

ASSAULTS ON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The following information is based on a detailed monthly collection of data in the Uniform Crime Reporting system regarding the problem of assaults on municipal, county and state law enforcement officers.

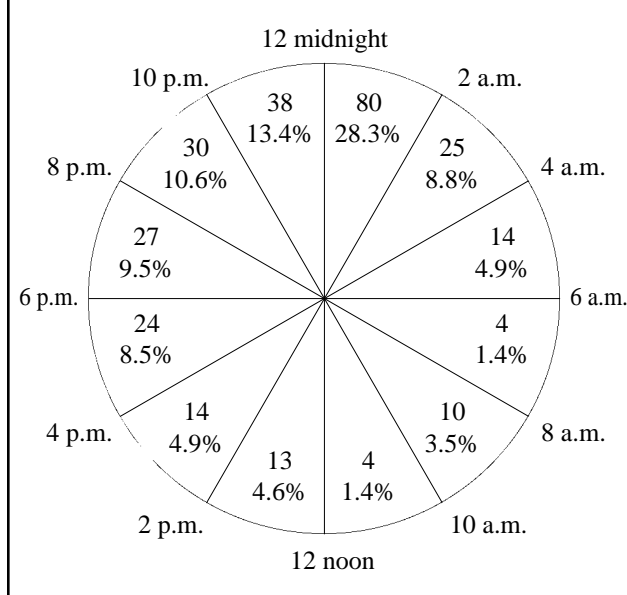
During 1997:

- There were 283 assaults on law enforcement officers, a 14.5% decrease from the 1996 figure of 331.
- The ratio of assaults per 100 officers during 1997 was 13.5, compared to 16.2 assaults per 100 officers during 1996.
- The greatest number of officer assaults occurred while the officer was responding to disturbance calls — 129, or 45.6% of the total.
- Personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.) were used in 94.7% or 268 of the assaults.
- Of the 283 assaults, 13.1% (37) resulted in personal injury to the officer, while 86.9% (246) produced no injury.
- 23.7% of assaults were aimed at officers who were alone (67), 76.3% were directed at assisted officers (216).
- The most common time period of assaults was 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. (52.3%), with 28.3% occurring from 12 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- Law enforcement cleared 100.0% (283) of all assaults on officers.
- Of the 283 reported assaults on officers, 22 were on sheriff's deputies, 6 were on state police officers, and 255 were on municipal officers.

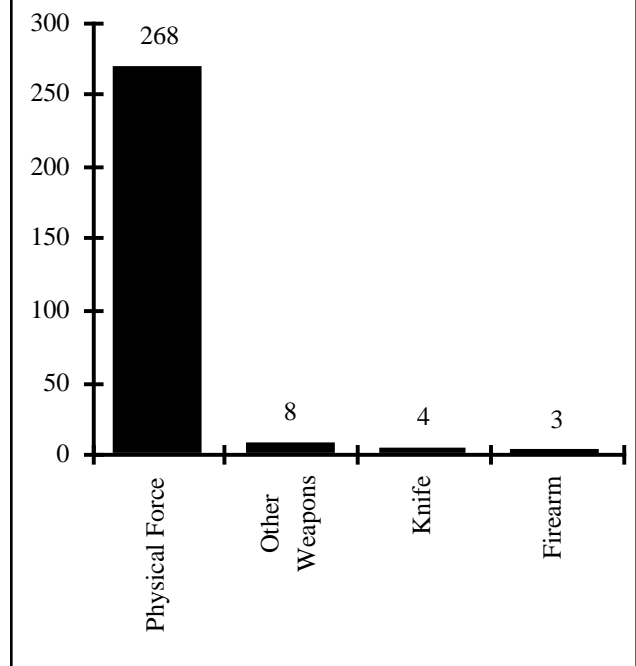
Assaults on Officers by County

County	Assaults on Officers			1997 Rate Per 100 Officers
	1996	1997	% Change	
Androscoggin	12	7	-41.7%	4.2
Aroostook	9	4	-55.6%	4.8
Cumberland	151	148	-2.0%	33.6
Franklin	—	3	+100.0%	6.3
Hancock	5	1	-80.0%	1.9
Kennebec	58	32	-44.8%	23.4
Knox	12	10	-16.7%	19.2
Lincoln	4	3	-25.0%	7.9
Oxford	4	1	-75.0%	1.7
Penobscot	27	22	-18.5%	10.7
Piscataquis	1	3	+200.0%	15.8
Sagadahoc	3	7	+133.3%	14.6
Somerset	6	—	-100.0%	0.0
Waldo	1	2	+100.0%	8.0
Washington	7	10	+42.9%	24.4
York	31	30	-3.2%	11.2
Totals	331	283	-14.5%	13.5

Officer Assaults by Time of Day



Officer Assaults by Type of Weapon



Officer Assaults by Circumstances — 1997

Type of Activity	Total Assaults (A)	Type of Weapon				Type of Assignment						Police Assault Cleared (M)	
		Firearm (B)	Knife or Other Cutting Instrument (C)	Other Dangerous Weapon (D)	Hands, Fists, Feet, etc. (E)	Two-Officer Vehicle (F)	One-Officer Vehicle		Detective or Spec. Assign.		Other		
							Alone (G)	Assisted (H)	Alone (I)	Assisted (J)	Alone (K)		Assisted (L)
1. Responding to disturbance calls	129	1	3	—	125	5	35	83	3	1	—	2	129
2. Burglaries in progress or pursuing burglary suspects	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
3. Robberies in progress or pursuing robbery suspects	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Attempting other arrests	28	—	—	—	28	5	2	16	—	2	2	1	28
5. Civil disorder (riot, mass disobedience)	9	—	—	—	9	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	9
6. Handling, transporting, custody of prisoners	29	—	—	1	28	2	2	12	—	1	2	10	29
7. Investigating suspicious persons or circumstances	21	—	1	3	17	2	5	14	—	—	—	—	21
8. Ambush — no warning	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
9. Mentally deranged	9	—	—	—	9	—	2	5	—	—	1	1	9
10. Traffic pursuits and stops	23	1	—	1	21	2	4	16	—	—	1	—	23
11. All other	32	—	—	2	30	2	6	15	—	3	2	4	32
12. Totals (1–11)	283	3	4	8	268	18	56	173	3	7	8	18	283
13. Number with personal injury	37	—	4	6	27								
14. Number without personal injury	246	3	—	—	243								
15. Time of assaults													
A.M.	80	25	14	4	10	4							
P.M.	13	14	24	27	30	38							
	12:01	2:00	4:00	6:00	8:00	10:00	12:00						