



# Conducted Energy Weapons, 2021

Data reported to the Director of Police Services, as required by [British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards](#) (BCPPS) on the use of Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs)

## 2021 BCPPS CEW Data\*, by Police Agency<sup>1</sup>

	AB	CS	DE	NE	NW	OB	PM	SA	STP	TP	VA	VI	WV	RCMP	BC	
Total # of CEWs	26	5	77	12	34	6	10	23	10	84	423	87	35	2061	2893	
Total # of certified officers	51	23	200	16	66	20	34	107	9	104	343	67	57	1134	2231	
<b>Displays</b>																
Displays <sup>2</sup> (no discharge)	2	1	21	0	12	0	1	26	4	16	380	73	6	215	757	
To EDP subject <sup>3</sup>	0	0	10	0	1	0	0	13	3	12	94	27	2	90	252	
<b>Discharges</b>																
Discharges (# of subjects)	20	0	4	4	1	0	2	3	1	3	66	26	0	238	368	
Probes	12	0	4	3	0	0	0	2	1	2	51	18	0	193	286	
Contact stuns	7	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	10	4	0	24	47	
C.Stun + probes	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	5	4	0	21	35	
Discharges per certified officer	0.39	0.00	0.02	0.25	0.02	0	0.06	0.03	0.11	0.03	0.19	0.39	0	0.21	0.16	
Effective discharge cases	16	0	2	3	1	0	2	2	0	1	56	18	0	189	290	
1 Cycle cases <sup>4</sup>	13	0	3	2	1	0	2	1	1	1	45	18	0	194	281	
2 Cycle cases	5	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	21	4	0	35	71	
3+ Cycle cases	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	13	2	0	9	29	
<b>Subject Characteristics (for Discharges)</b>																
Male	20	0	3	4	1	0	2	3	1	3	59	19	0	215	330	
Female	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	22	31	
Non-Binary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Under 18 years of age	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	7	
18-69 years of age	21	0	4	4	1	0	1	3	1	3	64	19	0	234	355	
70 years of age and older	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
Under inf. Alcohol and/or drugs	11	0	3	4	1	0	2	3	0	3	32	10	0	151	220	
Emotionally disturbed	12	0	1	2	1	0	1	2	1	3	29	13	0	130	195	
Armed with weapon(s)	10	0	3	3	0	0	1	1	1	2	35	14	0	146	216	
<b>Injuries (for Discharges)</b>																
Probes broke skin	11	0	2	3	0	0	2	2	0	1	54	14	0	161	250	
Subjects with non-trivial injury	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	24	21	0	12	60	
Deaths proximal to discharge <sup>5</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Officers with non-trivial injury	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	2	0	0	12	
<b>Rates of CEW Use (Displays and Discharges)<sup>6</sup></b>																
Per 1,000 general occurrence reports	0.56	0.25	0.83	0.74	0.74	0.00	0.48	1.01	1.96	1.22	4.26	2.74	0.58	0.42	0.82	

\*CEW discharges and displays may be attributed to a different police agency from where the involved officer was employed in some cases, such as incidents involving seconded police officers, integrated emergency response teams, or requests for assistance from other police agencies.



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## ENDNOTES

1. Abbotsford Police Department (AB), Central Saanich Police Service (CS), Delta Police Department (DE), Nelson Police Department (NE), New Westminster Police Department (NW), Oak Bay Police Department (OB), Port Moody Police Department (PM), Saanich Police Department (SA), Stl'at'imx Tribal Police Service (STP), Metro Vancouver Transit Police (TP), Vancouver Police Department (VA), Victoria Police Department (VI), and West Vancouver Police Department (WV).
2. Displays are counted by the number of officers who displayed their CEW (without discharge) per subject of the force option in an incident. For example, if two officers displayed their CEW at one subject in an incident, it would be counted as two displays.
3. EDP figures are based on whether the subject was perceived by the officer to be, and recorded by the officer as, an emotionally disturbed person (EDP). As counts of EDP subjects are reflective of an officer's perception and records, they may not be completely reflective of the actual number of EDP subjects. The term "emotionally disturbed person" in the police records management system is defined as "a subject who appears to be mentally unstable and who might pose a threat to an investigator, him/herself, or others."
4. The sum of case counts may differ from the total discharges, because while total discharges are counted by number of subjects, case counts are counted by number of officers who discharged their CEW per subject of the force option in an incident. The number of cycles used in a CEW discharge does not impact the count. For example, if two officers discharged their CEW at one subject, the subject count would be one, whereas the case count would be two.
5. The term "proximal to" does not mean "caused by," and counts include all deaths in police incidents where a CEW was discharged, regardless of the cause of death.
6. Total CEW use represents all discharges and displays reported by the agency. General occurrence reports are typically written when officers are involved in an operational policing response to an incident.

## DEFINITIONS

**Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW):** a weapon designed to use a conducted electrical current in order to incapacitate a person (probe mode) or to generate compliance through pain (contact stun mode).

**CEW Display:** the act of pointing, aiming, or showing the CEW at or to a person without discharge.

**CEW Discharge:** the act of firing a CEW in any mode against a person.

**CEW Contact Stun (C.Stun) Mode:** the act of firing a CEW by directly applying the muzzle to a person.

**CEW Probe Mode:** the act of firing a CEW (fitted with a cartridge) at a person from a distance. The CEW transmits electrical pulses through the wires and into a person's body.

**Non-Trivial Injury:** an injury which necessitates medical attention for a condition likely to interfere with the health or comfort of the person and is more than merely transient or trifling in nature. Examples of non-trivial injuries include lacerations, broken bones/fractures, concussions, etc.