

2004 Domestic Violence Report



JIM PETRO
ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF OHIO
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2004 Domestic Violence Report

Attorney General Petro Streamlines Domestic Violence Reporting Process

An aggressive effort by Attorney General Jim Petro's Office to educate local law enforcement agencies about their reporting requirements under the law has given domestic violence prevention programs and other criminal justice agencies a much clearer picture of the pervasiveness of intimate partner violence in Ohio.

Law enforcement agencies are required to keep a record of domestic dispute and domestic violence problems within their jurisdictions and send a monthly report to the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation. That law, Ohio Revised Code 3113.32, requires BCI to create the reporting mechanism and compile an annual report. Those reports are made available online each year at www.ag.state.oh.us.

"Last year we began an intense effort to improve compliance with this reporting requirement and that work has paid off," Attorney General Jim Petro said. "The reporting process is much simpler, but more comprehensive than in previous administrations. Now we have a better idea of how many domestic violence incidents are reported each year which can help many agencies direct resources."

The improved form and annual report breaks down the domestic violence incident reports by how the reporting agency responded to the domestic violence incident, the relationship of the parties

involved, and their demographic information.

These numbers represent the new foundation for longitudinal analysis and are not comparable to previous years due to low reporting compliance and variances in data collected.

"Going forward, we will be able to use this report to spot trends, and to allocate resources and services to reduce this terrible crime," Petro said. "I applaud the efforts of the local agencies to provide the state with useful, accurate statistics."

How to Interpret the Data

The new reporting system allows researchers to break down the data in many different ways. In the appendices to this overview, the following individual reports are available.

2004 Domestic Dispute Calls by Month

Statewide calls per month broken down into incidents resulting in arrests for violation of Ohio domestic violence statutes (abbreviated DVI(A)); incidents resulting in arrests for violation of other statutes or ordinances (abbreviated Other Charges(B)); and incidents not resulting in arrest (No Charges(C)).

2004 - Victims of Domestic Violence by County and Agency

Calls broken down by county and further subdivided by agencies within the county. Incidents are separated into calls resulting in arrests for violation of Ohio domestic violence statutes (DVI); incidents resulting in arrests for violation of other statutes or ordinances (DVI Other); and incidents not resulting in arrest (DVI No Charge).

2004 - Victims of Domestic Violence by County, Agency and Month

Month-to-Month statistics broken down by county and agency. Incidents are separated into calls resulting in arrests for violation of Ohio domestic violence statutes (DVI); incidents resulting in arrests for violation of other statutes or ordinances (DVI Other); and incidents not resulting in arrest (DVI No Charge).

2004 - Ethnicity of Victims

Agency and County statistics broken down by the ethnicity of victims and month of reported incident. This report does not differentiate among the various outcomes (e.g., arrest, no arrest).

2004 - Ethnicity, Age and Gender

Statewide statistics of ethnic background, gender, and age range of victims and offenders.

2004 - Reported Victims

Statewide statistics of the relationship of victim and offender.

2004 - Reported Victims by Relationship and Injury

County break down of statistics organized by relationship to offender and injury reported.

Incidents Reported to Attorney General's Office

Although the new reporting format does not allow comparison with previous years, it is possible to draw a statistical snapshot of the incidence of domestic violence in Ohio based on the 2004 reports.

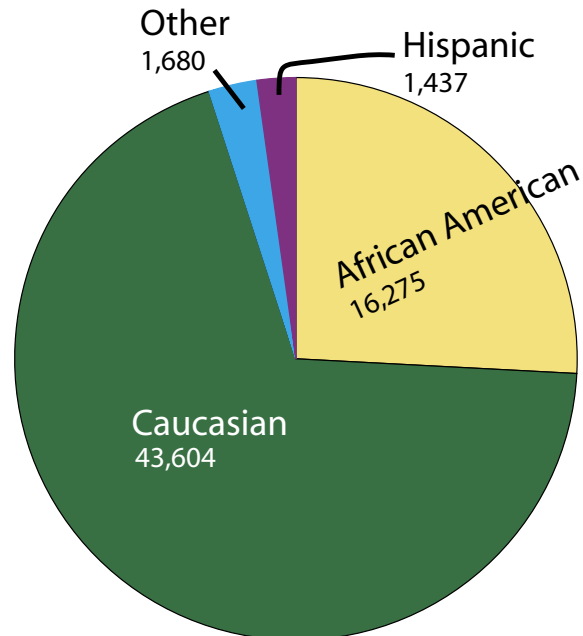
The numbers from 2004 show that arrests were made in 37,873 domestic violence incidents reported to Ohio law enforcement agencies, 11,568 arrests were made for crimes not considered to be "domestic violence" stemming from calls to agencies originally identified as intimate partner violence, and that 52,139 additional investigations took place where no arrests were made.

More than one-quarter of the 86,790 reported incidents involved spousal domestic violence, with wives being victimized at a rate three times that of husbands. Local agencies reported that more than 15 percent of the incidents in 2004 involved live-in partners, while nearly 12 percent involved unmarried couples with children not sharing a domicile. Parents were victimized in one of every 10 reported incidents, while children were victimized about 7 percent of the time.

Of the nearly 65,000 victims, 72 percent were Caucasian, 22 percent were African-American, and 1.7 percent were Hispanic. The remaining 5 percent of victims were divided among other ethnicities.

Offenders were most likely to be Caucasian males between the ages of 17 and 41, according to the 2004 reports from local agencies, while victims were most likely to be Caucasian women in the same age range. However, according to the United States Census Bu-

Domestic Violence Offender By Race



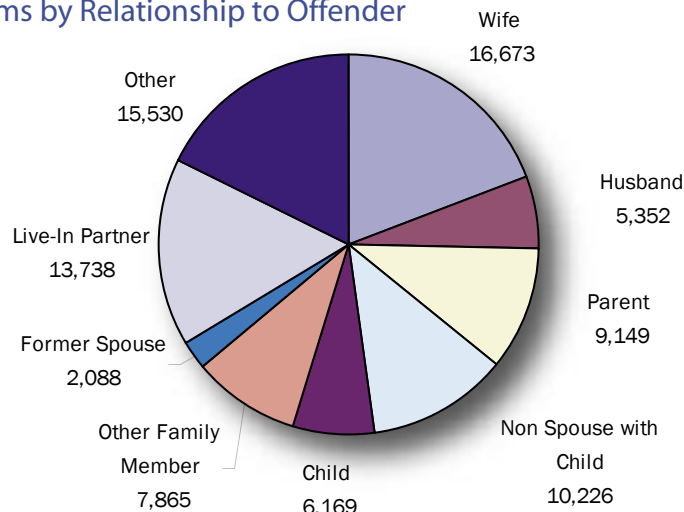
Source: 2005 Ohio Attorney General's Office

reau 2003 American Community Survey (an estimate of the population based on statistical sampling), 85 percent of Ohio's non-institutionalized population is Caucasian, meaning the frequency of domestic violence victimization among African-Americans in Ohio is higher than expected if victimization was equally distributed among Ohio's ethnic groups.

The reports for domestic violence incidents resulting in an arrest are uniformly distributed across the calendar year, with an average of 3,150 domestic violence calls to local agencies occurring each month. Statistically, no single month can be considered "statistically significant," meaning that in no month did the number of reported domestic assaults resulting in an arrest fall outside a distribution of two standard deviations from the mean.

With 101,580 total calls reported by local agencies in 2004, only the month of May, with 10,111 total incidents (3,602 calls resulting in an arrest under the domestic violence statutes; 1,278 calls resulting in an arrest under another section of the Ohio Revised Code and 5,231 calls not resulting in any arrests) demonstrating a statistically significant rise when compared with the expected number of calls.

Victims by Relationship to Offender



Source: Ohio Attorney General's Office, 2005

Attorney General's Office Offers Programs to Spot and Reduce Domestic Violence

Attorney General Petro has been working with other agencies to reduce intimate partner violence since shortly after he took office.

CHILD AND ELDER PROTECTION

Shortly after he took office, Attorney General Petro formed a Child and Elder Protection Section that links experts together to serve Ohio's vulnerable populations and to provide assistance to local law agencies in child support, physical and sexual abuse cases, Internet and computer crime investigations and elder abuse cases. Centralizing units from the Corrections Litigation and Crime Victims Sections of the Attorney General's office along with programs housed in the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation allows for more efficient sharing of resources and information. Redirecting resources and combining the units not only focuses the office's energy on providing services, it allows concentration of applicable state and federal funding sources.

ELDER ABUSE TASK FORCE

As a follow-up to the Ohio Post-National Policy Summit on Elder Abuse, Attorney General Petro and Ohio Department of Aging Director Joan Lawrence convened the Ohio Elder Abuse Task Force in December 2003 to study and make recommendations regarding elder abuse, neglect and exploitation occurring in Ohio, as well as the sufficiency of existing programs and systems tasked to address these issues. The task force was charged with increasing awareness of elder abuse, providing statewide coordination of elder-abuse identification, prevention and treatment activities, and recommending policy, funding and programming to effectively address elder abuse

statewide.

Comprised of more than 30 decision-makers from a broad range of agencies and organizations capable of developing meaningful measures to protect the elderly, the task force met monthly with the firm goal of producing a report that included a plan to address elder abuse. Members examined practices implemented in other states and considered collaborative efforts that already existed among state agencies to protect vulnerable adults. Consistent with their charge, they developed recommendations for public policies that can help reduce the problem of elder abuse in our society.

In January 2005, the Task Force submitted its recommendations to Governor Bob Taft.

CUT IT OUT

In October 2003, he announced his office was joining with salon professionals and domestic violence victims' advocacy groups in a unique program that trains cosmetologists to spot signs of domestic violence and offer assistance to the victims.

CUT IT OUT, Salons Against Domestic Abuse is a national program that trains salon professionals to recognize the warning signs of domestic violence and to inform their clients of available state and local resources. Joining with the Attorney General's Crime Victims' Services Section in promoting CUT IT OUT are the Ohio Board of Cosmetology, the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, ACTION Ohio, and the Columbus Coalition Against Family Violence. The program is sponsored nationally by Southern Living At HOME, the National Cosmetology Association and Clairol Professional.

Since announcing the start of CUT IT OUT in Ohio, that coalition has trained hundreds of salon professionals across the state.



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
JIM PETRO, ATTORNEY GENERAL

Domestic Violence Report
Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation
2004 - Domestic Dispute Calls

Month	DVI(A)	Other Charges (B)	No Charges(C)	Total Calls
January	2,927	1,020	4,269	8,216
February	2,782	985	4,013	7,780
March	3,263	1,039	4,558	8,860
April	3,320	1,185	4,654	9,159
May	3,602	1,278	5,231	10,111
June	3,308	1,038	4,553	8,899
July	3,400	929	4,572	8,901
August	3,308	974	4,397	8,679
September	3,098	843	4,071	8,012
October	2,942	967	4,115	8,024
November	2,917	822	4,080	7,819
December	3,006	488	3,626	7,120
Grand Total	37,873	11,568	52,139	101,580



Offender Statistics

Race/Ethnicity		Age		Gender	
Asian	301	0 - 17	7,599	Male	23,165
African American	16,275	18 - 41	41,990	Female	7,703
Caucasian	43,604	41 - 64	12,695		
Native American	235	65 - 84	750		
Hispanic	1,437	85 and Older	103		
Other	1,144				
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Total	62,996	Total	63,137	Total	30,868

Victim Statistics

Race/Ethnicity		Age		Gender	
Asian	275	0 - 17	5,888	Male	7,651
African American	14,771	18 - 41	43,223	Female	22,671
Caucasian	46,981	41 - 64	14,640		
Native American	238	65 - 84	1,362		
Hispanic	1,154	85 and Older	83		
Other	1,517				
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Total	64,936	Total	65,196	Total	30,322



Reported Victims

	Total	Percentage
Wife	16,673	19.21%
Husband	5,352	6.17%
Parent	9,149	10.54%
Non Spousal with Child	10,226	11.78%
Child/Children	6,169	7.11%
Other Family Member	7,865	9.06%
Former Spouse	2,088	2.41%
Live-In Partner	13,738	15.83%
Other	15,530	17.89%
Total	86,790	

Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation
P.O. Box 365
London , OH 43140
Phone: (740) 845-2000
Fax: (740) 845-2020



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www.ag.state.oh.us