

The Increasing Prevalence of Digital Video in Policing

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Term project

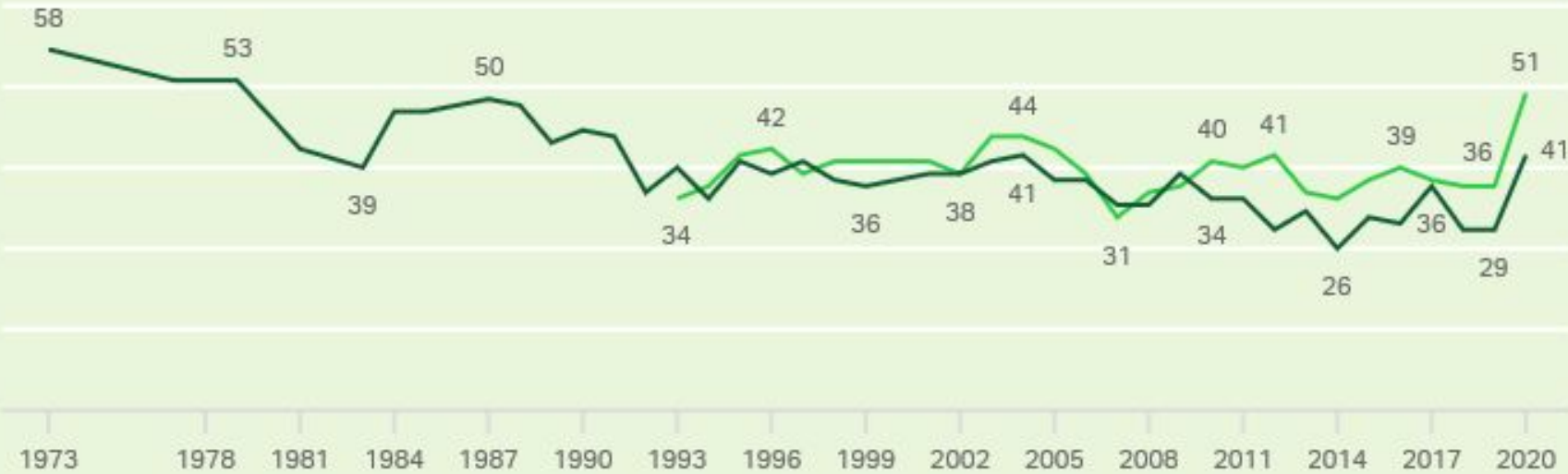
TRIGGER WARNING

Medical System & Public Schools: 50 year chart

Americans' Confidence in the U.S. Medical and Public School Systems

% Who have "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence

■ Medical system ■ Public schools

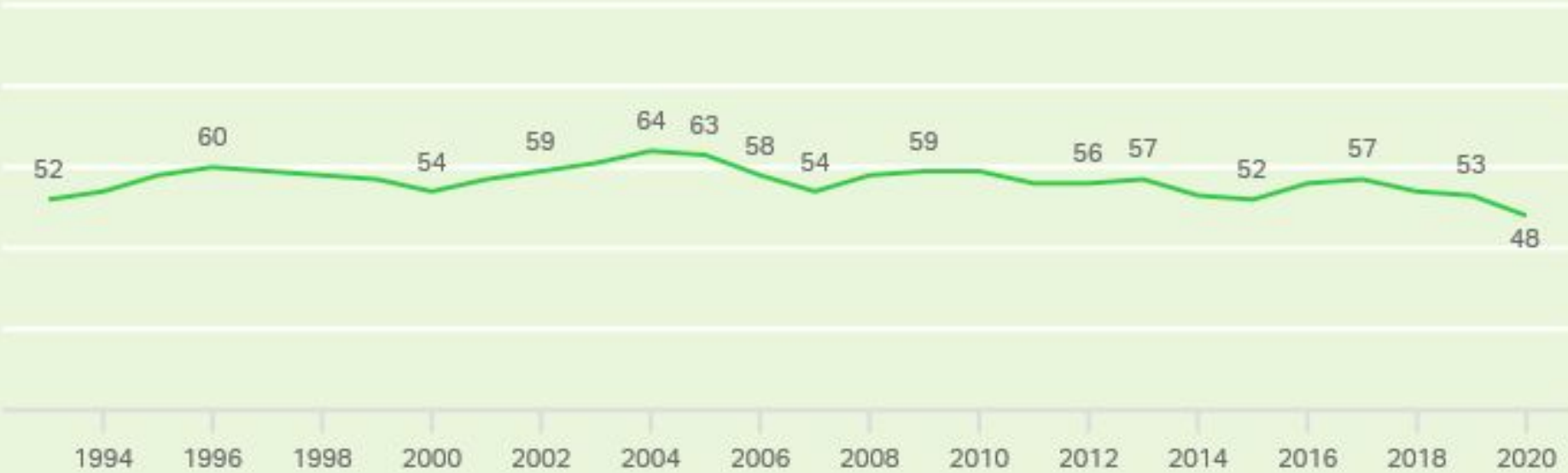


GALLUP

Police: 25 year chart

Americans' Confidence in the Police

■ % Who say "a great deal" or "Quite a lot"



Perception of police largely influenced by the rise of digital technology and advancements in digital video

- Eric Garner (2014: witness video)
- Michael Brown (2014: security camera video)
- Freddie Gray (2015: witness video)
- Alton Sterling (2016: witness video)
- Philando Castile (2016: witness video)
- George Floyd (2020: body camera and witness video)
- Jacob Blake* (2020: witness video)



*survived

Police Misconduct Data in NYC

A background image showing a police officer in profile, wearing a black helmet with a clear visor. The officer is looking towards the right. The background is a blurred night scene with colorful bokeh lights in shades of pink, purple, yellow, and blue, suggesting a protest or a city street at night.

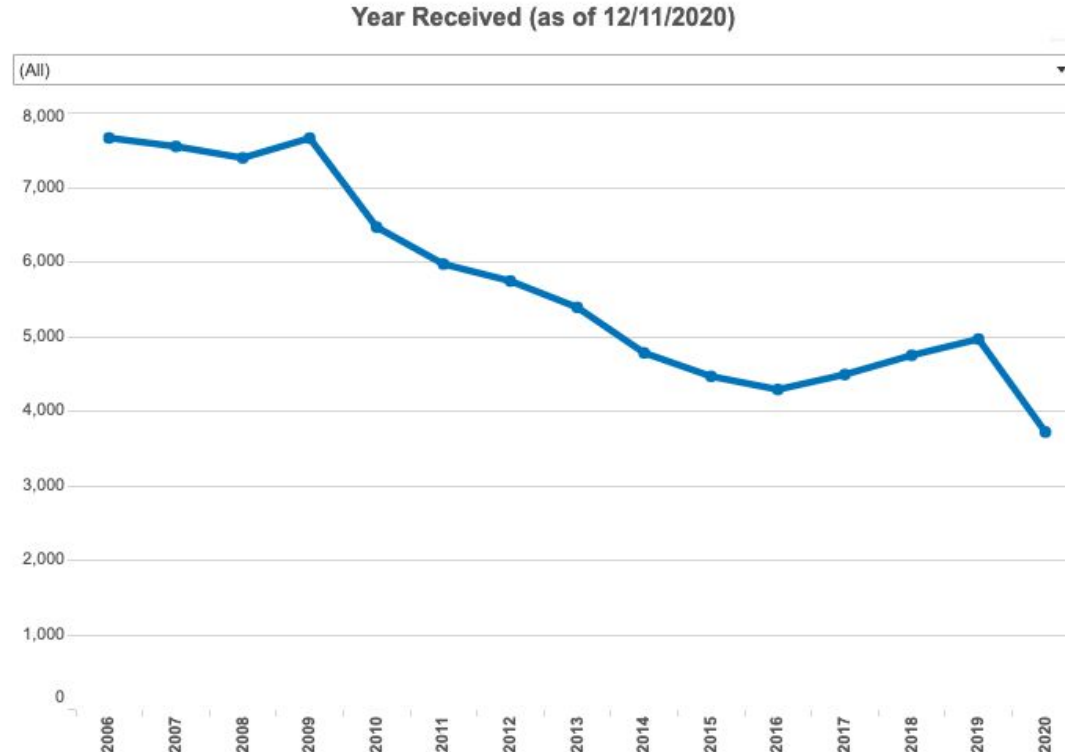
323,911 Accusations of N.Y.P.D. Misconduct Are Released Online

The records had been sealed for decades, but last month, New York repealed a law keeping them secret after national protests against police brutality.

Analysis of NYPD complaint data

How many complaints has the CCRB received over time?

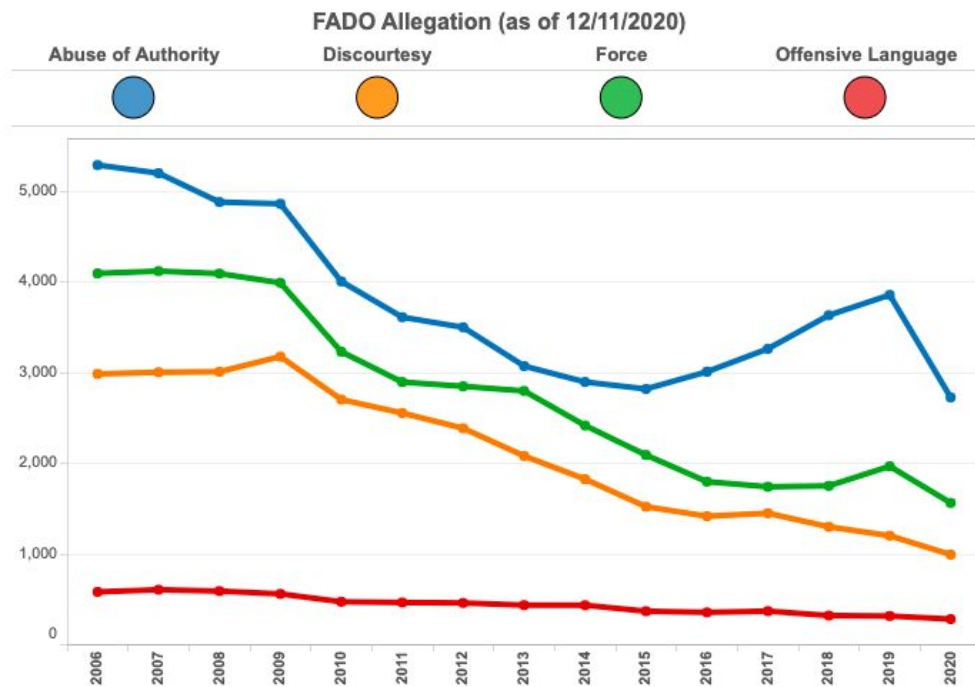
Between 2006 and 2018, the number of complaints received by the CCRB has declined, from 7,663 in 2006 to 4,744 in 2018.



Analysis of NYPD complaint data

How many CCRB complaints contain at least one allegation of excessive force, abuse of authority, discourtesy or offensive language (FADO)?

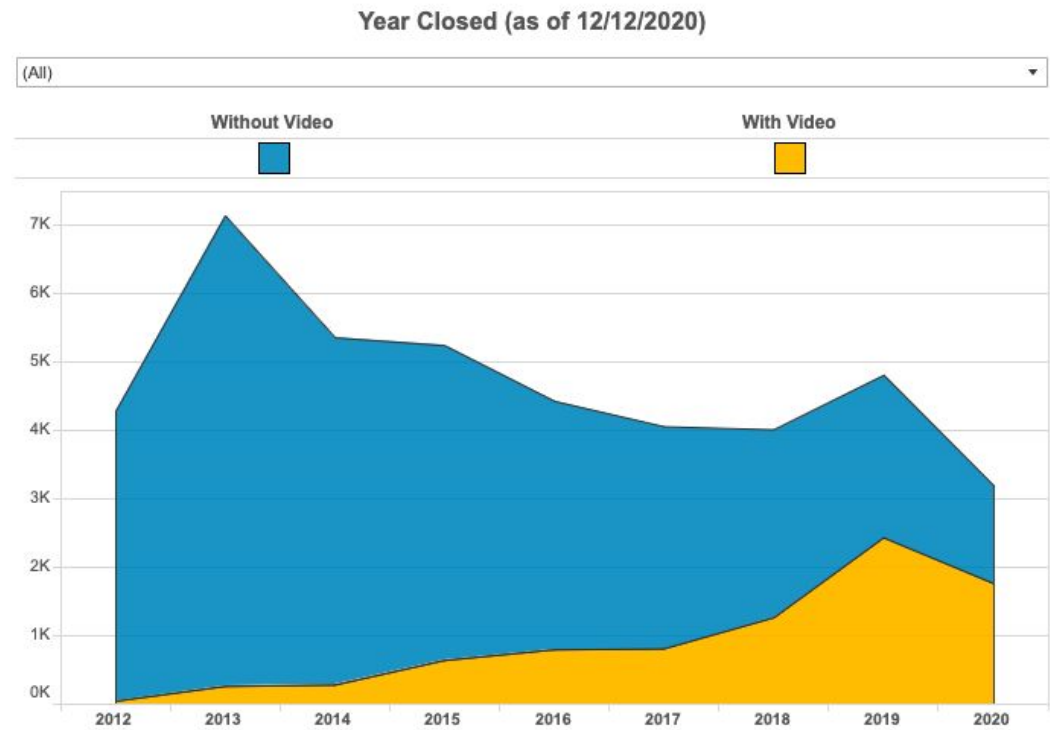
A single complaint can include more than one allegation. Complaints that include an abuse of authority allegation are most numerous. From 2006 through 2018, the CCRB received more than 50,000 complaints with at least one abuse of authority allegation.



Analysis of NYPD complaint data

How many complaints has the CCRB received that contain video?

The number of complaints that contain video has increased since 2012. In 2018, 31% of cases closed contained video.



Year	Percentage of complaints with video
2013	4%
2014	5%
2015	12%
2016	18%
2017	20%
2018	32%
2019	51%

Programmatic Analysis

Is the law enforcement & justice system appropriately using and adjusting to the ever growing presence of video?

In summary, video technology has been one of the main catalysts for today's massive national shift in policing, a change we are currently in the middle of. Topics such as

- Police accountability measures
- Increased data reporting & collection
- Bans on harmful policies and practices
- De-emphasizing criminalization of law enforcement
- Elimination of police presence in schools
- Decreasing police budgets

Have entered the national dialogue and legislative agendas at the state and federal level

Data trends indicate that the use of video by law enforcement and by civilians monitoring law enforcement will continue to increase

→ **Officer conduct is now being recorded, shared, and distributed at rates never seen before**

→ **If the adoption and use of video in police encounters continues to increase without public policy effectively addressing officer conduct, then we will most likely see more and more of these events with greater frequency in the future.**

Sources

Gallup poll of American Institutions:

<https://news.gallup.com/poll/317135/amid-pandemic-confidence-key-institutions-surges.aspx>

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NYTimes Police misconduct data released:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/20/nyregion/nypd-ccrb-records-published.html>

Future of digital policing:

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Racial discrimination in facial recognition:

<http://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2020/racial-discrimination-in-face-recognition-technology/>

CCRB complaints info:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/ccrb/policy/data-transparency-initiative-complaints.page>