



STATE OF NEW JERSEY Domestic Violence Offense Report

For the year ending December 31, 2007.





TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSE REPORT 2007

Honorable Anne Milgram

Attorney General State of New Jersey

Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes

Superintendent New Jersey State Police

Major James S. Beshada

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Prepared by:

State of New Jersey
Department of Law and Public Safety
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INTRODUCTION

The violence within the American domicile has been recognized for decades by elements of government and society with little done to correct the problem. Only recently has this phenomenon begun to receive the attention it deserves. In an effort to understand, identify and treat the incidents of abuse occurring in the home, the State of New Jersey, through its legislature, has provided the means to gain a meaningful insight into this issue.

In 1982, the Domestic Violence Act was instituted to protect battered victims and study the complex problems that spark such aggressive behavior. This legislation also provided the opportunity to identify the causes of violence in the home and put forth a more comprehensive effort to combat the crime of Domestic Violence.

Improvements since the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act are continuing. Pursuant to a change in N.J.S.A. 2C:25-24 enacted June 9, 1999, arrest data is presented by county. Domestic Violence restraining order violations are now captured and reported. Revised investigation and reporting procedures by the police; improved processing of domestic complaints by the courts; mandatory in-service training for police and court personnel have all enabled the victim to come forward and implement the constitutional rights granted to all Americans.

The following pages of narrative and graphics in this chapter are the result of gathered data displaying the complexities of domestic violence found within the State of New Jersey. It is through analysis of this data that, hopefully, the keys to preventing future violence can be found.



State of New Hersey

JON S. CORZINE

Governor

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
P.O. Box 080
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ANNE MILGRAM
Attorney General

The Honorable Jon S. Corzine Governor of the State of New Jersey

Honorable Members of the Senate and Assembly of the State of New Jersey

Dear Governor and Members of the Legislature:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:25-24, I herewith submit, for your information and review, the twenty-fifth annual report on domestic violence in New Jersey. The annual report is based on the domestic violence offense reports submitted to the New Jersey Uniform Crime Reporting System by every New Jersey law enforcement agency for the year 2007.

It would have been impossible to complete this report without the cooperation of New Jersey's criminal justice family. It is with appreciation to these dedicated public servants, and in the interest of the thousands of persons in this state who are victims of domestic disputes, that this twenty-fifth Domestic Violence Report is submitted.

Respectfully,

Anne Milgram

Attorney General of New Jersey





State of New Jersey

JON S. CORZINE

Governor

Office of the Attorney General Department of Law and Public Safety Division of State Police Post Office Box 7068 West Trenton, NJ 08628-0068 (609) 882-2000

Anne Milgram
Attorney General

COLONEL JOSEPH R. FUENTES

Superintendent

The Honorable Anne Milgram Attorney General State of New Jersey Hughes Justice Complex Trenton, New Jersey

Dear Attorney General Milgram:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:25-24, the twenty-fifth annual report on domestic violence in New Jersey is submitted. This report contains statistics related to the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act. All information is based on domestic violence offense reports submitted to the New Jersey Uniform Crime Reporting System by every New Jersey law enforcement agency for the year 2007. The report contains comparisons and analyses between 2006 and 2007 data.

This report has evolved through the cooperation of all New Jersey law enforcement agencies. It is being forwarded for your information and presentation to the Governor and members of the Legislature.

Respectfully,

Joseph R. Fuentes

Colonel

Superintendent





DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Highlights of the 2007 domestic violence statistics are listed below:

- There were 71,901 domestic violence offenses reported by the police in 2007, a 3 percent decrease compared to the 73,749 reported in 2006.
- Murders decreased 10 percent in 2007 (38) when compared to 2006 (42).
- Assaults accounted for 44 percent (31,661) and harassment accounted for 42 percent (30,055) of the reported offenses in 2007.
- Arrests were made in 31 percent (22,279) of the offenses reported for 2007, a decrease of 2 percent when compared to arrests made in 2006.
- The most frequent day of domestic violence occurrences was Sunday (12,735).
- For the twenty-fifth consecutive year, the most frequent hours of domestic violence incidents were between 8:00 p.m. and midnight, when 27 percent (19,301) of the offenses were reported.
- Children were involved or present during 33 percent of all domestic violence offenses occurring in 2007. Specifically, 5 percent (3,796) were involved and 28 percent (19,945) were present.
- Wives were the victims in 20 percent (14,550) and ex-wives were the victims in 3 percent (2,433) of the reported domestic violence offenses in 2007. Overall, females were victims in 76 percent (54,873) of all domestic violence offenses.
- The number of domestic violence complaints that had prior court orders issued against the offender decreased from 15,481 in 2006 to 14,339 in 2007. This is a decrease of 7 percent.
- Alcohol and/or drugs were involved in 28 percent (20,227) of the reported offenses occurring in 2007. Alcohol involvement alone accounted for 25 percent (18,003) of the total domestic violence offenses reported.
- Persons age 60 or over were victims in 3 percent (2,385) of all reported domestic violence offenses that occurred in 2007. Elderly were the victims in 11 percent (4) of the domestic violence murders (38).
- Domestic violence does not occur at a regular frequency, but when viewed as a ratio of its occurrence to a fixed time interval, one act of domestic violence would occur every 7 minutes and 19 seconds.
- Domestic violence offenses arising from a dating relationship accounted for 15 percent (10,646) of the state total.
- There were 2,950 total arrests involving domestic violence restraining orders reported by police in 2007. Of these, 1,695 were arrests for violations of a restraining order **only**, while 1,255 were arrests for violations of a restraining order **with** an offense arrest.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS 2006/2007

Domestic Violence Offense		Number of Offenses	☆Number of Arrests	★Percent of Offenses Involving an Arrest
Homicide	2006	42	27	64
Percent Change	2007	38 -10	19 -30	50 -22
	2006	32,450	15,702	48
Assault	2007	31,661	15,549	49
Percent Change		-2	-1	2
Terroristic Threats	2006	3,673	1,079	29
	2007	3,411	1,025	30
Percent Change	2006	-7 38	-5 16	3 42
Kidnapping	2006 2007	27	11	42
Percent Change	2007	-29	-31	-2
Criminal Restraint	2006	188	79	42
	2007	136	57	42
Percent Change		-28	-28	0
False Imprisonment	2006	46	14	30
Percent Change	2007	53 15	24 71	45 50
	2006	214	64	30
Sexual Assault	2007	233	83	36
Percent Change		9	30	20
Criminal Sexual Contact	2006	44	14	32
	2007	47	21	45
Percent Change	2006	7	50	41
Lewdness	2006	11 13	4 2	36 15
Percent Change	2007	18	& &	-58
Criminal Mischief	2006	4,997	1,525	31
	2007	4,889	1,532	31
Percent Change		-2	*	0
Burglary	2006	653 50 6	228	35
Percent Change	2007	586 -10	217 -5	37
	2006	555	213	38
Criminal Trespass	2007	460	180	39
Percent Change		-17	-15	3
Harassment	2006	30,532	3,661	12
	2007	30,055	3,489	12
Percent Change	2006	-2 306	-5 74	0 24
Stalking	2007	292	70	24
Percent Change		-5	-5	0
TOTAL	2006	73,749	22,700	31
	2007	71,901	22,279	31
Percent Change		-3	-2	0

^{*} Incidents are reported soon after they occur; therefore, arrests made after that time are not included.

[&]amp; Percent change not calculated due to small volume.

^{*} Less than one-half of one percent.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS 2003 Through 2007

Domestic Violence	200)3	200	4	200)5	200)6	200)7
Offense	Offenses	Arrests								
Homicide	57	29	44	27	41	24	42	27	38	19
Assault	35,193	16,965	33,712	16,247	33,674	16,166	32,450	15,702	31,661	15,549
Terroristic Threats	4,523	1,327	4,194	1,285	4,239	1,236	3,673	1,079	3,411	1,025
Kidnapping	24	9	44	19	47	22	38	16	27	11
Criminal Restraint	140	64	159	79	190	83	188	79	136	57
False Imprisonment	52	31	46	23	35	22	46	14	53	24
Sexual Assault	234	78	212	77	217	54	214	64	233	83
Criminal Sexual Contact	46	15	57	17	54	22	44	14	47	21
Lewdness	11	3	9	1	3	-	11	4	13	2
Criminal Mischief	4,756	1,524	4,809	1,518	5,056	1,623	4,997	1,525	4,889	1,532
Burglary	671	238	621	218	680	243	653	228	586	217
Criminal Trespass	556	190	537	193	506	206	555	213	460	180
Harassment	30,986	4,058	31,333	4,241	30,603	3,835	30,532	3,661	30,055	3,489
Stalking	318	74	332	69	306	70	306	74	292	70
TOTAL	77,567	24,605	76,109	24,014	75,651	23,606	73,749	22,700	71,901	22,279

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprison- ment	Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact
Atlantic	2006	-	1,639	182	2	5	3	3	3
Atlantic	2007	-	1,689	179	1	12	3	12	-
Bergen	2006	2	2,020	309	1	10	5	12	3
Joi go	2007	-	1,943	264	1	7	3	10	2
Burlington	2006	2	1,424	90	1	8	3	13	1
	2007	2	1,300	104	1	4	3	13	4
Camden	2006	2	3,439	220	9	20	4	28	2
Cumacii	2007	2	3,187	190	6	17	1	26	6
Cape May	2006	-	432	39	-	1	-	-	-
cupe riuy	2007	-	475	50	-	-	-	4	-
Cumberland	2006	2	1,508	89	2	18	3	6	-
Cumberiana	2007	2	1,497	82	1	14	-	5	1
Essex	2006	7	3,037	674	4	19	6	16	2
LISSON	2007	6	2,639	554	3	12	6	17	5
Gloucester	2006	2	1,395	63	1	13	-	7	2
dioucester	2007	-	1,411	81	-	4	1	6	2
Hudson	2006	7	2,424	278	5	4	4	19	7
Induson	2007	3	2,281	233	4	9	-	17	4
Hunterdon	2006	-	142	9	-	-	-	1	-
Tunteruon	2007	-	221	31	-	-	2	2	1
Mercer	2006	1	1,615	61	3	9	-	10	2
TICICOI	2007	5	1,651	42	-	11	5	16	3

Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	Stalking	County Total	Percent Change	Arrests
1	231	34	35	3,221	19	5,378	-2	1,115
1	216	32	31	3,075	14	5,265	-2	1,222
1	195	27	51	1,997	31	4,664	-6	1,311
1	166	24	37	1,902	21	4,381	-0	1,285
1	233	14	29	1,973	3	3,795	-2	1,918
-	262	24	33	1,942	16	3,708	-2	1,771
2	637	108	48	2,280	15	6,814	-9	2,363
-	569	83	38	2,076	24	6,225	-3	2,066
-	64	5	19	620	5	1,185	1	315
-	74	7	13	576	1	1,200	•	372
1	254	26	22	1,415	7	3,353	-1	954
2	310	35	28	1,324	8	3,309	-1	931
3	396	74	26	941	40	5,245	-13	1,560
1	346	46	15	872	28	4,550	-13	1,467
-	210	26	26	1,252	13	3,010	-1	1,039
-	215	24	33	1,199	12	2,988	-1	1,040
-	290	43	25	1,447	16	4,569	-5	1,092
-	279	48	18	1,418	27	4,341	-3	1,103
-	34	1	2	298	2	489	43	129
-	32	2	7	390	9	697	13	202
-	285	32	32	1,071	15	3,136	-2	1,043
-	248	34	21	1,039	9	3,084	_	1,034

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprison- ment	Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact
Middlesex	2006	4	2,351	324	3	18	2	24	9
Hudicsex	2007	4	2,269	309	1	14	5	22	1
Monmouth	2006	4	2,176	298	1	14	5	13	3
i ionnioutii	2007	1	2,244	271	-	8	5	17	4
Morris	2006	-	959	163	2	11	3	7	3
	2007	1	909	135	-	5	4	5	-
Ocean	2006	1	2,177	269	2	10	-	9	2
Jecum	2007	3	1,971	247	2	7	4	15	6
Passaic	2006	2	2,221	381	1	16	1	11	3
i assuic	2007	2	2,305	367	3	6	3	15	3
Salem	2006	-	358	17	-	2	-	2	-
Jaicin	2007	1	366	26	1	3	-	1	-
Somerset	2006	-	702	10	1	1	3	8	1
Johnerset	2007	2	698	16	1	1	2	9	2
Sussex	2006	1	336	37	-	4	2	6	1
Jussex	2007	1	433	51	-	-	2	1	-
Union	2006	4	1,747	117	-	3	2	16	-
Omon	2007	3	1,771	145	2	2	2	18	2
Warren	2006	1	348	43	-	2	-	3	-
Wallell	2007	-	401	34	-	-	2	2	1
TOTAL	2006	42	32,450	3,673	38	188	46	214	44
TOTAL	2007	38	31,661	3,411	27	136	53	233	47

^{*} Less than one-half of one percent.

Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	Stalking	County Total	Percent Change	Arrests
-	417	39	26	1,779	30	5,026	_	1,649
2	401	37	24	1,768	25	4,882	-3	1,577
-	391	42	58	2,367	31	5,403	-	1,860
-	366	45	32	2,636	21	5,650	5	1,890
-	137	14	27	1,252	21	2,599	-5	727
-	162	10	20	1,207	15	2,473	-5	716
1	397	64	45	2,742	14	5,733	-8	1,460
2	387	48	30	2,519	15	5,256	-8	1,317
-	287	50	15	1,093	24	4,105	1	1,601
3	298	48	24	1,058	19	4,154	1	1,592
-	44	1	14	220	5	663	16	299
-	68	5	8	286	2	767		311
1	124	13	17	1,318	3	2,202	*	529
-	118	2	11	1,329	3	2,194		533
-	56	4	10	532	-	989	39	278
-	72	5	10	795	4	1,374	33	349
-	249	34	21	1,895	8	4,096	-5	1,272
-	239	24	15	1,655	6	3,884		1,237
-	66	2	7	819	4	1,295	17	186
1	61	3	12	989	13	1,519	.,	264
11	4,997	653	555	30,532	306	73,749	-3	22,700
13	4,889	586	460	30,055	292	71,901		22,279

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TYPE OF WEAPON AND EXTENT OF INJURY 2006/2007

				Extent of Injury		
Тур	oe of Weapon		Aggravated Serious	Non-Aggravated Minor	None	TOTAL
Gun		2006 2007	31 36	22 27	114 92	167 155
Knife		2006 2007	16 306 307 *	23 438 445 2	-19 346 347 *	-7 1,090 1,099
Other Danger	_	2006 2007	364 349 -4	1,119 1,076 -4	340 347 2	1,823 1,772 -3
Hands, Fists,	Feet, etc. Percent Change	2006 2007	727 753 4	17,294 16,654 -4	13,280 13,151 -1	31,301 30,558 -2
None		2006 2007	- - -	- - -	39,368 38,317 -3	39,368 38,317 -3
TOTAL		2006 2007	1,428 1,445 1	18,873 18,202 -4	53,448 52,254 -2	73,749 71,901 -3

^{*} Less than one-half of one percent.

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- Twenty-seven percent (19,647) of all domestic violence complaints resulted in injury. This is a decrease of 3 percent when compared to the (20,301) that occurred in 2006.
- Of all the domestic violence offenses involving weapons (33,584), hands, fists, feet, etc. were used in 91 percent (30,558) of these offenses.
- Domestic violence offenses involving a gun decreased 7 percent when compared to 2006.
- Serious injuries were reported in 1,445 offenses, a 1 percent increase when compared to the 1,428 reported in 2006.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TYPE & SEX OF VICTIM 2007

T 1 0#			Re	lationship (of Victim to	Offender			Total
Type of Offense		Spouse	Ex- spouse	Co- parent	Relative	Friend	Ex- friend	Total	Number of Offenses
Homicide	Male Female	1 12	1	1 2	2 1	4 10	1	9 29	38
Assault	Male Female	1,818 6,003	162 489	940 4,880	1,849 2,573	2,626 7,895	464 1,962	7,859 23,802	31,661
Terroristic Threats	Male Female	104 754	29 188	58 535	188 296	117 543	85 514	581 2,830	3,411
Kidnapping	Male Female	1 3	-	- 4	1 -	- 7	- 11	2 25	27
Criminal Restraint	Male Female	2 28	1 1	3 19	2 9	4 49	3 15	15 121	136
False Imprisonment	Male Female	1 18	- 1	- 8	- 1	- 18	- 6	1 52	53
Sexual Assault	Male Female	1 50	- 4	1 34	- 16	4 80	43	6 227	233
Criminal Sexual Contact	Male Female	- 8	- 4	- 7	- 7	1 10	- 10	1 46	47
Lewdness	Male Female	- 1	1 1	- 2	- 1	- 7	-	1 12	13
Criminal Mischief	Male Female	270 714	45 124	182 613	271 613	390 959	225 483	1,383 3,506	4,889
Burglary	Male Female	15 43	6 36	8 109	27 53	23 98	35 133	114 472	586
Criminal Trespass	Male Female	11 63	16 32	12 53	26 62	27 56	25 77	117 343	460
Harassment	Male Female	1,710 6,815	485 1,524	839 3,489	1,039 2,358	1,720 5,230	1,113 3,733	6,906 23,149	30,055
Stalking	Male Female	4 38	7 28	2 37	3 5	4 32	13 119	33 259	292
TOTAL	Male Female	3,938 14,550	752 2,433	2,046 9,792	3,408 5,995	4,920 14,994	1,964 7,109	17,028 54,873	71,901
GRAND TOTAL		18,488	3,185	11,838	9,403	19,914	9,073	71,901	-

ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Alcohol or Drugs Involved) → 2007

		Sul	ostance Involv			Percent of Offenses
Domestic Violence Offense	Total Number of Offenses	Only Alcohol	Only Drugs	Both Alcohol and Drugs	Total Alcohol and Drugs	Involving Alcohol or Drugs
Homicide	38	1	1	2	4	10.5
Assault	31,661	10,182	549	659	11,390	36.0
Terroristic Threats	3,411	517	72	66	655	19.2
Kidnapping	27	4	1	1	6	22.2
Criminal Restraint	136	34	4	2	40	29.4
False Imprisonment	53	13	1	-	14	26.4
Sexual Assault	233	52	13	9	74	31.8
Criminal Sexual Contact	47	10	-	2	12	25.5
Lewdness	13	7	-	-	7	53.8
Criminal Mischief	4,889	1,299	90	78	1,467	30.0
Burglary	586	101	18	11	130	22.2
Criminal Trespass	460	102	7	8	117	25.4
Harassment	30,055	5,661	336	289	6,286	20.9
Stalking	292	20	2	3	25	8.6
TOTAL	71,901	18,003	1,094	1,130	20,227	28.1

⁺ Indicates alcohol or drug use by either victim or offender.

[•] Drugs or alcohol were involved in 11 percent (4) of domestic violence homicides.

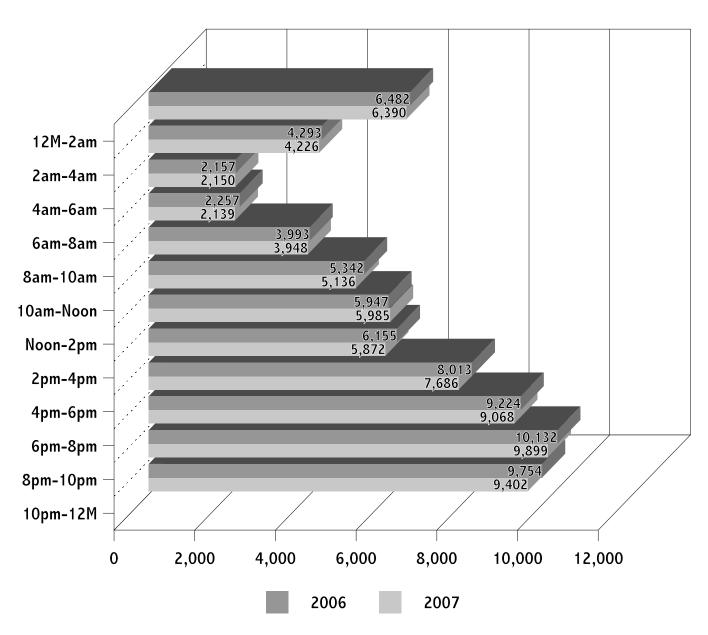
[•] Twenty-eight percent (20,227) of the reported acts of domestic violence (71,901) involved the use of drugs or alcohol.

OFFENSES AGAINST ELDERLY VICTIMS (60 Years of age or over) 2007

	Total				Rela	tionsh	ip of V	ictim t	o Offen	der			
Domestic Violence Offense	Number of	Spo	use	Ex-sp	ouse	Со-ра	arent	Rela	ative	Frie	end	Ex-fr	iend
233302	Offenses	М	F	М	F	М	F	М	F	М	F	M	F
Homicide	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assault	844	90	152	6	4	7	9	164	258	77	57	8	12
Terroristic Threats	131	6	19	-	1	-	2	32	50	7	10	3	1
Kidnapping	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Criminal Restraint	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
False Imprisonment	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sexual Assault	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Criminal Sexual Contact	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lewdness	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Criminal Mischief	232	3	11	2	-	5	3	58	116	17	6	9	2
Burglary	26	-	1	-	-	-	2	5	10	1	4	-	3
Criminal Trespass	39	-	1	-	-	-	2	8	20	1	2	3	2
Harassment	1,100	78	201	11	12	8	11	163	406	66	79	24	41
Stalking	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	2,385	177	390	19	18	20	29	431	862	170	159	47	63

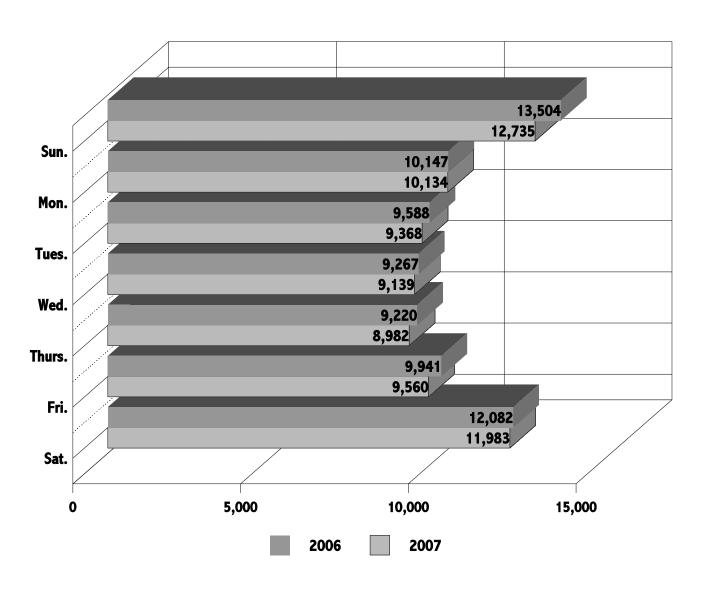
- Assaults accounted for 35 percent (844) of all domestic violence offenses for victims 60 years old or over.
- Females age 60 or over were the victims in 64 percent (1,521) of the 2,385 elderly abuse offenses.
- Persons age 60 or over were the victims in 3 percent (2,385) of all the reported domestic violence offenses during this period.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TIME OF DAY 2006/2007



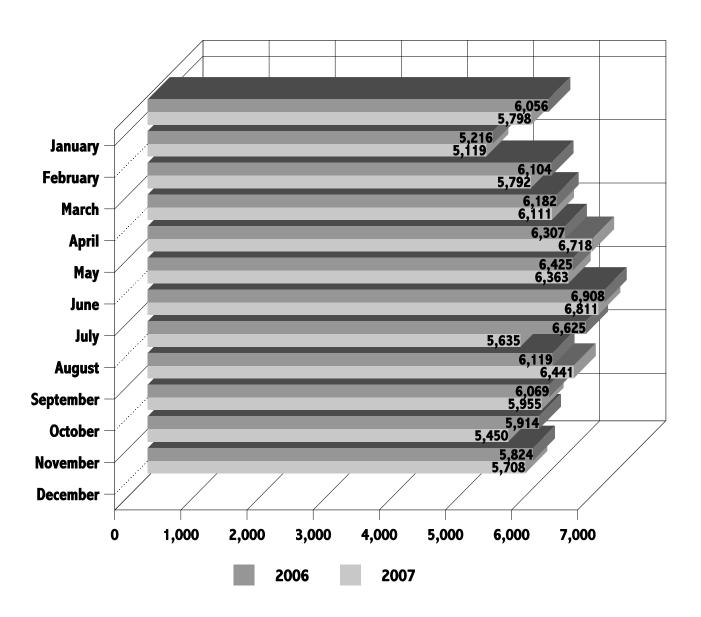
• During 2007, 27 percent (19,301) of the reported domestic violence offenses occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 12 midnight.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY DAY OF WEEK 2006/2007



- Sunday recorded the highest number of occurrences in 2007 with 12,735 offenses.
- During 2007, 34 percent (24,718) of the reported domestic violence offenses occurred during the weekend (Saturday and Sunday).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY MONTH OF YEAR 2006/2007



- In 2007, the highest number of domestic violence offenses occurred during the month of July.
- During 2007, the month with the lowest number of reported domestic violence offenses was February.

RESTRAINING ORDER ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2006/2007

		nestic Viole nining Orde			Violence Rovith Offense	-		Arrests Inv Violence R Orders	
	2006	2007	Percent Change	2006	2007	Percent Change	2006	2007	Percent Change
ATLANTIC	72	90	25	54	64	19	126	154	22
BERGEN	75	66	-12	131	107	-18	206	173	-16
BURLINGTON	91	96	5	82	70	-15	173	166	-4
CAMDEN	222	200	-10	167	142	-15	389	342	-12
CAPE MAY	46	35	-24	23	23	0	69	58	-16
CUMBERLAND	86	83	-3	49	39	-20	135	122	-10
ESSEX	93	69	-26	71	79	11	164	148	-10
GLOUCESTER	133	72	-46	73	85	16	206	157	-24
HUDSON	76	76	0	58	49	-16	134	125	-7
HUNTERDON	7	24	243	6	7	17	13	31	138
MERCER	62	56	-10	65	71	9	127	127	0
MIDDLESEX	88	104	18	50	69	38	138	173	25
MONMOUTH	105	117	11	86	113	31	191	230	20
MORRIS	105	75	-29	46	42	-9	151	117	-23
OCEAN	175	174	-1	70	57	-19	245	231	-6
PASSAIC	148	143	-3	70	66	-6	218	209	-4
SALEM	29	26	-10	20	22	10	49	48	-2
SOMERSET	88	76	-14	33	19	-42	121	95	-21
SUSSEX	28	38	36	12	30	150	40	68	70
UNION	79	52	-34	110	87	-21	189	139	-26
WARREN	10	23	130	8	14	75	18	37	106
STATE TOTALS	1,818	1,695	-7	1,284	1,255	-2	3,102	2,950	-5