

# 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.

## 1977—SUMMARY ANALYSIS

A total of 37,877 aggravated assaults was reported by law enforcement agencies for the year 1977.

Aggravated assaults accounted for 65.4 percent of all violent crimes and 6.7 percent of all index crimes reported.

The rate of aggravated assaults amounted to 434.5 assaults for each 100,000 persons.

There were 25,020 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared which represents a clearance rate of 66.1 percent statewide.

Persons under the age of 30 accounted for 59.5 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 51.8 percent of all persons arrested were white, 47.3 percent were Negro and 0.9 percent were of other races.

The use of firearms represented 9,115 offenses and comprised 24.1 percent of all aggravated assaults.

## 1978—SUMMARY ANALYSIS

A total of 43,175 aggravated assaults was reported by law enforcement agencies for the year 1978.

Aggravated assaults accounted for 65.6 percent of all violent crimes and 7.1 percent of all index crimes reported.

The rate of aggravated assaults amounted to 481.5 assaults for each 100,000 persons.

There were 28,273 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared which represents a clearance rate of 65.5 percent statewide.

Persons under the age of 30 accounted for 61.5 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 52.3 percent of all persons arrested were white, 47.5 percent were Negro and 0.2 percent were of other races.

The use of firearms represented 10,623 offenses and comprised 24.6 percent of all aggravated assaults.

## 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 Negro 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.

# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

BY TYPE OF WEAPON USED  
1975-1979

Year		Firearm	Knife or Cutting Instrument	Other Dangerous Weapons	Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc. Aggravated	Total
1975	Number	10,247	8,617	9,670	4,976	33,510
	Percent*	30.6%	25.7%	28.9%	14.8%	100.0%
1976	Number	8,904	8,886	10,247	6,869	34,906
	Percent*	25.5%	25.5%	29.4%	19.7%	100.0%
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%

## DISTRIBUTION OF ARRESTS BY AGE GROUPS 1975-1979

Year		Under 18	18-24	25-34	35-44	45 & Over	Totals
1975	Arrest	3,198	3,350	3,114	2,170	1,843	13,675
	Percent*	23.4%	24.5%	22.8%	15.9%	13.5%	100.0%
1976	Arrest	2,920	3,576	3,493	2,151	2,003	14,143
	Percent*	20.6%	25.3%	24.7%	15.2%	14.2%	100.0%
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%

\*Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding.

FDLE TABLE 6