



Section Ten

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED & ASSAULTED SUMMARY

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED AND ASSAULTED

The killing or assault of a police officer has a deleterious effect on society that reaches far beyond the overt act. Such occurrences constitute an immediate threat to the well-being of the community and serious breach of the internal security of the country. Today a young person who considers a career in law enforcement must also consider the very strong possibility of being killed or assaulted by a member of the very same society they are sworn to protect. This deplorable situation should be a subject of serious concern, for in truth, an attack on a police officer is an attack on society. The violence directed against law enforcement officers acting in the line of duty is clearly demonstrated by the following information.

POLICE FELONIOUSLY KILLED

VOLUME/TREND

- In 2000, no police officers were feloniously killed while in the performance of their duties.

Year	Police Officers Killed	Year	Police Officers Killed
1991	-	1996	-
1992	-	1997	3
1993	1	1998	-
1994	2	1999	2
1995	4	2000	-

ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS

Police assault statistics are important to the police administrator who attempts to identify the causative factors of this type of criminal activity. Many factors contribute to police assaults, and circumstances vary from place to place. Identifying specific reasons for these assaults is therefore extremely difficult. The following information illustrates the frequency of these events, and any attempt at analysis of these assaults should include consideration of the unique variable present in each jurisdiction. Due to the broad field of services performed by many state and county police agencies, no assault rates are computed for total police officers.

VOLUME/TREND

- There were 3,158 police officers assaulted in 2000, a decrease of 1 percent when compared to the 3,191 in 1999.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS

- Thirty percent (963) of the officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Personal weapons, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 83 percent (2,614) of all police assaults.
- Twenty-eight percent of police assaults occurred when officers responded to disturbance calls.
- Fifteen percent of the assaults on police officers occurred during the 2-hour period of 10:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight.

CLEARANCES

- The police of New Jersey were successful in clearing 96 percent of the assaults directed at them.

ASSAULTS ON MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS

VOLUME/TREND

- A total of 2,879 municipal police officers were assaulted during 2000, a 5 percent increase compared to the 2,751 assaulted in 1999.
- The assault rate, for every 100 municipal officers, was 13.8, a 4 percent increase compared to 1999.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS

- Thirty percent of the municipal officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Personal weapons, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 83 percent of all municipal police assaults.
- Thirty percent of municipal police assaults occurred when officers responded to disturbance calls.
- Attempting Other Arrests accounted for 20 percent of municipal police assaults.

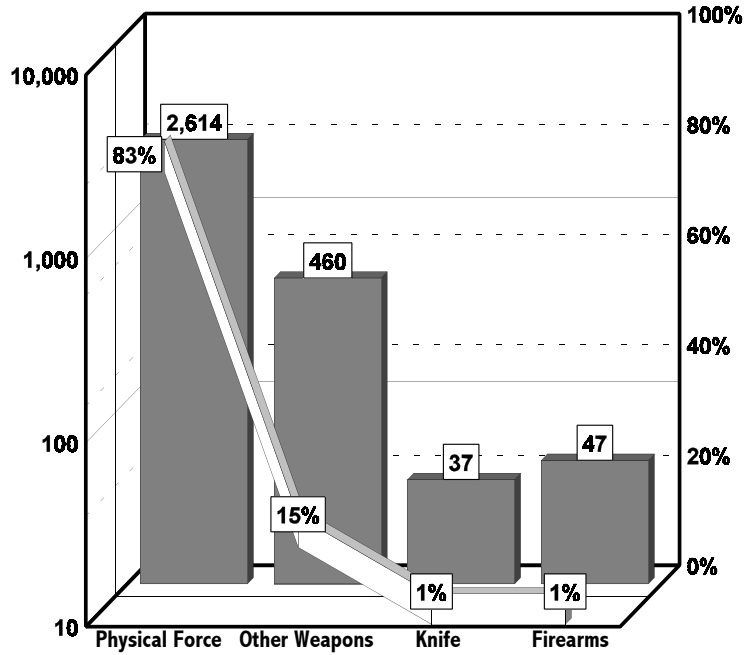
OTHER POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED

The following law enforcement agencies are dealt with separately and are not included when computing municipal assault rates; the services performed by these agencies vary greatly from the functions of municipal police agencies.

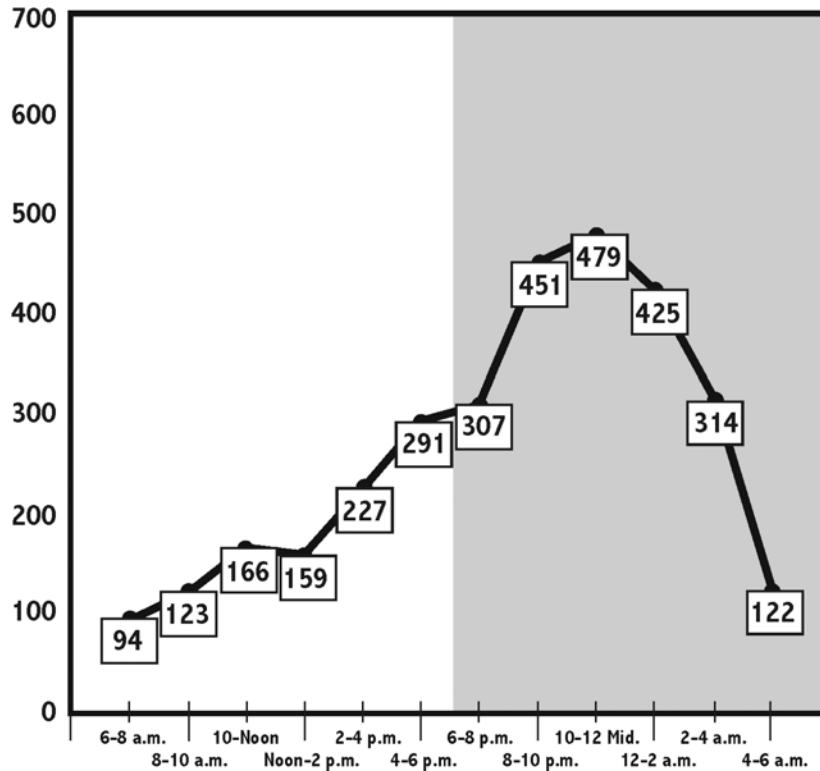
VOLUME/TREND

- County law enforcement agencies reported 73 officers assaulted with 26 sustaining injury.
- The New Jersey State Police reported 18 officers assaulted with 9 sustaining injury.
- Other state agencies, with police powers, reported 175 officers assaulted with 49 sustaining injury.
- University and college police agencies reported 13 officers assaulted with 5 sustaining injury.

WEAPONS USED IN ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS



ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS BY HOUR OF DAY NUMBER – PERCENT DISTRIBUTION



ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY NUMBER – PERCENT DISTRIBUTION

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	Municipal Police		County Agencies		State Police		Other State Agencies		Universities and Colleges		TOTAL	
	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution
Responding to “Disturbance” Calls	866	30	-	0	5	28	7	4	1	8	879	28
Burglaries in Progress	39	1	1	1	-	0	-	0	1	8	41	1
Robberies in Progress	45	2	1	1	-	0	-	0	-	0	46	1
Attempting Other Arrests	584	20	21	29	7	39	5	3	1	8	618	20
Civil Disorder	40	1	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	40	1
Handling or Transporting Prisoners	254	9	32	44	3	17	154	88	3	23	446	14
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	369	13	4	5	-	0	4	2	1	8	378	12
Ambush	6	0	1	1	-	0	-	0	-	0	7	*
Mentally Deranged Persons	53	2	1	1	-	0	-	0	1	8	55	2
Traffic Stops	311	11	5	7	2	11	3	2	3	23	324	10
All Other	312	11	7	10	1	6	2	1	2	15	324	10
TOTAL	2,879	100	73	100	18	100	175	100	13	100	3,158	100

* Percent is less than one-half of one percent.
Percent distribution may not total 100 due to rounding.

ASSAULTS ON MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS NUMBER – RATE PER 100 OFFICERS BY COUNTY – 2000

COUNTY	NUMBER OF OFFICERS	NUMBER OF ASSAULTS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	ASSAULT RATE PER 100 POLICE OFFICERS
ATLANTIC	912	95	3.3	10.4
BERGEN	2,093	175	6.1	8.4
BURLINGTON	757	94	3.3	12.4
CAMDEN	1,324	167	5.8	12.6
CAPE MAY	340	23	0.8	6.8
CUMBERLAND	274	59	2.0	21.5
ESSEX	2,911	538	18.7	18.5
GLOUCESTER	535	64	2.2	12.0
HUDSON	2,012	459	15.9	22.8
HUNTERDON	167	11	0.4	6.6
MERCER	922	105	3.6	11.4
MIDDLESEX	1,556	182	6.3	11.7
MONMOUTH	1,386	136	4.7	9.8
MORRIS	1,039	71	2.5	6.8
OCEAN	979	149	5.2	15.2
PASSAIC	1,131	188	6.5	16.6
SALEM	104	19	0.7	18.3
SOMERSET	571	27	0.9	4.7
SUSSEX	189	24	0.8	12.7
UNION	1,447	285	9.9	19.7
WARREN	145	8	0.3	5.5
TOTAL	20,794	2,879	100.0	13.8

Percent distribution may not total 100 due to rounding.