





















NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

BALLISTIC RESISTANCE OF POLICE BODY ARMOR

Body Armor Threat Levels

NIJ STANDARD 0101.03

		CALIBER	VELOCITY (fps)		NOTES
LEVEL I		.22 LRHV (40g) Lead	1,050 – 1,100		
		.38 Caliber (158g) Lead Round Nose	850 – 900		
LEVEL IIA		.357 Magnum (158g) Jacketed Soft Point	1,250 – 1,300		See Covert Stab/Bullet Proof Vest IIA
		9mm (124g) Full Metal Jacket	1,090 – 1,140		Medium stab resistance
LEVEL II		.357 Magnum (158g) Jacketed Soft Point	1,395 – 1,445		
		9mm (124g) Full Metal Jacket	1,175 – 1,225		Medium stab resistance
LEVEL IIIA		.44 Magnum (240g) Lead Semi Wadcutter	1,400 – 1,450		See Covert Stab/Bullet Proof Vest IIIA
		9mm (124g) Full Metal Jacket	1,400 – 1,450		See Overt Stab/Bullet Proof Vest IIIA See Overt Stab/Bullet Proof Vest (Neck+Groin) - IIIA High stab resistance
LEVEL III		7.62 mm (150g) (.308 Caliber) Full Metal Jacket	2,750 – 2,800		See Lightweight PE Plate Insert - III
LEVEL IV		30.06 (166g) (.30 Caliber) M2AP Armor Piercing	2,850 – 2,900		See PE Ceramic Composite Plate Insert - IV