



# LONDON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

“Deeds Not Words”

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**To:** Chair and Members of the London Police Services Board  
**Date:** February 16, 2023  
**Subject:** **Annual Use of Force Statistical Report for 2022**  
**Report:** 23-17

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## Board Action:

- Update / Information Purposes Only
- Seeking Input
- Seeking Decision
- Evaluation

## Synopsis:

This report is intended to provide an overview of the instances and details of force used by members of the London Police Service during 2022. It also provides a five-year comparison of use of force statistics, including any identifiable trends. It is being submitted to the Board in accordance with the Board's Use of Force Policy LPSB-078.

The 2022 annual Use of Force Report marks only the third time that officers' perceived race of subject(s) has been compiled and presented. Under O. Reg. 267/18, the Ministry of the Solicitor General (ministry), as a public sector organization, is required (in policing) to collect the Participant Observer Information (POI) (i.e., police service members' perception) regarding the race of individuals in respect of whom a Use of Force Report is completed, and any other information set out in the report that the police service is legally required to provide to the ministry, excluding the individuals' names. As a result of this being the third year this statistic has been collected, there are only three years of statistics to compare. As you will observe, the years are similar statistically.

The Data Standards for the Identification and Monitoring of Systemic Racism, also known as Ontario's Anti-Racism Data Standards, were established to help identify and monitor systemic racism and racial disparities within the public sector.<sup>1</sup>

To assist with the interpretation of this report the following appendices are included:

- Appendix A: Ontario Use of Force Model (2004);
- Appendix B: A listing of the ethno-cultural groups tracked by Statistics Canada in 2021 and the categories referred to in O. Reg. 267/18 of the *Anti-racism Act*.

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<sup>1</sup> All Chiefs Memorandum 19-0086 Race Data Collection in Use of Force, Ministry of the Solicitor General, Public Safety and Public Safety Training Division, November 28, 2019

**Background:**

Police officers are authorized to use a range of force options in response to an event or incident in order to protect life, preserve the peace, prevent crimes, maintain order and apprehend suspects.

The authority and direction to collect use of force information are found in the Policing Standards Manual (AI-012), the *Police Services Act* (O. Reg. 926 s. 14.5) and London Police Service Procedure (Part 1, Chapter B: Use of Force).

In accordance with the Policing Standards Manual and the *Police Services Act*, members are required to submit a Use of Force Report in certain circumstances, including when a member:

- a) draws a handgun in the presence of a member of the public, excluding a member of the police service while on duty;
- b) points a firearm at a person;
- c) discharges a firearm;
- d) uses a weapon other than a firearm on another person, including a conducted energy weapon (CEW) in cartridge/probe mode, three-point contact, and drive/push stun mode; or
- e) uses physical force on another person that results in an injury requiring medical attention.

Officer intervention is governed in the Province of Ontario by the Ontario Use of Force Model (2004). Appendix A provides a copy of the Model, including an explanation of each component of the Model.

While this model is referred to as the Use of Force Model, it governs all interventions with members of our community and includes officer responses which are present in all interactions, such as “Officer Presence” and “Communication”. These two responses, by officers, form the foundation of de-escalation intervention, and are valid response options throughout the entire Model as circumstances dictate. De-escalation remains a cornerstone for police interactions. As such, de-escalation training is heavily emphasized in annual training and requalification.

Use of Force Reports

|  | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022  |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| <b>Calls for Service<sup>2</sup></b>                         | 109153 | 107235 | 105257 | 106757 | 95002 |
| <b>Arrests &amp; Mental Health Apprehensions<sup>3</sup></b> | 9488   | 9403   | 7898   | 8041   | 8545  |
| <b>Use of Force Reports</b>                                  | 287    | 169    | 274    | 299    | 246   |
| Patrol   | 144    | 82     | 178    | 158    | 147   |
| Criminal Investigation Division                              | 6      | 0      | 3      | 2      | 6     |
| Team Reports <sup>4</sup>                                    | 84     | 61     | 66     | 105    | 66    |
| Animals  | 40     | 26     | 39     | 34     | 27    |

In 2022, LPS officers were involved in 95002 occurrences resulting in 8545 arrests and mental health apprehensions, and of those incidents 2.88% involved a report in which force was reportedly used. The use of force was reported in 0.26% of all calls for service.

<sup>2</sup> CAD Occurrences minus administrative calls and follow ups

<sup>3</sup> Includes all arrests and adult, youth and order apprehensions

<sup>4</sup> Team reports represent one Use of Force Report for one coordinated incident (e.g. Emergency Response Unit and Public Order Unit)

Although calls for Service declined in 2022 there was an increase in Arrests and Mental Health Apprehension, up 6.3 % from 2021.

### Incident Reporting

Generally, one use force report is submitted per incident. There are a few exceptions to this. If the incident has different components where force is used by more than one member, each officer is required to submit a report. An exception to the requirement to file an individual Use of Force Report is made for team reports, which are limited to Emergency Response Teams and Public Order Units. In the case of a team report, only one report is required to capture the required information.

Use of Force Reports capture a significant amount of data, much of which is used to inform training curriculum, based on real-life scenarios and outcomes. More than one level of force used may be captured on a single report for a given incident. For example, if an officer is initially engaged with a suspect and is required to use soft physical control (e.g. empty hands) but is required to transition to an intermediate weapon (e.g. CEW) to gain compliance and control, the report will capture both force options, and the sequence in which they were used. The soft physical control techniques will be reflected as the first in the sequence, and ineffective, and the CEW would be reference as the second in the sequence, and effective.

Use of Force Reports are submitted to the Sergeant, Use of Force Training Unit, who reviews the Reports for content, collects statistical data and submits a report to the Solicitor General, in accordance with legislative requirements. Analysis of the force used, by the Use of Force Committee, comprised of Training Unit staff, allows for the identification of individual or group training needs.

The Use of Force Report is comprised of two parts. Part A, which captures the information relevant to the force used, and Part B, which captures information utilized by the Use of Force Committee in their analysis. Part A is destroyed after two years, and Part B which is destroyed no longer than 30 days after the report is submitted, in accordance with O. Reg. 926. There are few exceptions to this retention period, and restrictions regarding the use of the Reports.

### Relevant Training

All the use of force training, provided by the London Police Service, incorporates de-escalation techniques.

To assist members to meet legal requirements in deciding the level of force appropriate in various circumstances, members shall, in all situations involving the use of force, consider de-escalation tactics including disengagement.

The Training Unit teaches de-escalation techniques which emphasize communication skills, rapport building, and emotional intelligence in practical skills scenarios. The Training Unit utilizes scenario-based training for all officers which requires them to demonstrate the de-escalation techniques taught. These training scenarios are incorporated into firearms training, CEW training, and Use of Force training.

### Summary of the 2022 Use of Force Study

In 2022, there were a reported 246 incidents resulting in the submission of a Use of Force Report.

**RE: Annual Use of Force Statistical Report for 2022**

The following is a five-year comparison of the total number of incidents where Use of Force Reports were submitted:

| <b>2018</b> | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>2021</b> | <b>2022</b> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 287         | 168         | 274         | 299         | 246         |

**Breakdown by Incident Type**

|                            | <b>2018</b> | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>2021</b> | <b>2022</b> |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Robbery                    | 13          | 10          | 17          | 16          | 5           |
| Break and Enter            | 10          | 10          | 11          | 13          | 8           |
| Domestic Disturbance       | 18          | 9           | 19          | 11          | 13          |
| Other Disturbance          | 31          | 18          | 6           | 19          | 17          |
| Traffic                    | 45          | 31          | 4           | 4           | 10          |
| Suspicious Person          | 5           | 3           | 2           | 1           | 8           |
| Serious Injury             | 3           | 0           | 5           | 2           | 3           |
| Homicide                   | 2           | 0           | 3           | 4           | 4           |
| Weapons call               | 102         | 75          | 97          | 90          | 110         |
| Alarm                      | 1           | 1           | 1           | 2           | 0           |
| Other *                    | 54          | 12          | 111         | 29          | 75          |
| Mental Health Apprehension |             |             |             | 24          | 13          |
| Wanted Person              |             |             |             | 8           | 2           |
| Stolen Car                 |             |             |             | 8           | 0           |
| Assault Police             |             |             |             | 4           | 0           |
| Search/Feeney Warrants     |             |             |             | 56          | 24          |
| Animals Euthanized         |             |             |             | 36          | 27          |

\* In addition to the provincial requirements, further categories of incidents have been added to this report for the last two years to more accurately reflect the types of occurrences where force is being used. The sum of the incident types may be higher than the total reports as some incidents will be double coded.

Weapon's Calls increased by 22% from 2021 to 2022.

There was a significant decrease of 57 percent in the number of Search Warrants executed in which forced was used from 2021 to 2022. This decrease is attributed to a Guns and Gangs Project in 2021, targeting firearms related offences, that ended prior to 2022.

**Weapons Carried by Subject**

|                     | <b>2018</b> | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>2021</b> | <b>2022</b> |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| None                | 70          | 39          | 33          | 20          | 24          |
| Unknown             | 26          | 14          | 16          | 18          | 28          |
| Revolver            | 6           | 3           | 7           | 4           | 4           |
| Semi Auto Firearm   | 23          | 33          | 79          | 94          | 84          |
| Rifle/shotgun       | 4           | 3           | 18          | 15          | 17          |
| Knife/edged weapons | 69          | 42          | 69          | 83          | 51          |
| Baseball bat/club   | 3           | 2           | 3           | 16          | 5           |
| Other               | 20          | 8           | 20          | 19          | 15          |

Reasons for Use of Force

|                                  | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Protect Self                     | 212  | 134  | 225  | 248  | 202  |
| Protect public                   | 204  | 124  | 191  | 225  | 168  |
| Effect arrest                    | 209  | 140  | 202  | 227  | 178  |
| Prevent commission of an offence | 193  | 101  | 150  | 183  | 118  |
| Prevent escape                   | 100  | 109  | 150  | 187  | 136  |
| Accidental                       | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Destroy an animal                | 40   | 26   | 39   | 34   | 27   |
| Other                            | 0    | 0    | 4    | 4    | 7    |

In a single reported use of force incident, a member can choose multiple reasons for the use of force options they select.

Type of Force Used

|                             | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Firearm Discharged          | 39   | 27   | 38   | 36   | 27   |
| Firearm Pointed             | 96   | 80   | 117  | 139  | 105  |
| Handgun Drawn               | 145  | 92   | 84   | 83   | 76   |
| Intermediate weapon - OC/CS | 9    | 2    | 6    | 11   | 3    |
| Intermediate Weapon – Baton | 3    | 5    | 3    | 5    | 2    |
| Intermediate Weapon – Taser | 110  | 61   | 91   | 104  | 85   |
| Physical Control – hard     | 31   | 21   | 20   | 26   | 21   |
| Physical Control – soft     | 66   | 53   | 63   | 106  | 78   |
| Other                       | 26   | 26   | 39   | 9    | 24   |

Service Pistol and Other Firearm

A police officer may point a firearm at a person when that person demonstrates behaviour that the officer believes may result in grievous bodily harm or death to the officer or to someone else. In 2022, approximately 43 percent of all reported interactions involving the use of force involved the pointing of a firearm compared to 46 percent in 2021, 43 percent in 2020 and 48 percent in 2019.

In 2022, there were zero interactions with members of the public in which a London Police Service member discharged their firearm.

Intermediate Weapons –OC Spray & Baton

Intermediate weapons include OC spray, the collapsible defensive baton and the Taser® conducted energy weapon (CEW). OC spray was used on 3 occasions in 2022, down from 11 in 2021. There were 2 incidents involving the use of the collapsible defensive baton, down from 5 in 2021.

Intermediate Weapons – Taser® CEW

Data on use of the CEW is augmented with data captured in separate reports, which provides additional insight on the effectiveness of three modes in which the device may be deployed:

- Demonstrated force presence – the device is armed and an integrated LASER light is activated. The ministry guidelines do not require a Use of Force report to be submitted under this circumstance, however LPS procedure requires officers to complete a Use of Force report for internal tracking purposes;
- Probe deployment – the device is fired at an individual, resulting in the discharge of small probes; and
- Drive stun – probes or electrodes at the end of the device make direct contact with the subject

The Uniform Division continued to be the division utilizing the CEW the most, making up 84 of the 85 instances of the CEW being deployed. This is a consistent statistic throughout the years due to the number of CEWs deployed with the Uniform Division compared to other areas.

- The CEW was used in the demonstrated mode on 67 occasions, probe deployments on 18 occasions, and 0 times in the drive stun mode during the year. If the demonstrated mode is not successful it will sometimes lead to the probe deployment. This indicates that the demonstration of the CEW was successful in most scenarios.

### Injuries

Of the 246 reported incidents during 2022, 33 resulted in some level of injury to the subject compared to 51 in 2021. Of the 246 reported incidents during 2022, 8 resulted in injury to officers compared to 19 in 2021. The majority of these injuries were as a result of a K9 bite or medical personnel being utilized to remove CEW probes.

### Officer Perception of Subject's Race

In 2020, the Ministry of the Solicitor General added the category of perceived race to the Use of Force form.

Consistent with Standard 40 of the Data Standards, the new Use of Force Report includes the following question and race categories:

*What race category best describes the subject? (select only one)*

- Black
- East/Southeast Asian
- Indigenous
- Latino
- Middle Eastern
- South Asian
- White

These categories are used as social descriptors in Ontario. They are not based on science or biology but on differences that society has created (i.e., “socially constructed”).<sup>5</sup>

For each report submitted, the reporting officer must include the perceived race of the subject that they were dealing with at the time the force was used. The overall number of subjects exceeds the number of Use of Force Reports because each Use of Force Report can include several subjects.

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<sup>5</sup> All Chiefs Memorandum 19-0086 Race Data Collection in Use of Force, Ministry of the Solicitor General, Public Safety and Public Safety Training Division, November 28, 2019

Perceived Race of Subjects

|                      | Number of Incidents 2020 | Percentage of Use of Force Incidents (not incl. animal /duplicate) | Number of Subjects based on Officer Perception | Percentage of Overall Subjects | Percentage in the City of London (based on 2016 census data)* |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Black                | 46                       | 20%  | 66   | 21.7%                          | 3%  |
| East/Southeast Asian | 0                        | 0  | 0  | 0                              | 4.7%  |
| Indigenous           | 32                       | 13.8%  | 33   | 10.9%                          | 3.7%  |
| Latino               | 4                        | 1.8%   | 5  | 1.6%                           | 2.4%  |
| Middle Eastern       | 11                       | 4.8%   | 13   | 4.3%                           | 3.5%  |
| South Asian          | 3                        | 1.3%   | 3  | 1%                             | 3%  |
| White                | 138                      | 63.4%  | 184  | 60 %                           | 80%   |

|                      | Number of Incidents 2021 | Percentage of Use of Force Incidents (not incl. animal /duplicate) | Number of Subjects based on Officer Perception | Percentage of Overall Subjects | Percentage in the City of London (based on 2016 census data)* |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Black                | 40                       | 16.8%  | 60   | 15.2%                          | 3%  |
| East/Southeast Asian | 7                        | 2.0%   | 7  | 2.7%                           | 4.7%  |
| Indigenous           | 40                       | 13.2%  | 47   | 15.2%                          | 3.7%  |
| Latino               | 5                        | 1.7%   | 6  | 1.0%                           | 2.4%  |
| Middle Eastern       | 17                       | 6.2%   | 22   | 6.4%                           | 3.5%  |
| South Asian          | 1                        | 0.3%   | 1  | 0.4%                           | 3%  |
| White                | 154                      | 59.9%  | 214  | 58.3%                          | 80%   |

|                      | Number of Incidents 2022 | Percentage of Use of Force Incidents (not incl. animal /duplicate) | Number of Subjects based on Officer Perception | Percentage of Overall Subjects | Percentage in the City of London (based on 2021 census data)* |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Black                | 44                       | 20.1%  | 60   | 20.1%                          | 4.2%  |
| East/Southeast Asian | 3                        | 1.4%   | 3  | 1.0%                           | 6.9%  |
| Indigenous           | 22                       | 10.0%  | 24   | 8.0%                           | 3.5%  |
| Latino               | 4                        | 1.8%   | 5  | 1.7%                           | 3%  |
| Middle Eastern       | 9                        | 4.1%   | 11   | 3.7%                           | 6.6%  |
| South Asian          | 1                        | 0.5%   | 1  | 0.3%                           | 6.5%  |
| White                | 147                      | 67.1%  | 195  | 65.2%                          | 67.8%   |

\* The ethno-cultural groups tracked by Statistics Canada in 2021 is different from the categories referred to in O. Reg. 267/18 of the *Anti-racism Act*. As such, there is some grouping of census data to map to the reporting requirements of the Ontario Data Standards. This chart does not include Multiple Visible Minorities (1%) and Visible Minority not Included Elsewhere (0.5%).

The corresponding 2021 Statistics Canada Census vs. O. Reg. 267/18 ethno-cultural community groups are provided in Appendix B.

### Trends

The instances that occurred where a Use of Force Report was required decreased by 17.7 percent from 2021 to 2022.

Firearm possession resulting in the use of force increased from 38 percent in 2021 to 43 percent in 2022.

Subjects in possession of knives or edged weapons decreased from 28 percent in 2021 to 21 percent in 2022.

This is the third year that race-based data has been collected, with the only benchmark being from 2020 and 2021. From 2020 to 2022 the percentages of interactions by LPS with the various ethno-cultural groups have remained relatively the same with only slight increases or decreases in a few categories. A compilation of year over year statistics in this category will be needed to identify accurate trends. There is no means by which to demonstrate whether the rates are proportionate to the number of interactions with each ethno-cultural group represented as the recording of such data is not currently collected.

In July 2020, the CACP, along with Statistics Canada, announced a joint agreement to initiate a process to identify how and when such data is to be collected. Once in place a more comprehensive comparison of police interactions can be undertaken.

### Conclusion

The Use of Force Training Unit identified no areas of concern arising from the reports submitted in 2022.

Only twenty-three percent of all reported encounters were initiated by the police. This statistic includes the execution of Criminal Code and Controlled Drugs and Substance Act Search Warrants. Seventy-seven percent (180 Citizen, 85 Police, 34 Animal) of all reported encounters were initiated by a source other than a member of the London Police Service, (i.e. the police were called by someone for assistance) with the overwhelming number of the remaining twenty-three percent involving a subject armed with a weapon.

The percentages of ethno-cultural community members involved in incidents in which force was used, appears to be disproportionate for black and indigenous communities; however, no strong conclusions can be drawn from the data alone, as more data is required before a complete analysis is possible; this will require the collection of ethno-cultural data stemming from all police interactions in the City of London.

Training Unit members will continue to monitor incidents of reported force, and emerging trends in London and around the country to identify lessons learned and best practices, and to assist in the development of ongoing training.

Education around de-escalation will continue to be incorporated into all training, as will the requirement to complete Use of Force Reports when force is used.

**Recommendation(s):**

That the Board receive this report for its information.

SUBMITTED BY: Trish McIntyre, Deputy Chief – Administration

Attachment(s): Appendix A - Use of Force Framework  
Appendix B – 2021 Statistics Canada Census and O. Reg. 267/18 of the  
*Anti-racism Act* Comparison

## Appendix A

### Use of Force Framework

The Ontario Use of Force Model is a graphical representation of the various elements involved in the process by which a police officer assesses a situation and acts in a reasonable manner to ensure officer and public safety. The Model assists officers and the public to understand why and in what manner an officer may respond with force.

Use of Force Reports have been received from officers dealing with subjects they have profiled as:

- Active Resistant
- Assaultive; and
- Serious Bodily Harm or Death

Use of Force Options available fall into the following categories:

#### Physical Control:

- Soft (joint manipulation)
- Hard (Strikes, i.e. punches/kicks)

#### Intermediate Weapons:

- Oleoresin Capsicum (OC)
- Baton
- CEW
- Arwen (SRU)

#### Lethal Force:

- Pistol
- Carbine

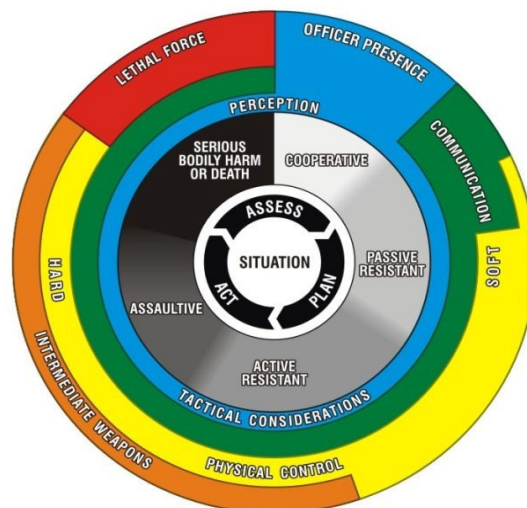
In addition to Officer Presence and Communication, officers may respond with the following force options based on the behaviour:

**Active Resistant:** Physical Control Soft/Hard, Intermediate Weapon

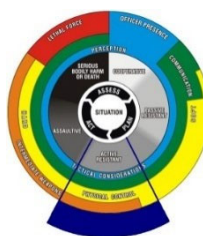
**Assaultive:** Physical Control Soft/Hard, Intermediate Weapon

**Serious Bodily Harm or Death:** Physical Control Soft/Hard, Intermediate Weapon, Lethal Force

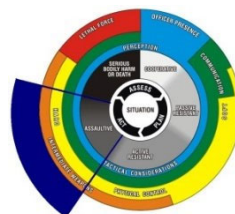
## Ontario Use of Force Model (2004)



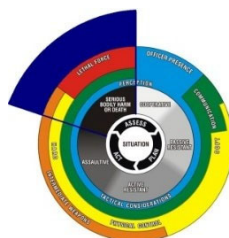
The officer continuously assesses the situation and selects the most reasonable option relative to those circumstances as perceived at that point in time.



**Active Resistant:** The subject uses non-assaultive physical action to resist, or while resisting an officer's lawful direction. Examples would include pulling away to prevent or escape control, or overt movements such as walking toward, or away from an officer. Running away is another example of active resistant.



**Assaultive:** The subject attempts to apply, or applies force to any person; attempts or threatens by an act or gesture, to apply force to another person, if he/she has, or causes that person to believe upon reasonable grounds that he/she has, present ability to effect his/her purpose.



**Serious Bodily Harm or Death:** The subject exhibits actions that the officer reasonably believes are intended to, or likely to cause serious bodily harm or death to any person.

## Appendix B

| 2021 Statistics Canada Census  | O. Reg. 267/18  |
|--|---|
| <b>Indigenous</b>  | <b>Indigenous</b>   |
| <b>Arab</b>  | <b>Middle Eastern</b><br>e.g. Arab, Persian, West Asian descent, e.g. Afghan, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Turkish, Kurdish, etc. |
| <b>West Asian</b>  |   |
| <b>Black</b>   | <b>Black</b><br>e.g. Caribbean origins, Central and West African origins, Southern and East African origins                       |
| <b>Chinese</b><br><b>Filipino</b><br><b>Japanese</b><br><b>Korean</b><br><b>Southeast Asian</b>  | <b>East/Southeast Asian</b>   |
| <b>Latin American</b>  | <b>Latino</b><br>e.g. Latin American, Hispanic descent  |
| <b>Multiple Visible Minorities</b>   | <b>Indicate most appropriate</b>  |
| <b>Visible Minority not Included Elsewhere</b>   | <b>Indicate most appropriate</b>  |
| <b>South Asian</b>   | <b>South Asian</b><br>e.g. East Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Indo-Caribbean, etc.                                  |
| <b>Not a Visible Minority and Not Indigenous</b>   | <b>White</b>  |
| <b>Unknown</b><br><i>**only to be used when a member is not able to physically observe an individual to form a perceived ethnic origin**</i> | <b>No comparable category</b>   |