

**STATISTICAL
ANALYSIS
CENTER**



**2003
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
IN
ALABAMA**

**STATE OF ALABAMA
CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION CENTER
MAURY MITCHELL
Director**

**STATISTICAL
ANALYSIS
CENTER**

Domestic Violence

This report was produced by the Statistical Analysis Center of the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center. Data presented in this report was provided by the Uniform Crime Reporting Division of ACJIC for the calendar year of 2003. For purposes of this report, domestic violence is indicated when the relationship of the victim and offender is husband, wife, common-law spouse, ex-husband, ex-wife, girlfriend, boy-friend, ex-girlfriend, or ex-boyfriend. Statistics contained within this report include adult and juvenile victims.

**STATE OF ALABAMA
CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION CENTER
MAURY MITCHELL
Director**

Domestic Violence 2003

Of the 18,602 violent offenses* reported in 2003, 12% were domestic violence incidents. Domestic violence was indicated in 2,261 offenses reported: in 25 homicides; 201 rapes; 108 robberies; and in 1,927 aggravated assaults. 1,232 incidents of domestic violence were cleared for a 54% clearance rate. 37% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.

There were 28,486 domestic simple assaults, which represent 35% of all simple assaults reported in 2003. 15,920 domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 56% clearance rate. 43% of the clearances were exceptional.

76% of the victims were females, and 24% were males. 52% of the victims were black, and 48% were white. In 57% of the offenses, the offender was black, and in 78% the offender was male.

A firearm was the weapon used in 18% of the offenses; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 50%; a knife was the weapon used in 15%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 17%.

52% of the victims suffered injuries: 8% were injured with a firearm; 18% were injured with a knife; 56% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 17% were injured with other dangerous weapons.

In 34% of domestic violence offenses the victim was the wife/ex-wife of the offender; in 41% the victim was the girlfriend/ex-girlfriend of the offender.

*Excluding simple assaults

Domestic Violence

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	26%
Common-law wife	3%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	9%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	25%
Ex-girlfriend	16%
Boyfriend	9%
Ex-boyfriend	5%

Domestic Violence - Assault 2003

Aggravated

Of the 10,966 aggravated assaults reported in 2003, 1,927 were domestic aggravated assaults - or 18% of all aggravated assaults reported in Alabama for that year. 1,040 incidents of domestic aggravated assault were cleared for a 56% clearance rate. 35% of the clearances were exceptional.

A firearm was the weapon used in 18% of the assaults; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 47%; a knife was the weapon used in 17%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 18%.

51% of the victims were injured: 7% with a firearm; 20% with a knife; 54% with fists, feet or hands; and 19% with other dangerous weapons

38% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife of the offender; 38% of the victims were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; and 11% of the victims were a husband or ex-husband of the offender. 56% of the offenders were black, and 75% were males.

Simple

There were 28,486 domestic simple assaults reported in 2003, or 35% of all simple assaults for that year. 15,920 incidents of domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 56% clearance rate. 43% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.

Hands, fists or feet were used as a weapon in 90% of these assaults, however, 34% of the victims still reported injuries.

38% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife to the offender; 44% were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend.

Domestic Violence - Aggravated Assault

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	27%
Common-law wife	6%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	9%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	23%
Ex-girlfriend	15%
Boyfriend	9%
Ex-boyfriend	4%

Domestic Violence - Simple Assault

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	30%
Common-law wife	3%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	7%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	2%
Girlfriend	27%
Ex-girlfriend	17%
Boyfriend	5%
Ex-boyfriend	3%

Domestic Violence - Homicide 2003

There were 25 domestic homicides reported in 2003, representing 8% of the 297 homicides reported in Alabama for that year. 20 domestic homicides were cleared for an 80% clearance rate.

46% of the victims were males, and 54% were females. 58% of the victims were black, and 32% were white.

A firearm was the weapon used in 64% of the homicides; a knife was the weapon used 24%; hands, fists or feet were used as a weapon in 4%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 8%.

In 24% of the homicides the victim was the wife or ex-wife of the offender; in 24% the victim was the husband; in 28% the victim was the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend; and in 24% of the homicides the victim was the boyfriend or ex-boyfriend of the offender.

84% of the homicides occurred at a residence; 4% occurred in a street, alley, or parking lot; and 12% occurred in other locations.

In 45% of the homicides the offender was white; and in 59% the offender was a male. 54% of the homicides had black victims and black offenders; 40% had white victims and white offenders; 0% had white victims and black offenders; and 6% had black victims and white offenders.

Domestic Violence - Homicide

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	16%
Common-law wife	0%
Ex-wife	8%
Husband	20%
Common-law husband	4%
Ex-husband	0%
Girlfriend/Ex-girlfriend	28%
Boyfriend/Ex-boyfriend	24%

Domestic Violence - Robbery 2003

There were 108 robberies in 2003 that indicated domestic violence. This represents 2% of the 5,778 robberies reported for Alabama in that year. 54 domestic robberies were cleared for a 50% clearance rate. 46% of the clearances were exceptional.

A firearm was the weapon used in 31% of the robberies; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 55%; a knife was the weapon used in 8%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 6%.

54% of the victims suffered injuries: 8% were injured with a firearm; 4% were injured with a knife; 88% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 0% were injured with other dangerous weapons.

59% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; 17% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.

45% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 24% occurred in a street or alley; and 31% occurred in other locations.

In 86% of the robberies, the offender was black and in 95% the offender was a male.

Domestic Violence - Robbery

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	14%
Common-law wife	0%
Ex-wife	3%
Husband	9%
Common law-husband	0%
Ex-husband	2%
Girlfriend	27%
Ex-girlfriend	32%
Boyfriend	7%
Ex-boyfriend	6%

Domestic Violence - Rape 2003

There were 201 domestic violence rapes in 2003, representing 13% of the 1,561 rapes reported in Alabama for that year. 118 domestic rapes were cleared for a 59% clearance rate. 56% of the clearances were exceptional.

46% of the victims were black females and 54% were white females.

A firearm was the weapon used in 6% of the rapes; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 87%; a knife was the weapon used in 3%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 4%.

48% of the victims suffered injuries: 8% were injured with a firearm; 5% were injured with a knife; 84% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 3% were injured with other dangerous weapons.

72% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender, and 28% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.

85% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 1% occurred in a street or alley; and 14% occurred in other locations.

In 49% of the rapes the offender was white, and in 51% the offender was black.

30% of domestic rape victims were juveniles, but only 4% of the offenders were juveniles.

Domestic Violence - Rape

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	22%
Common-law wife	3%
Ex-wife	3%
Girlfriend	44%
Ex-girlfriend	28%

**2003 STATE OF ALABAMA
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY COUNTY**

COUNTY	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG ASSAULT	SIMPLE ASSAULT
Jefferson	6	39	10	407	4054
Mobile	1	5	3	60	2731
Montgomery	4	9	0	20	311
Autauga	0	0	1	15	507
Baldwin	0	10	1	37	586
Barbour	0	2	1	3	220
Bibb	0	0	0	17	86
Blount	0	0	0	0	95
Bullock	0	0	0	1	0
Butler	0	0	0	11	229
Calhoun	1	12	7	78	1233
Chambers	0	0	1	27	374
Cherokee	0	0	0	0	27
Chilton	1	6	1	213	89
Choctaw	0	0	0	0	0
Clarke	0	0	1	21	133
Clay	0	0	0	2	105
Cleburne	0	0	0	1	90
Coffee	0	2	0	10	353
Colbert	0	2	0	51	330
Conecuh	0	0	0	3	38
Coosa	0	0	0	5	50
Covington	0	4	0	12	397
Crenshaw	0	1	0	2	72
Cullman	0	7	0	37	535
Dale	0	1	0	34	291
Dallas	0	6	3	28	840
Dekalb	0	0	0	11	189
Elmore	0	1	1	7	411
Escambia	2	1	0	41	128
Etowah	0	1	0	45	766
Fayette	1	0	0	15	56
Franklin	1	0	0	14	518
Geneva	0	1	0	10	142
Greene	0	0	0	11	62
Hale	0	0	0	18	40
Henry	0	0	0	5	104
Houston	1	3	1	6	617
Jackson	0	1	0	14	518
Lamar	0	0	0	4	33

Lauderdale	0	3	0	38	279
Lawrence	1	1	0	6	250
Lee	0	12	0	45	771
Limestone	0	1	0	6	85
Lowndes	0	1	1	9	98
Macon	0	1	0	10	133
Madison	1	20	10	87	2376
Marengo	0	2	0	17	131
Marion	0	0	0	11	133
Marshall	0	3	0	26	561
Monroe	0	1	0	44	192
Morgan	2	3	56	37	612
Perry	0	0	0	13	37
Pickens	0	0	0	4	38
Pike	0	0	2	13	290
Randolph	0	1	0	12	156
Russell	0	4	1	14	386
St. Clair	0	3	1	26	362
Shelby	0	4	1	14	190
Sumter	0	1	0	11	50
Talladega	1	2	0	6	580
Tallapoosa	0	4	2	16	376
Tuscaloosa	1	13	3	119	2385
Walker	0	3	0	19	509
Washington	1	0	0	4	63
Wilcox	0	1	0	4	7
Winston	0	3	0	20	76
TOTALS	25	201	108	1927	28486