# 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 2014, one police officer was feloniously killed while in the performance of their duties.

| Year | Police Officers Killed | Year | Police Officers Killed |
|------|------------------------|------|------------------------|
| 2005 | 1                      | 2010 | -                      |
| 2006 | 1                      | 2011 | 1                      |
| 2007 | 2                      | 2012 | -                      |
| 2008 | -                      | 2013 | -                      |
| 2009 | 1                      | 2014 | 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/TREND**

• There were 1,794 police officers assaulted in 2014, a decrease of 17 percent when compared to 2013.

#### **ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS**

- Twenty-eight percent (502) of the officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Physical Force, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 90 percent (1,614) of all police assaults.
- Thirty-five 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 8:00 p.m. to 10 p.m.

#### CLEARANCES

• The police of New Jersey were successful in clearing 90 percent of the assaults directed at them.

## **ASSAULTS ON MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS**

#### **VOLUME/TREND**

- A total 1,617 of municipal police officers were assaulted during 2014, a 13 percent decrease compared to 2013.
- The assault rate, for every 100 municipal officers, was 8.2, a 15 percent decrease compared to 2013.

#### **ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS**

- Twenty-five percent of the municipal officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Physical Force, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 90 percent of all municipal police assaults.
- Thirty-six percent of the municipal police assaults occurred when officers responded to disturbance calls.
- Attempting Other Arrests accounted for 14 percent of municipal police assaults.

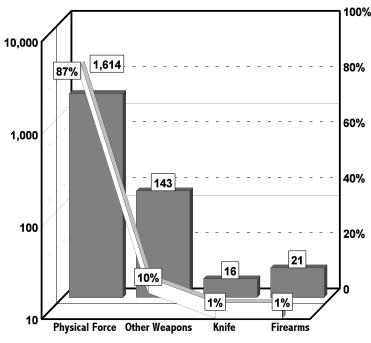
## **OTHER POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED**

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**

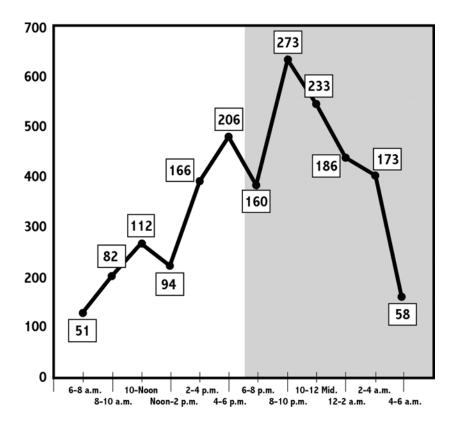
- County law enforcement agencies reported 6 officers assaulted with 3 sustaining injury.
- The New Jersey State Police reported 51 officers assaulted with 7 sustaining injury.
- Other state agencies with police powers reported 100 officers assaulted with 77 sustaining injury.
- University and college police agencies reported 20 officers assaulted with 7 sustaining injury.

## WEAPONS USED IN ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS



Percent distribution may not total 100 due to rounding.

## NUMBER OF ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS BY HOUR OF DAY



— Law Enforcement Officers Killed & Assaulted —

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

|                                                      |        | icipal<br>olice         |        | ounty<br>encies         | State  | e Police                |        | r State<br>encies       |        | sities and<br>lleges    | TO     | TAL                     |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| TYPE OF ACTIVITY                                     | Number | Percent<br>Distribution |
| Responding to<br>"Disturbance" Calls                 | 589    | 36                      | -      | 0                       | 25     | 49                      | 6      | 6                       | 10     | 50                      | 630    | 35                      |
| Burglaries in Progress                               | 40     | 2                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | 40     | 2                       |
| Robberies in Progress                                | 16     | 1                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | 16     | 1                       |
| Attempting Other Arrests                             | 221    | 14                      | -      | 0                       | 6      | 12                      | 5      | 5                       | 2      | 10                      | 234    | 13                      |
| Civil Disorder                                       | 50     | 3                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | 1      | 5                       | 51     | 3                       |
| Handling or Transporting<br>Prisoners                | 130    | 8                       | 4      | 67                      | 8      | 16                      | 77     | 77                      | -      | 0                       | 219    | 12                      |
| Investigating Suspicious<br>Persons or Circumstances | 191    | 12                      | 2      | 33                      | 4      | 8                       | -      | 0                       | 4      | 20                      | 201    | 11                      |
| Ambush                                               | 3      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | 3      | 0                       |
| Mentally Deranged Persons                            | 65     | 4                       | -      | 0                       | 1      | 2                       | -      | 0                       | -      | 0                       | 66     | 4                       |
| Traffic Stops                                        | 126    | 8                       | -      | 0                       | 6      | 12                      | -      | 0                       | 2      | 10                      | 134    | 7                       |
| All Other                                            | 186    | 12                      | -      | 0                       | 1      | 2                       | 12     | 12                      | 1      | 5                       | 200    | 11                      |
| TOTAL                                                | 1,617  | 100                     | 6      | 100                     | 51     | 100                     | 100    | 100                     | 20     | 100                     | 1,794  | 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 2014

| COUNTY     | NUMBER<br>OF<br>OFFICERS | NUMBER<br>OF<br>ASSAULTS | PERCENT<br>DISTRIBUTION | ASSAULT RATE<br>PER 100<br>POLICE OFFICERS |
|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| ATLANTIC   | 809                      | 44                       | 2.7                     | 5.4                                        |
| BERGEN     | 2,063                    | 99                       | 6.1                     | 4.8                                        |
| BURLINGTON | 709                      | 61                       | 3.8                     | 8.6                                        |
| CAMDEN     | 1,325                    | 259                      | 16.0                    | 19.5                                       |
| CAPE MAY   | 309                      | 10                       | 0.6                     | 3.2                                        |
| CUMBERLAND | 282                      | 29                       | 1.8                     | 10.3                                       |
| ESSEX      | 2,431                    | 145                      | 9.0                     | 6.0                                        |
| GLOUCESTER | 550                      | 28                       | 1.7                     | 5.1                                        |
| HUDSON     | 1,732                    | 221                      | 13.7                    | 12.8                                       |
| HUNTERDON  | 165                      | 10                       | 0.6                     | 6.1                                        |
| MERCER     | 742                      | 72                       | 4.5                     | 9.7                                        |
| MIDDLESEX  | 1,506                    | 51                       | 3.2                     | 3.4                                        |
| MONMOUTH   | 1,425                    | 127                      | 7.9                     | 8.9                                        |
| MORRIS     | 997                      | 39                       | 2.4                     | 3.9                                        |
| OCEAN      | 1,104                    | 84                       | 5.2                     | 7.6                                        |
| PASSAIC    | 1,111                    | 115                      | 7.1                     | 10.4                                       |
| SALEM      | 93                       | 6                        | 0.4                     | 6.5                                        |
| SOMERSET   | 598                      | 24                       | 1.5                     | 4.0                                        |
| SUSSEX     | 191                      | 8                        | 0.5                     | 4.2                                        |
| UNION      | 1,319                    | 177                      | 10.9                    | 13.4                                       |
| WARREN     | 185                      | 8                        | 0.5                     | 4.3                                        |
| TOTAL      | 19,645                   | 1,617                    | 100.0                   | 8.2                                        |

Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding.