

2024

NO-KNOCK WARRANT

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE



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INTRODUCTION

No-knock search warrants are sought by Minnesota law enforcement when an agency believes there is an investigative or safety reason to execute the warrant without prior notice, such as a knock on a door. As is the case with other search warrants, no-knock warrant applications are granted or denied by a judge.

Minnesota statute 626.14, subdivision 4 requires all law enforcement agencies that apply for no-knock search warrants to report the following data to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) within three months of issuance or denial:

1. The number of no-knock search warrants requested;
2. The number of no-knock search warrants the court issued;
3. The number of no-knock search warrants executed;
4. The number of injuries and fatalities suffered, if any, by peace officers and civilians in execution of no-knock search warrants; and
5. Any other information the commissioner requests.

This report fulfills the further requirement that DPS compile the data into a report for the Minnesota Legislature.

DPS does not hold data on the status of cases related to warrants (open/closed), nor on whether the warrants are sealed, or the undercover status of any officer involved with executing the warrants. Information in this report is provided with as much specificity as possible while assuming the possibility that at least one of these conditions exist.

BACKGROUND

Minnesota statute 626.14, subdivision 4 went into effect on Sept. 1, 2021.

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), a division of DPS, developed and provided a form to law enforcement agencies in November 2021 that enables law enforcement agencies that apply for no knock search warrants to report the data required by statute in a uniform manner.

The information provided to and compiled by the BCA in this report covers the reporting period Jan. 1, 2024 through Dec. 31, 2024.

Some warrant applications are initially denied but are granted or again denied after the applicant provides additional information. In these circumstances, this report contains information on the final submission and judge's decision.

This report includes both warrants for entry and non-entry execution. Non-entry no-knock warrants do not involve entry of a premises (i.e. for no-knock warrants involving mobile tracking device installation or K-9 sniffs).

NO-KNOCK WARRANT APPLICATION OUTCOME

This section of the report contains a by-agency listing of the number of applications made, issued by a judge, denied by a judge and executed. Agencies not listed in this report did not report any no-knock warrant data to the Department of Public Safety in 2024.

No-Knock Warrant Applications by Agency

Agency Name	Warrants Requested	Warrants Issued	Warrants Denied	Warrants Executed
Aitkin County Sheriff	1	1	0	1
Bagley Police Department	3	2	1	2
Chippewa County Sheriff	1	1	0	1
Chisago County Sheriff	1	1	0	1
Hokah Police Department	1	1	0	1
Minnetonka Police Department	1	1	0	1
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	2	2	0	2
Moorhead Police Department	2	2	0	1
Pine County Sheriff	5	5	0	4
St. Cloud Police Department	1	1	0	1
Virginia Police Department	1	1	0	1
Statewide Total	19	18	1	16

NO-KNOCK WARRANT EXECUTIONS BY PRIMARY OFFENSE AND AGENCY

This section of the report contains a by-agency listing of offenses related to executed no-knock search warrants. It also contains information about whether the evidence sought in the warrant was located.

No-Knock Warrant Executions by Primary Offense and Agency

Agency Name	Warrant Primary Offense	Warrants Requested	Warrants Issued	Warrants Denied	Warrants Executed	Warrant Executions Where the Sought Evidence/ Individual Was Located
Aitkin County Sheriff	Weapon Law Violations	1	1	0	1	1
Bagley Police Department	All Other Offenses	1	0	1	0	0
	Driving Under the Influence	1	1	0	1	1
	Theft from Building	1	1	0	1	1
Chippewa County Sheriff	All Other Offenses	1	1	0	1	1
Chisago County Sheriff	Drug/Narcotic Violations	1	1	0	1	1
Hokah Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1	1	0	1	1
Minnetonka Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1	1	0	1	1
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	Burglary/Breaking and Entering	2	2	0	2	0
Moorhead Police Department	Drug/Narcotic Violations	2	2	0	1	1
Pine County Sheriff	Drug/Narcotic Violations	5	5	0	4	2
St. Cloud Police Department	Drug/Narcotic Violations	1	1	0	1	1
Virginia Police Department	Rape	1	1	0	1	0
Statewide Total		19	18	1	16	10

METHOD OF EXECUTION

All agencies that executed warrants contained in this report applied for and were granted no-knock warrants. However, not all warrants were ultimately executed. Others were executed, but not as a no-knock. Agencies may choose to not execute a warrant if the evidence/individual is no longer being sought. Agencies may determine it is no longer necessary to execute the warrant as a no-knock. This section of the report identifies the number of warrants that were executed by each agency as a no-knock, a knock and announce, and non-entry into a premises.

No-Knock Warrant Method of Execution

Agency Name	No-Knock Entry	Knock and Announce Entry	Non-Entry Into a Premises (i.e. canine sniff, ion swab, vehicle tracker)
Aitkin County Sheriff	1	0	0
Bagley Police Department	0	2	0
Chippewa County Sheriff	1	0	0
Chisago County Sheriff	0	0	1
Hokah Police Department	0	1	0
Minnetonka Police Department	1	0	0
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	0	0	2
Moorhead Police Department	1	0	0
Pine County Sheriff	0	0	4
St. Cloud Police Department	1	0	0
Virginia Police Department	0	0	1
Statewide Total	5	3	8

NON-ENTRY WARRANT TYPES BY AGENCY

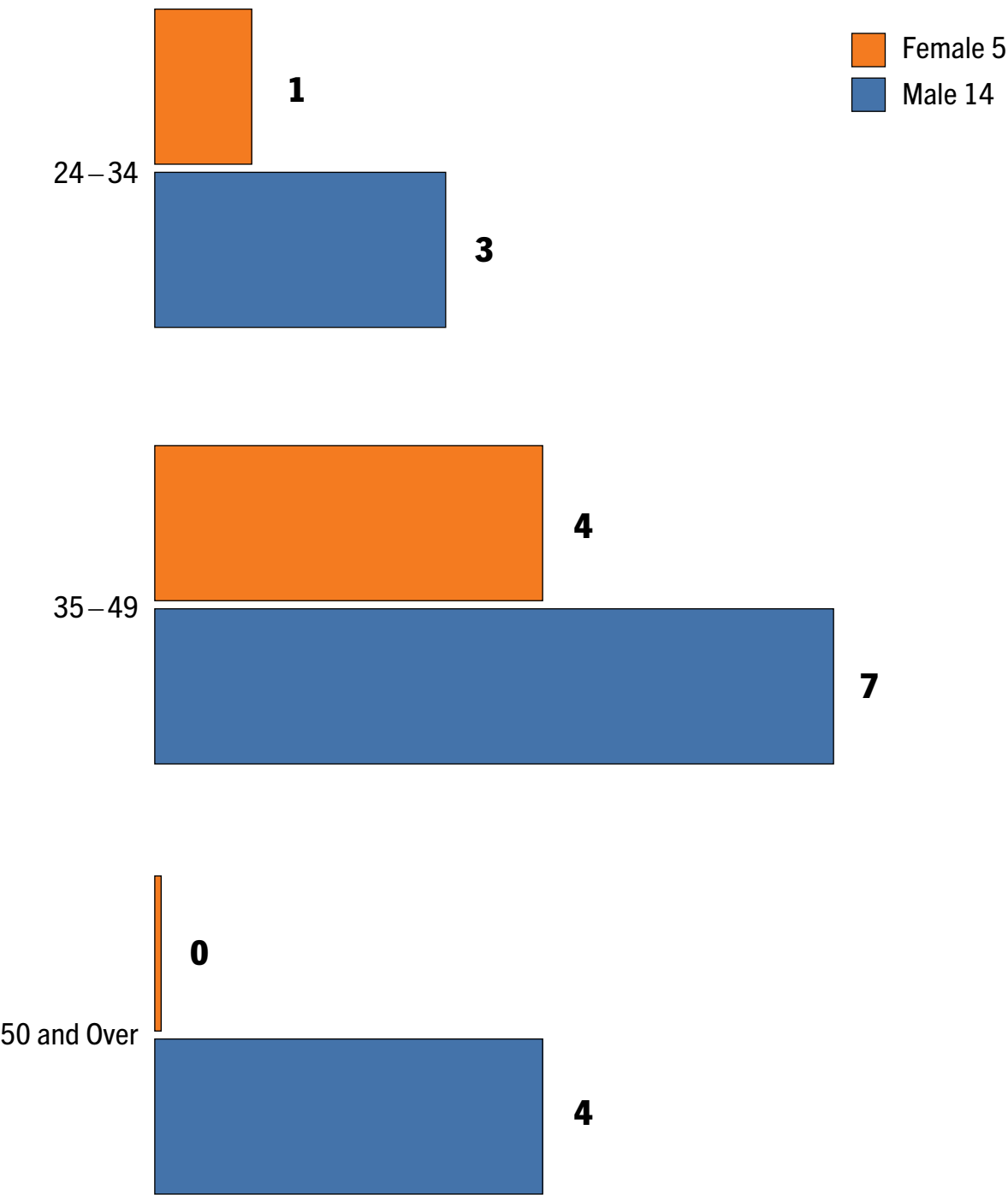
Investigators would not need to enter a premises if the purpose of the warrant is to search the property (versus a residence), attach a vehicle tracking device or swab a surface outside the premises. This section of the report lists non-entry warrants by agency and type.

Non-Entry Warrant Types by Agency

Agency Name	Police K-9 Sniff	Ion Swab	Vehicle Tracker	Other
Aitkin County Sheriff	0	0	0	0
Bagley Police Department	0	0	0	0
Chippewa County Sheriff	0	0	0	0
Chisago County Sheriff	0	1	0	0
Hokah Police Department	0	0	0	0
Minnetonka Police Department	0	0	0	0
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	0	0	2	0
Moorhead Police Department	0	0	0	0
Pine County Sheriff	0	2	2	0
St. Cloud Police Department	0	0	0	0
Virginia Police Department	0	1	0	0
Statewide Total	0	4	4	0

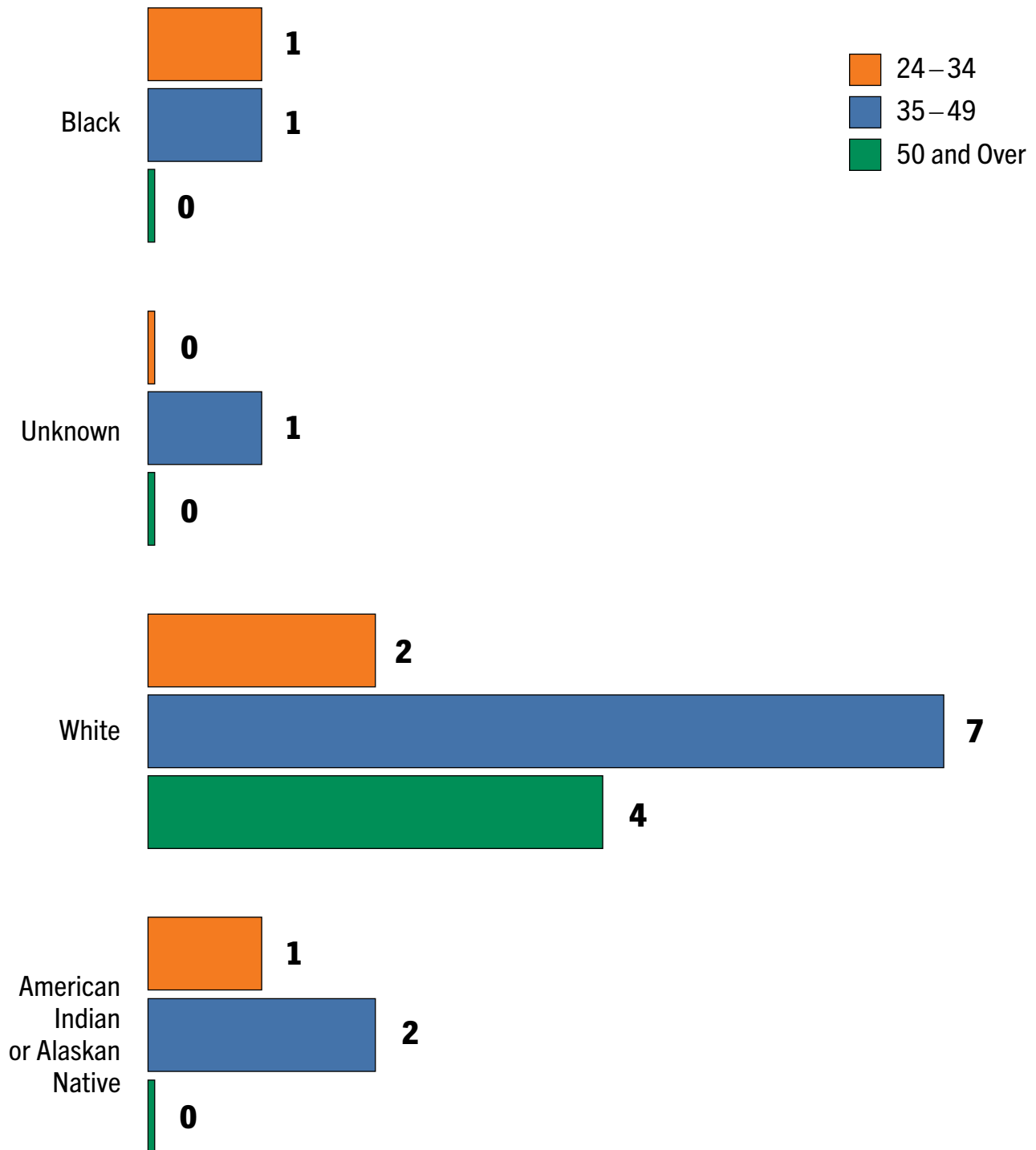
SUBJECT AGE AND SEX

This section of the report contains age and gender information about the subject of no-knock search warrants, or the subject of the primary incident that led to the warrant application.



SUBJECT AGE AND RACE

This section of the report contains information about the age and race of the subject of a no-knock search warrant, or the subject of the primary incident that led to the warrant application, if known. Ethnicity data, including data on Hispanic or non-Hispanic Caucasian ethnicities, was not collected from agencies for this report.



NO-KNOCK WARRANTS BY EXECUTED CITY

During some investigations, no-knock warrants are executed in other cities. This section of the report contains a by-agency list of the cities where the warrants were executed.

No-Knock Warrants by Executed City

Agency Name	Warrant Execution City	Warrants Executed
Aitkin County Sheriff	Jacobson	1
Bagley Police Department	Bagley	2
Chippewa County Sheriff	Watson	1
Chisago County Sheriff	Sunrise Township	1
Hokah Police Department	Hokah	1
Minnetonka Police Department	Minnetonka	1
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	St. Paul	2
Moorhead Police Department	Moorhead	1
Pine County Sheriff	Pine City	2
	Sandstone	2
St. Cloud Police Department	Sauk Rapids	1
Virginia Police Department	Virginia	1
Statewide Total		16

NO-KNOCK WARRANT APPLICATION BY TASK FORCE

No-knock search warrants may be applied for and executed by law enforcement personnel who are working on behalf of their own agency or who are assigned to work as part of a law enforcement task force. This section of the report contains information about warrant applications made by a law enforcement agency employee that were ultimately executed by or in partnership with a law enforcement task force.

Executed No-Knock Warrant Application Involving Task Force

Agency Name	Warrant Execution City	Warrants Executed
Aitkin County Sheriff	AIM Task Force	1
Chisago County Sheriff	East Central Drug Task Force	1
Pine County Sheriff	East Central Drug Task Force	4
St. Cloud Police Department	Central Minnesota VOTF	1
Virginia Police Department	Lake Superior Gang & Drug Task Force	1
Statewide Total		8

SUBJECT RESISTANCE

This section contains agency totals on whether the subject resisted arrest.

Executed No-Knock Warrant Subject Resistance

Agency Name	Subjects Resisting Police	Subjects Not Resisting Police
Aitkin County Sheriff	0	1
Bagley Police Department	0	3
Chippewa County Sheriff	0	1
Chisago County Sheriff	0	1
Hokah Police Department	1	0
Minnetonka Police Department	0	1
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	0	2
Moorhead Police Department	0	2
Pine County Sheriff	0	5
St. Cloud Police Department	0	1
Virginia Police Department	0	1
Statewide Total	1	18

SUBJECT INJURY INDICATED

This section contains the number of warrant subjects who died, were injured, or were not injured during a warrant execution.

Executed No-Knock Warrant Subject Injury Indicated

Agency Name	Uninjured Subjects	Injured Subjects	Fatally Injured Subjects
Aitkin County Sheriff	1	0	0
Bagley Police Department	3	0	0
Chippewa County Sheriff	1	0	0
Chisago County Sheriff	1	0	0
Hokah Police Department	1	0	0
Minnetonka Police Department	1	0	0
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	2	0	0
Moorhead Police Department	2	0	0
Pine County Sheriff	5	0	0
St. Cloud Police Department	1	0	0
Virginia Police Department	1	0	0
Statewide Total	19	0	0

TYPE OF OTHER INDIVIDUAL INVOLVED

This section of the report identifies the number of civilians (adult and juvenile) who were on the property when the warrant was executed but were not identified in the warrant as a person being sought. The number of officers and police K-9s present during the warrant execution (either directly or peripherally involved) are provided here as well.

No-Knock Warrants Executed Type of Other Individual Involved

Agency Name	Peace Officer	Police K-9	Civilian Adult	Civilian Juvenile
Aitkin County Sheriff	7	0	0	0
Bagley Police Department	2	0	0	0
Chippewa County Sheriff	8	0	0	0
Chisago County Sheriff	2	0	0	0
Hokah Police Department	9	2	0	0
Minnetonka Police Department	10	0	0	0
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	4	0	0	0
Moorhead Police Department	9	0	3	0
Pine County Sheriff	6	0	0	0
St. Cloud Police Department	15	0	0	0
Virginia Police Department	1	0	0	0
Statewide Total	73	2	3	0

OTHER INVOLVED INJURY INDICATED

This section contains the number of civilians (adult and juvenile), officers, and police K-9s who died, were injured, or were not injured during a warrant execution.

Executed No-Knock Warrants Other Involved Injury Indicated

Agency Name	Other Involved — Not Injured	Other Involved — Injured	Other Involved — Fatality
Aitkin County Sheriff	7	0	0
Bagley Police Department	2	0	0
Chippewa County Sheriff	8	0	0
Chisago County Sheriff	2	0	0
Hokah Police Department	11	0	0
Minnetonka Police Department	10	0	0
Minnesota Department of Public Safety — Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division	4	0	0
Moorhead Police Department	12	0	0
Pine County Sheriff	6	0	0
St. Cloud Police Department	15	0	0
Virginia Police Department	1	0	0
Statewide Total	78	0	0

Prepared by:
Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
Minnesota Justice Information Services

1430 Maryland Ave. East | St. Paul, MN 55106 | 651-793-7000
dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca

