

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

Assault is defined as an attempt or offer with unlawful force or violence, to do physical injury to another. An aggravated assault may be committed by a gun, knife, or other cutting instrument, other dangerous weapons such as clubs, or through the aggravated use of hands, fists, or feet. Assault with intent to commit a murder is also reported as aggravated assault.

All assaults, where no weapon is used, which result in minor injuries are classified as non-aggravated assaults and are not counted in the Crime Index totals.

1979 — SUMMARY ANALYSIS

A total of 46,112 aggravated assaults was reported by law enforcement agencies for the year 1979.

Aggravated assaults accounted for 62.4 percent of all violent crimes and 6.8 percent of all index crimes reported.

The rate of aggravated assaults amounted to 498.8 assaults for each 100,000 persons.

There were 30,881 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared which represents a clearance rate of 67.0 percent statewide.

Persons under the age of 30 accounted for 63.5 percent of the arrests for aggravated assault. Arrests of males for aggravated assault outnumbered females by a 5 to 1 margin.

Analysis of aggravated assault arrests by race indicates that 56.6 percent of all persons arrested were white, 43.2 percent were black and 0.2 percent were of other races.

The use of firearms represented 12,331 offenses and comprised 26.7 percent of all aggravated assaults.

1980 — SUMMARY ANALYSIS

A total of 53,251 aggravated assaults was reported by law enforcement agencies for the year 1980.

Aggravated assaults accounted for 56.6 percent of all violent crimes and 6.6 percent of all index crimes reported.

The rate of aggravated assaults amounted to 555.9 assaults for each 100,000 persons.

There were 32,944 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared which represents a clearance rate of 61.9 percent statewide.

Persons under the age of 30 accounted for 63.6 percent of the arrests for aggravated assault. Arrests of males for aggravated assault outnumbered females by a 6 to 1 margin.

Analysis of aggravated assault arrests by race indicates that 58.3 percent of all persons arrested were white, 41.5 percent were black and 0.2 percent were of other races.

The use of firearms represented 15,508 offenses and comprised 29.1 percent of all aggravated assaults.

1981 — SUMMARY ANALYSIS

A total of 55,390 aggravated assaults was reported by law enforcement agencies for the year 1981.

Aggravated assaults accounted for 56.5 percent of all violent crimes and 6.8 percent of all index crimes reported.

The rate of aggravated assaults amounted to 548.5 assaults for each 100,000 persons.

There were 34,191 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared which represents a clearance rate of 61.7 percent statewide.

Persons under the age of 30 accounted for 61.9 percent of the arrests for aggravated assault. Arrests of males for aggravated assault outnumbered females by a 6 to 1 margin.

Analysis of aggravated assault arrests by race indicates that 58.2 percent of all persons arrested were white, 41.6 percent were black and 0.2 percent were of other races.

The use of firearms represented 17,027 offenses and comprised 30.7 percent of all aggravated assaults.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

BY TYPE OF WEAPON USED
1977-1981

Year		Firearm	Knife or Cutting Instrument	Other Dangerous Weapons	Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc. Aggravated	Total
1977	Number	9,115	9,177	11,318	8,267	37,877
	Percent*	24.1%	24.2%	29.9%	21.8%	100.0%
1978	Number	10,623	10,307	13,283	8,962	43,175
	Percent*	24.6%	23.9%	30.8%	20.8%	100.0%
1979	Number	12,331	11,562	15,030	7,189	46,112
	Percent*	26.7%	25.1%	32.6%	15.6%	100.0%
1980	Number	15,508	12,873	17,074	7,796	53,251
	Percent*	29.1%	24.2%	32.1%	14.6%	100.0%
1981	Number	17,027	12,804	16,910	8,649	55,390
	Percent*	30.7%	23.1%	30.5%	15.6%	100.0%

DISTRIBUTION OF ARRESTS BY AGE GROUPS 1977-1981

Year		Under 18	18-24	25-34	35-44	45 & Over	Totals
1977	Arrest	2,443	3,860	3,720	2,126	2,068	14,217
	Percent*	17.2%	27.2%	26.2%	15.0%	14.5%	100.0%
1978	Arrest	3,305	4,636	4,506	2,508	2,218	17,173
	Percent*	19.2%	27.0%	26.2%	14.6%	12.9%	100.0%
1979	Arrest	3,493	5,539	4,917	2,473	2,315	18,737
	Percent*	18.6%	29.6%	26.2%	13.2%	12.4%	100.0%
1980	Arrest	3,601	6,104	5,542	2,652	2,507	20,406
	Percent*	17.6%	29.9%	27.2%	13.0%	12.3%	100.0%
1981	Arrest	3,123	6,145	6,282	2,932	2,522	21,004
	Percent*	14.9%	29.3%	29.9%	14.0%	12.0%	100.0%

*Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding.

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