanted criminal suspects before police contact. If a death of a wanted criminal suspect occurred before law enforcement interaction, it is not within the scope of the ARD program.
- Deaths by vehicular pursuits **without** any direct police action. If law enforcement did not take direct action against the subject or his/her vehicle, these deaths are excluded from the ARD program. ARD incidents require that law enforcement take some kind of direct action against the subject, such as shooting at the subject's vehicle, ramming it, or otherwise forcing the vehicle to stop or leave the road (e.g., roadblocks or spike strips).
- Deaths that occur in a jail or other long-term holding facility are also outside of the scope of the ARD program and are not collected by the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS)⁴.

For further details and definitions on the current Arrest-Related Deaths Program, please visit <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ardpdqp.pdf>

Methodology

In 2003, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) implemented the ARD program as part of the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program, which was initiated to fulfill the data collection requirement act of the Deaths in Custody Reporting Act of 2000 (DICRA, P.L. 106-247). In 2006, the DICRA reporting requirements expired; however, BJS continued to collect, analyze, and report on deaths in custody. In December 2014, the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013 was signed into law (P.L. 113-242), requiring states to submit quarterly data on deaths that occur in the process of arrest. BJS created an incident form (CJ-11A) to capture information on ARDs. In 2014, due to issues with variability and general data quality of the ARD program, the ARD data collection program was discontinued. However, Ohio continues to collect ARD data using the BJS incident form in order to track such incidents. This annual report is a result of the data collected throughout the year.

The data collection cycle begins January 1st and ends December 31st. OCJS researchers rely on multiple sources to collect ARD data; however media reports are often used for initial identification. Official autopsy reports are then requested via fax from the appropriate county coroner or medical examiner. Once these reports are received, four weeks to six months following the death, final incident reports are completed⁵. When necessary, OCJS researchers may also submit a request for an investigative summary

³ Current Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-242) includes federal law enforcement within scope.

⁴ The Federal Deaths in Custody Reporting Program quarterly collects inmate death records from the nation's 50 state prison systems and approximately 2,800 local jail jurisdictions.

⁵ A copy of the BJS Arrest-Related Death Report form can be found at the conclusion of this document.

from the appropriate law enforcement agency for additional details surrounding the arrest-related death incident.

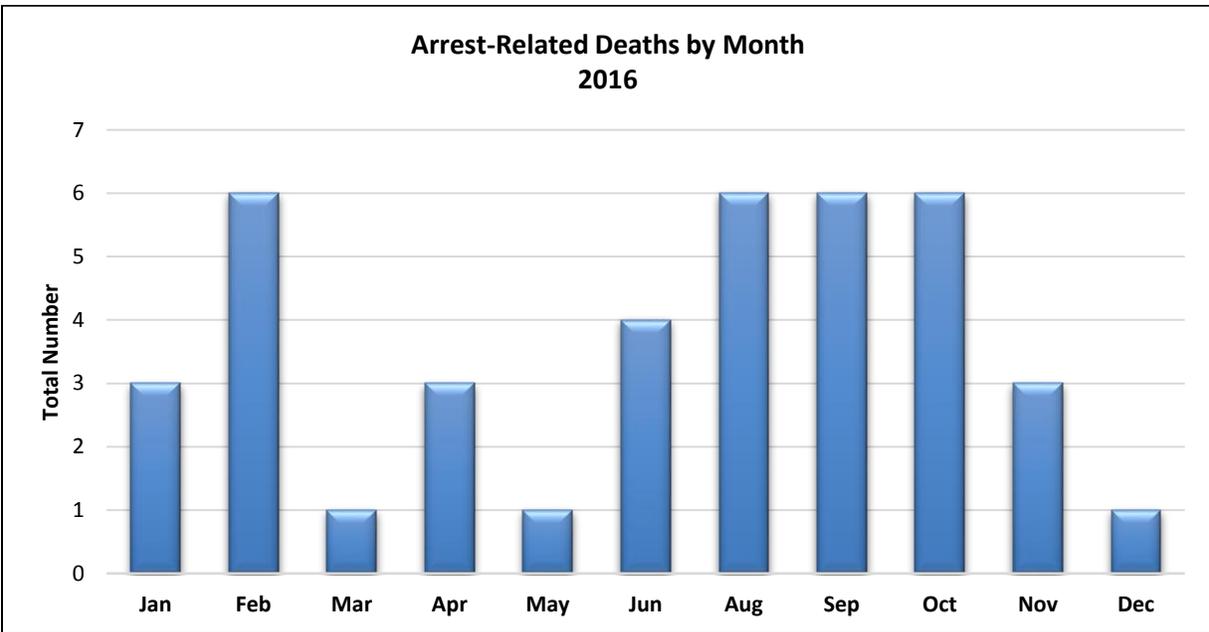
In some cases, coroners and medical examiners are proactive and submit reports to OCJS of deaths they believe to qualify under the ARD program. Some of these reports have been excluded from this summary because they do not meet the parameters of an ARD.



Ohio Arrest-Related Deaths – 2016

Characteristics of Ohio Arrest-Related Deaths

In 2016, the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) collected reports for 40 arrest-related deaths in Ohio. There were no patterns found when looking at the number of incidents based on the month of occurrence.



Nineteen counties were reported to have at least one arrest-related death, with Franklin County accounting for 20 percent of the incidents. Regionally, Northeast Ohio accounted for 33 percent of arrest-related death incidents.

Region	Total	Percent ⁶
Central	11	28%
Southeast	1	3%
Southwest	11	28%
Northeast	13	33%
Northwest	4	10%

⁶ Percent total will exceed 100 percent due to rounding.

Incident Circumstances

Of the 40 arrest-related deaths captured, 63 percent of incidents were initiated based on a civilian's request for response to criminal or suspicious activity.

Reason for initial contact	Total	Percent ⁷
Civilian request for medical, mental, health or welfare assistance	4	10%
Civilian request for response to criminal or suspicious activity	25	63%
Routine patrol/on-view (other than traffic stop)	1	3%
Traffic/vehicle stop	5	13%
Warrant service	3	8%
Other	2	5%

When circumstances were known, 14 incidents involved the decedent attempting to injure or injuring others. Of those incidents, the following were reported⁸:

- Seven or 50% attempted to injure law enforcement personnel
- Five or 36% non-fatally injured law enforcement personnel
- One or 7% non-fatally injured civilian(s)
- Three or 21% attempted to injure civilian(s)

Seventy-six percent of the decedents either displayed or discharged a weapon during an arrest-related incident. Of the 14 incidents that involved a decedent attempting to injure or injuring others, 85 percent of the decedents displayed or discharged a weapon.

During the arrest-related death incidents, 46 percent of decedents were reported to have barricaded themselves or initiated standoff with law enforcement, and 31 percent were reported to have attempted to escape/flee from custody. There were 13 incidents in which the decedent was reported to have engaged in any of the following behaviors.

At any time during the incident, did the decedent ...	Total	Percent ⁹
Make suicidal statements	2	15%
Barricade self or initiate standoff	6	46%
Attempt to escape/flee from custody	4	31%
Attempt to grab, hit, or kick officer(s)	2	15%

⁷ Percent total will exceed 100 percent due to rounding.

⁸ Percent total will exceed 100 percent due to some incidents having more than one occurrence of an attempt to injure or injuring others by the decedent.

⁹ Percent total will exceed 100 percent due to some incidents having a decedent engage in more than one behavior during their interaction with law enforcement.

Of the 40 arrest-related death incidents, there were 18 incidents in which law enforcement personnel reported any of the following types of engagement with the decedent.

At any time during the incident, did law enforcement personnel ...	Total	Percent
Fight or struggle with decedent	2	11%
Engage in motor vehicle pursuit	11	61%
Engage in foot pursuit	4	22%
Other	1	6%

There were 30 incidents in which law enforcement reported the use of any of the following types of weapons.

At any time during the incident, did law enforcement personnel use ...	Total	Percent ¹⁰
Firearm discharge	29	97%
Conducted energy devices (Taser) contact	1	3%
Pepper/OC spray, mace dispersion	1	3%
Other	2	7%

Of the incidents where manner of death could be determined, 70 percent of the deaths were ruled a homicide by law enforcement and 28 percent were the result of a suicide. Two percent of deaths were ruled an accidental death. A firearm caused the death of 98 percent of the decedents¹¹.

Location

Forty-eight percent of arrest-related incidents occurred on a roadway/highway/street/sidewalk and 35 percent occurred at a residence.

¹⁰ Percent total will exceed 100 percent due to some incidents having more than one law enforcement use of a weapon.

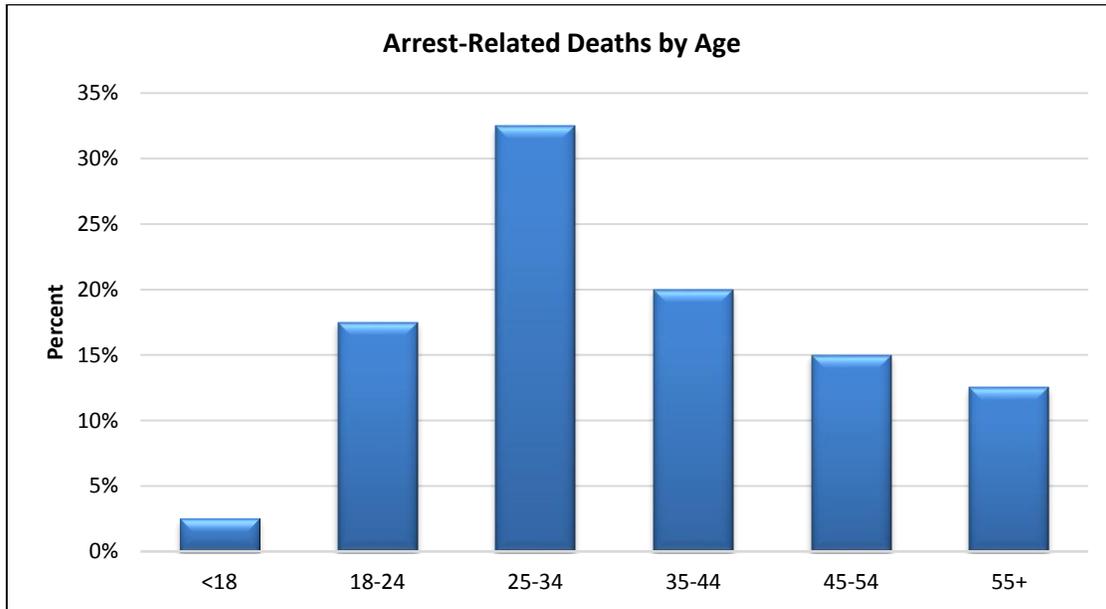
¹¹ This percentage includes both the decedents' and law enforcement use of firearms.

Decedent Characteristics

Of the decedents identified in an arrest-related death, there were a total of 38 males and two females. When race was known, Whites accounted for 48 percent of the arrest-related deaths, while Blacks accounted for 45 percent. White males also made up 45 percent of the deaths, with Black males accounting for 43 percent.

	Female Total	Percent	Male Total	Percent
Black	1	3%	17	43%
White	1	3%	18	45%
Asian	0	0%	1	3%
Other	0	0%	2	5%

The average age of a decedent was 35.3 years and 33 percent of decedents were between the ages of 25 and 34 years. Twenty-six percent of both Black and White males fell between the ages of 25 and 34 years.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS
AND ACTING AS COLLECTION AGENT:
RTI INTERNATIONAL

ARREST-RELATED DEATH INCIDENT REPORT, 2013



1. What was the decedent's name?

 Last First M.I.

2. What was the time and date of death?
 ____ : ____ AM PM Month: ____ Day: ____, 2013

3. What law enforcement agency was involved with the death?
 Agency name: _____
 Check if multiple law enforcement agencies responded
 Agency ORI: _____
 Agency ORI unknown

4. Where did the event causing the death occur?
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____

5. What location category best describes where the event causing the death occurred? (Mark only one)
 Residence/home
 Law enforcement facility
 Business, specify type: _____
 Roadway/highway/street/sidewalk
 Parking lot/garage
 Field/woods/lake/waterway/beach
 Other, specify: _____
 Unknown

6. What was the decedent's sex?
 Male
 Female

7. What was the decedent's date of birth (DOB)?
 ____/____/____ or age at death if DOB unknown ____

8. What was the decedent's ethnic origin? (Mark only one)
 Hispanic or Latino
 Not Hispanic or Latino
 Unknown

9. What was the decedent's race? (Mark only one)
 American Indian or Alaska Native
 Asian
 Black or African American
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 White
 Two or more races
 Unknown

10. What was the reason for the initial contact between the decedent and law enforcement personnel? (Mark only one)
 Civilian request for response to criminal or suspicious activity, specify reason for request: _____
 Civilian request for medical, mental health, or welfare assistance, specify reason for request: _____
 Routine patrol/on-view (other than traffic stop), specify observed behavior: _____
 Traffic/vehicle stop, specify reason for stop: _____
 Warrant service, specify charge: _____
 Other reason for contact, specify reason: _____
 Unknown

11. At any time during the incident, did the decedent

	Yes	No	Unknown
Make suicidal statements.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Barricade self or initiate standoff.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Verbally threaten other(s).....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Resist being handcuffed or arrested.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attempt to escape/flee from custody.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attempt to grab, hit, or kick officer(s).....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attempt to gain possession of officer's weapon.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gain possession of officer's weapon.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. At any time during the incident, did the decedent display or use a weapon?
 Yes, mark all that apply:
 Displayed firearm without discharge
 Discharged firearm
 Displayed other weapon, specify weapon displayed: _____
 Used other weapon, specify weapon used: _____
 Used vehicle as a weapon
 No
 Unknown

13. At any time during the incident, did the decedent attempt to injure or injure others?
 Yes, mark all that apply:
 Fatally injured law enforcement personnel
 Non-fatally injured law enforcement personnel
 Attempted to injure law enforcement personnel
 Fatally injured civilian(s)
 Non-fatally injured civilian(s)
 Attempted to injure civilian(s)
 No
 Unknown

Name of decedent _____

14. At any time during the incident, did law enforcement personnel

	Yes	No	Unknown
Fight or struggle with decedent.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Physically restrain decedent (e.g., control hold, body compression).....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restrain decedent with equipment (e.g., handcuffs, leg shackles).....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Place decedent in prone position.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Engage in motor vehicle pursuit.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Engage in foot pursuit.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Arrest the decedent.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, specify: _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15. At any time during the incident, did law enforcement personnel use any of the following weapons?

	Yes	No	Unknown
Firearm discharge.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conducted energy device (Taser) contact.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pepper/OC spray, mace dispersion.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Baton/blunt instrument impact.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, specify: _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. Did the decedent sustain a fatal injury during the incident?

Yes, mark who caused the fatal injury (Mark only one)

- Law enforcement personnel
- Decedent
- Other civilian(s)
- Unknown person(s) caused the fatal injury

No

Unknown whether decedent sustained a fatal injury

17. If a weapon caused the death, what type of weapon caused the death? (Mark only one)

- Handgun
- Rifle/shotgun
- Firearm, unspecified
- Conducted energy device (e.g., Taser)
- Knife/edged instrument
- Baton/blunt instrument
- Other weapon, specify: _____
- Vehicle-involved death (i.e., vehicle accident)
- Not applicable, weapon or vehicle did not cause death
- Unknown

18. Where did the death occur? (Mark only one)

- Law enforcement facility/booking center
- Scene of incident
- Dead on arrival at medical facility
- Medical facility following clinical intervention
- Other, specify: _____
- Unknown

19. What was the manner of death? (Mark only one)

- Natural
- Homicide
- Accident
- Suicide
- Could not be determined
- Unknown

20. What was the cause of death?

Immediate cause:

Secondary causes (if applicable):

Unknown (skip Item 21 if cause of death is unknown)

21. How was information provided for cause of death (Item 20) determined? (Mark all that apply)

- Death certificate
- Autopsy report or medical evaluation
- Other source, specify: _____

22. Did the autopsy report or medical evaluation indicate the presence of alcohol or of drugs other than alcohol?

Yes, mark all that apply:

- Alcohol
- Drug(s) other than alcohol, specify: _____

No

Unknown, did not obtain autopsy report or medical evaluation

Notes:

