



Section Ten

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED & ASSAULTED SUMMARY

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED AND ASSAULTED

The killing or assault of a police officer has a harmful 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 2011, one police officer was feloniously killed while in the performance of duty.
- On January 14, 2011, Lakewood Township Police Officer Christopher Matlosz observed a suspicious subject in a condominium complex. The subject departs the scene but is again located approximately two blocks from the condominium complex in a single family residential area walking. The officer confronts the walking subject and initiates a conversation through the police vehicle's open driver's side window. At this time the subject is observed to make a comment, and then reach into his pocket and draws a handgun. He fires the weapon three times fatally wounding Officer Matlosz. Investigation reveals that the assailant Jahmell Crockam, at the time of the attack, had an active warrant on him for illegal weapons possession. Two days later Crocham was arrested in Camden, New Jersey.

Year	Police Officers Killed	Year	Police Officers Killed
2002	-	2007	2
2003	1	2008	-
2004	-	2009	1
2005	1	2010	-
2006	1	2011	1

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 variables 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/RATE/TREND

- There were 2,290 police officers assaulted in 2011, a decrease of 5 percent when compared to 2010.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS

- Twenty-five percent (572) of the officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Physical Force, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 87 percent (1,996) of all police assaults.
- Thirty-two percent of police assaults occurred when officers responded to disturbance calls.
- Twelve percent of the assaults on police officers occurred during the 2-hour period of 10:00 p.m. to 12 midnight.

CLEARANCES

- The police of New Jersey were successful in clearing in 82 percent of the assaults directed at them.

ASSAULTS ON MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS

VOLUME/RATE/TREND

- A total 1,973 of municipal police officers were assaulted during 2011, decrease of 8 percent when compared to 2010.
- The assault rate, for every 100 municipal officers, was 10.2, a 5.6 percent decrease compared to 2010.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS

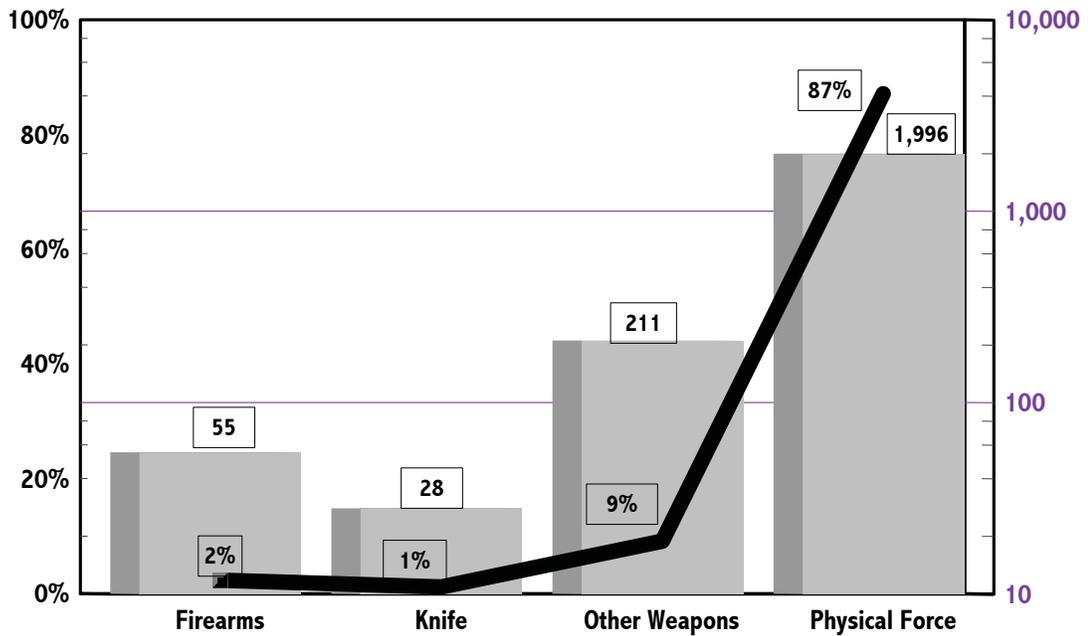
- Twenty-two percent of the municipal officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Physical Force, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 88 percent (1,731) of all police assaults.
- Thirty-six percent of the municipal police assaults occurred when officers responded to disturbance calls.
- Attempting Other Arrests accounted for 16 percent of the 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.

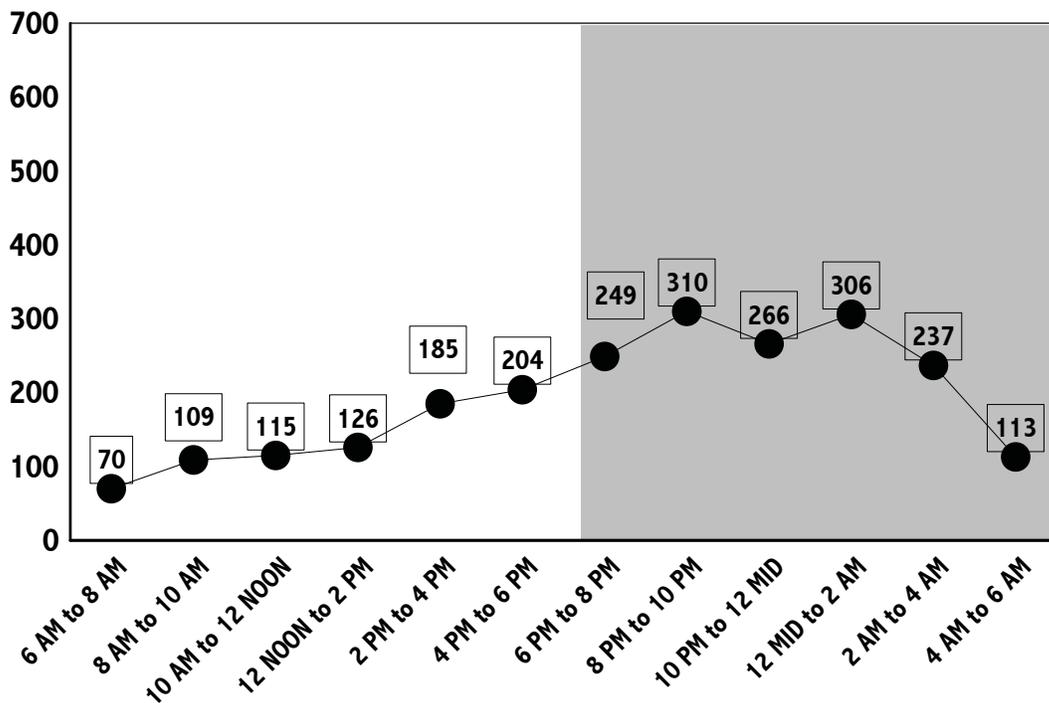
- County law enforcement agencies reported 57 police officers assaulted with 26 sustaining injury.
- The New Jersey State Police reported 65 police officers assaulted with 17 sustaining injury.
- Other state agencies with police powers reported 180 police officers assaulted with 90 sustaining injury.
- University and college police agencies reported 15 police officers assaulted with 6 sustaining injury.

WEAPONS USED IN ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS



Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

NUMBER OF ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS BY HOUR OF DAY



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	717	36	1	2	12	18	8	4	4	27	742	32
Burglaries in Progress	27	1	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	27	1
Robberies in Progress	27	1	-	0	8	12	-	0	-	0	35	2
Attempting Other Arrests	319	16	37	65	18	28	22	12	3	20	399	17
Civil Disorder	60	3	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	60	3
Handling or Transporting Prisoners	220	11	18	32	19	29	132	73	1	7	390	17
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	189	10	-	0	4	6	1	1	4	27	198	9
Ambush	4	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	4	0
Mentally Deranged Persons	42	2	-	0	-	0	-	0	1	7	43	2
Traffic Stops	117	6	-	0	1	2	5	3	1	7	124	5
All Other	251	13	1	2	3	5	12	7	1	7	268	12
TOTAL	1,973	100	57	100	65	100	180	100	15	100	2,290	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 2011

COUNTY	NUMBER OF OFFICERS	NUMBER OF ASSAULTS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	ASSAULT RATE PER 100 POLICE OFFICERS
ATLANTIC	836	136	6.9	16.3
BERGEN	2,011	126	6.4	6.3
BURLINGTON	717	57	2.9	7.9
CAMDEN	1,159	153	7.8	13.2
CAPE MAY	313	14	0.7	4.5
CUMBERLAND	280	46	2.3	16.4
ESSEX	2,515	203	10.3	8.1
GLOUCESTER	548	58	2.9	10.6
HUDSON	1,777	291	14.7	16.4
HUNTERDON	195	12	0.6	6.2
MERCER	759	97	4.9	12.8
MIDDLESEX	1,502	73	3.7	4.9
MONMOUTH	1,388	128	6.5	9.2
MORRIS	982	48	2.4	4.9
OCEAN	1,046	111	5.6	10.6
PASSAIC	1,045	122	6.2	11.7
SALEM	95	17	0.9	17.9
SOMERSET	596	25	1.3	4.2
SUSSEX	186	7	0.4	3.8
UNION	1,343	241	12.2	17.9
WARREN	152	8	0.4	5.3
TOTAL	19,445	1,973	100.0	10.1

Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding