

2019 Mid-Year Preliminary

Law Enforcement Officers Fatalities Report



National Law Enforcement Officers
MEMORIAL FUND
RESPECT. HONOR. REMEMBER.

Law Enforcement Officer Fatalities

According to preliminary data compiled by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, as of June 30, 2019, **60 federal, state, and local law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty as of June 30 this year**, a 35 percent decrease from the 92 officers killed during the same period last year. A significant reason for the decrease is because of the increase of 9/11-related deaths and job-related illnesses in 2018.

Firearms-related fatalities were the leading cause of officer deaths, with 27 officers killed thus far in 2019. This represents a 13 percent decrease over the 31 officers killed in firearms-related incidents during the same period last year. The leading circumstances of firearms-related fatalities were officers responding to a robbery call, involved in a traffic/vehicular pursuit, or were killed in an ambush-style attack.

Twenty-one officers have been killed in traffic-related fatalities this year, a 25 percent decrease, compared to 28 deaths during the same period last year. Struck-by incidents, where an officer was outside of their patrol vehicle, were the leading circumstance of the traffic-related fatalities with 11 such fatalities during the first half of 2019—an increase of 57 percent over the same period last year.

Twelve officers died of other causes during the reporting period in 2019, eight of which were job-related illnesses. Two officers died as a result of illnesses contracted during the 9/11 terrorist attack rescue and recovery efforts, one officer was crushed to death, and one officer drowned.

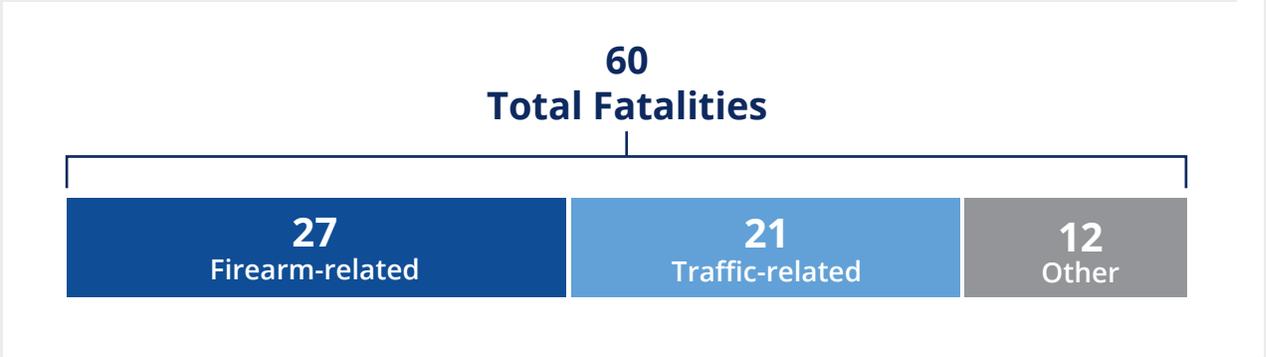
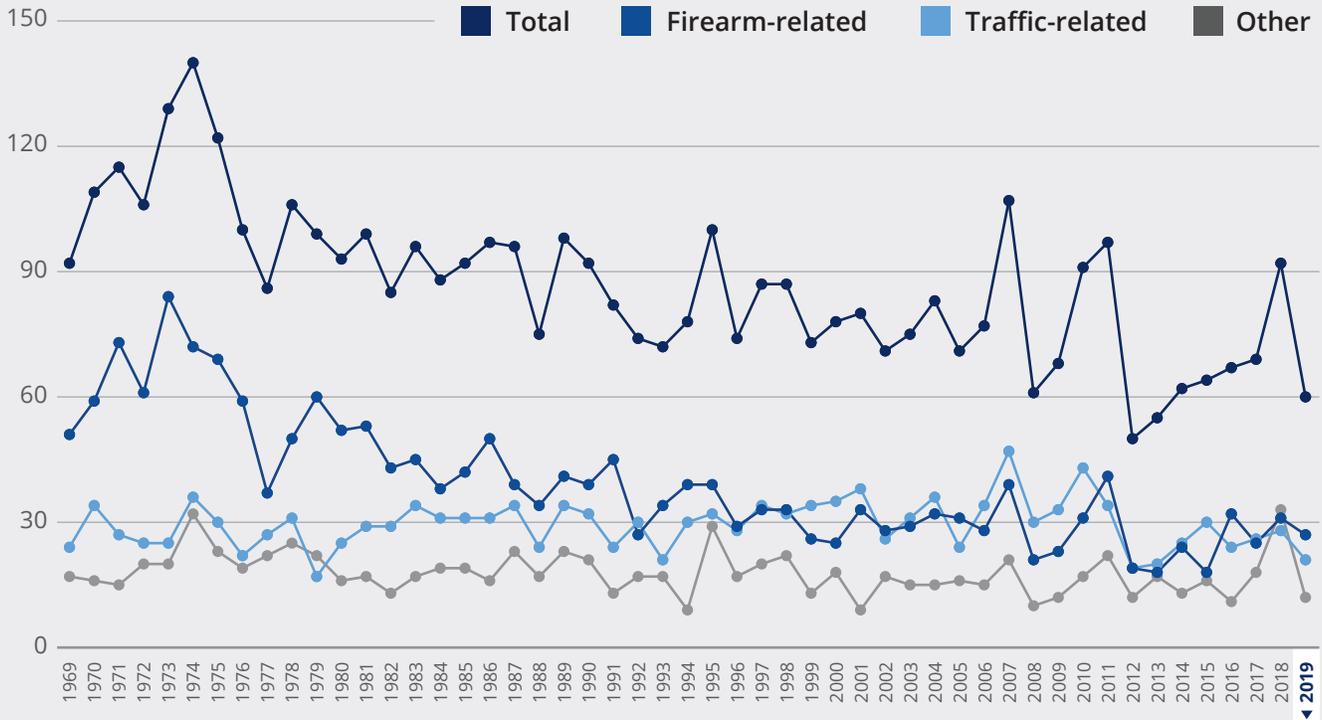
↓ **35%**

**Law Enforcement
Line-of-Duty
Deaths Down
35 Percent in
First Half of 2019**



Law Enforcement Officer Fatalities 1969-2019

Through Mid-Year



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30 of each year.

The data and statistics contained in this report are preliminary and do not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2020.

Firearms-related Fatalities

Firearms-related fatalities were the leading cause of law enforcement deaths during the first half of the year. **Twenty-seven officers were shot and killed during the first six months of 2019** compared to 31 during the same period in 2018. Of the 27 firearms fatalities, four officers were killed responding to a robbery call, four were shot during a traffic pursuit, and four were shot in an ambush-style attack. Three officers were killed as they responded to a domestic disturbance or domestic-related incident, and three officers were shot and killed while attempting to arrest a suspect.

Two fatalities were the result of officers serving felony arrest warrants and two were involved in tactical situations. An officer was shot and killed while involved in each of the following incidents: investigating a disturbance call; responding to a suspicious

person or circumstances call; drug-related matters and/or drug bust; accidentally shot as a homeowner thought the officer was an intruder; and conducting a welfare check on a civilian.

Handguns were the leading type of firearm used in fatal shootings of law enforcement officers in the first half 2019. Of the 27 officer fatalities, 11 officers were shot and killed with a handgun and five officers were killed with a rifle. The type of firearm used in the remaining 11 fatalities is still unknown for the first half of 2019.

Of the 27 firearms-related fatalities in the first half of 2019, six occurred in February, the most of any other month. Five officers were shot in each of the months of January, May, and June. Four officers were shot in the month of March, and two in April.



Police Officer Natalie Becky Corona

California Police Department

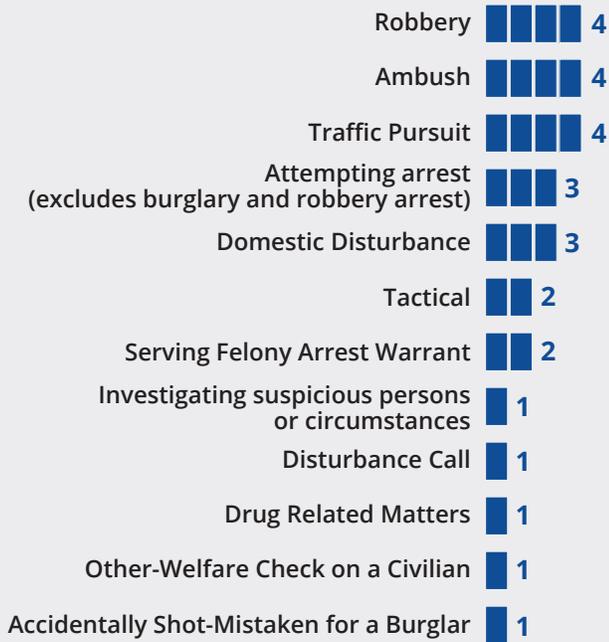
End of Watch: January 10, 2019

Police Officer Corona was **shot and killed** in an ambush style attack after responding to a multiple car crash. While investigating the car crash, a suspect unrelated to the crash, opened fire on Officer Corona without warning. The suspect then continued shooting at fire personnel who were on the scene for the traffic crash. The suspect fled the scene and was later found deceased inside his home with a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Officer Corona was transported to the hospital where she was pronounced deceased.

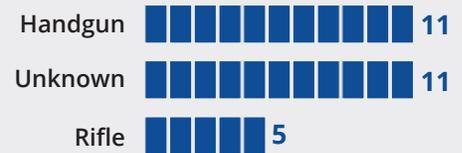
Firearms-Related Fatalities

Through Mid-Year

BY CIRCUMSTANCE (2019)



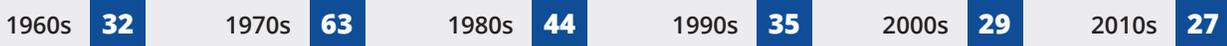
BY FIREARM TYPE (2019)



BY MONTH (2019)



BY DECADE (AVERAGE)



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30

Traffic-related Fatalities

Twenty-one officers were killed in traffic-related incidents during the first half of 2019, compared to 28 over the same period last year, a 25 percent decrease. Of the 21 traffic-related incidents, five were automobile crashes involving a collision with another vehicle or fixed object, four were involved in a single-vehicle crash, 11 were struck while on the side of the road, and one was involved in a motorcycle crash.

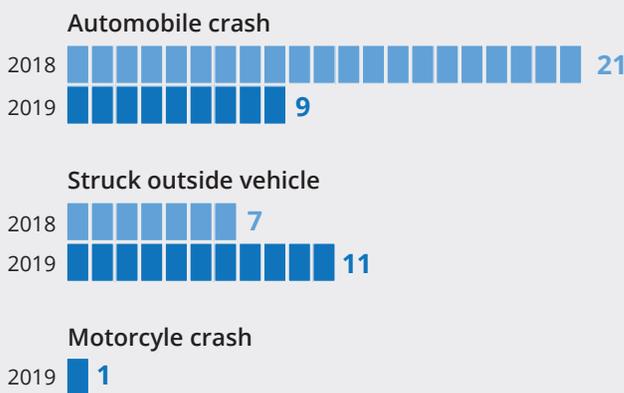
Of the nine automobile crashes in the first half of this year, four were single-vehicle crashes, compared to 10 during the same time in 2018, representing a 60 percent decrease.

Compared to the average number of traffic-related fatalities per decade, 2019 is lower than the past 10-year average (2000-2009). In the prior decade, 33 officers were killed on average in the first half of a given year. Since the 1960s, traffic-related fatalities have increased, even as overall law enforcement fatalities have been decreasing.

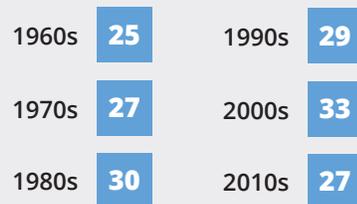
Since the 1960s, traffic-related fatalities have increased, even as overall law enforcement fatalities have been decreasing.

Traffic-Related Fatalities Through Mid-Year

BY CIRCUMSTANCE



BY DECADE (AVERAGE)



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30

Officers Fallen: Traffic-related



Trooper Matthew Gatti

Tennessee (TN)
Highway Patrol

End of Watch:
May 6, 2019

Trooper Gatti was **killed in an automobile crash** as he was responding to a call involving a car fire. Trooper Gatti was involved in a crash with two tractor-trailers when he lost control of his patrol vehicle.



Corporal Shane Michael Totty

Baton Rouge (LA)
Police Department

End of Watch:
February 2, 2019

Corporal Totty was **killed in a motorcycle crash** during a funeral procession. Corporal Totty's department-issued motorcycle collided with another vehicle. Corporal Totty was transported to a local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

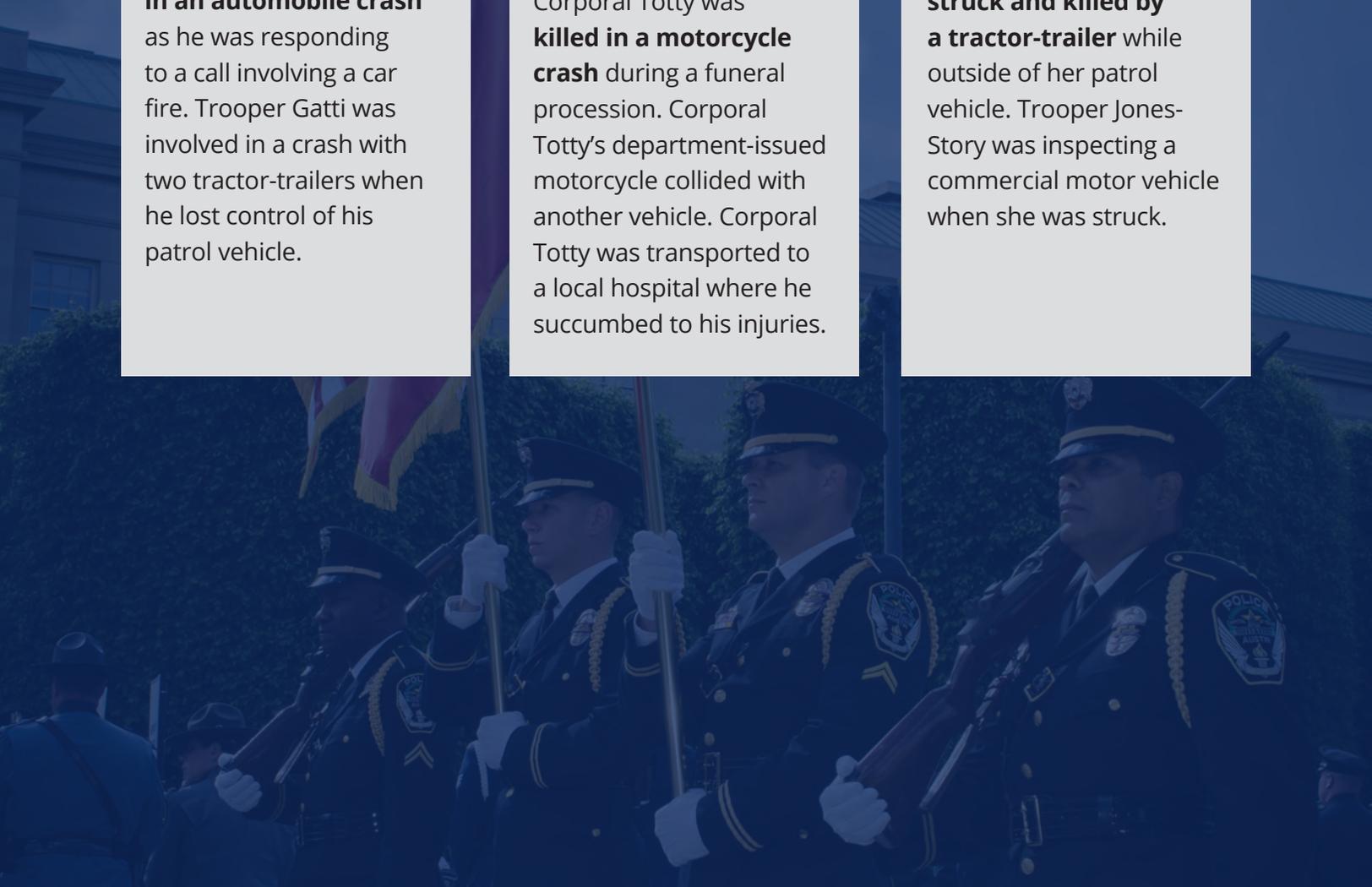


Trooper Brooke Jones- Story

Illinois (IL) State Police

End of Watch:
March 28, 2019

Trooper Jones-Story was **struck and killed by a tractor-trailer** while outside of her patrol vehicle. Trooper Jones-Story was inspecting a commercial motor vehicle when she was struck.



Other Causes of Fatalities

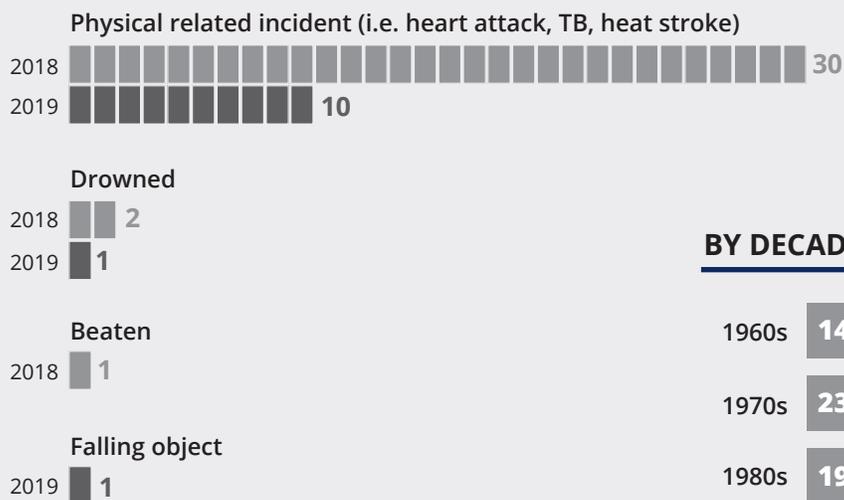
The first half of 2019 saw a decrease in the number of officers who died from other causes compared to the first half of 2018.

Twelve officers died from other causes compared to 33 officers who died as a result of other causes during the first half of 2018, a 64 percent decrease.

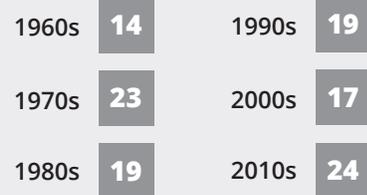
In the first half of this year, eight of the officers died due to a cardiac event. Two officers died as a result of illnesses contracted during the 9/11 rescue and recovery operations, one officer was crushed to death and one officer drowned.

Other Causes of Fatalities Through Mid-Year

BY CIRCUMSTANCE



BY DECADE (AVERAGE)



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30

Officers Fallen: Other Causes



Police Officer Steven Brown

Port St. Lucie (FL)
Police Department

End of Watch:
June 12, 2019

Police Officer Brown **suffered a fatal heart attack** after completing a third day of training at the Port St. Lucie Police Athletic League's Police Camp. Officer Brown was one of the leaders at the camp as part of his duties as a School Resource Officer. The camp involved three days of outdoor activities that included an obstacle course. Officer Brown collapsed after returning home from his shift.



Conservation Officer Eugene Wynn, Jr.

Minnesota Department
of Natural Resources

End of Watch:
April 19, 2019

Conservation Officer Wynn drowned after he and other deputies responded to a report of a possible body in the lake. Officer Wynn and another deputy were thrown from the boat. Deputies were able to rescue the other deputy; however, Officer Wynn **slipped below the surface and drowned.**



Detective Luis Alvarez

New York City (NY)
Police Department

End of Watch:
June 30, 2019

Detective Alvarez **succumbed to a cancer-related illness** stemming from his rescue and recovery efforts at Ground Zero following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York.

Demographics of Fatalities

In the first half of 2019, six officers from the state of Texas and five officers from the state of Illinois were killed in the line of duty. The state of Alabama suffered four officer fatalities. Three officers died in the states of California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Three federal officers, two territorial and two tribal officers were also killed in the line of duty in the first half of

2019. Six states lost two officers and 11 states lost one officer for the first half of 2019.

Twenty-five states and the District of Columbia did not lose an officer in the first half of this year. Fifty-five fallen officers were male and five were female. Their average age was 42 years, with 14 years of service. On average, each officer left behind two children.

Fatalities by State Through Mid-Year 2019

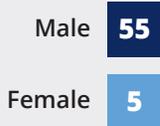


Number of Fatalities: 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 ▶ 25 States & DC had zero fatalities

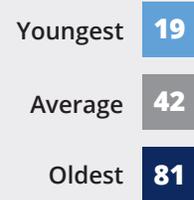
Fatalities by Demographic

Through Mid-Year 2019

GENDER



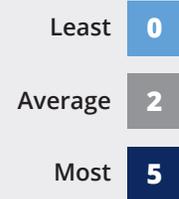
AGE



TOUR OF DUTY LENGTH



NUMBER OF CHILDREN



JURISDICTION



Note: Mid-Year is from January 1 through June 30



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MEMORIAL FUND
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901 E Street, NW
Suite 100
Washington, DC 20004
www.LawMemorial.org
info@nleogm.org