

**STATISTICAL
ANALYSIS
CENTER**

**1995
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
IN
ALABAMA**

**STATE OF ALABAMA
CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION CENTER
LARRY WRIGHT
Director**

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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 1995. 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.

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Domestic Violence

- Of the 26,412 violent offenses* reported in 1995, 17% were domestic violence incidents. Domestic violence was indicated in 4,413 offenses reported: in 59 homicides; 177 rapes; 75 robberies; and in 4,102 aggravated assaults. 2,565 incidents of domestic violence were cleared for a 58% clearance rate. 42% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.
- There were 20,996 domestic simple assaults, which represents 39% of the simple assaults reported in 1995. 11,584 domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 55% clearance rate. 46% of the clearances were exceptional.
- 85% of the victims were females, and 15% were males. 54% of the victims were black, and 46% were white. In 57% of the offenses, the offender was black, and in 85% the offender was male.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 4% of the offenses; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 83%; a knife was the weapon used in 4%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 9%.
- 45% of the victims suffered injuries: 3% were injured with a firearm; 6% were injured with a knife; 81% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 10% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- In 35% of domestic violence offenses the victim was the wife of the offender; in 22% the victim was the girlfriend of the offender.

*Excluding simple assaults

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	29%
Common-law wife	6%
Ex-wife	6%
Husband	7%
Common-law husband	2%
Ex-husband	2%
Girlfriend	22%
Ex-girlfriend	17%
Boyfriend	5%
Ex-boyfriend	4%

Domestic Violence - Homicide

- There were 59 domestic homicides reported in 1995, representing 13% of the 466 homicides reported in Alabama for that year. 48 domestic homicides were cleared for a 81% clearance rate. 19% of the clearances were exceptional.
- 46% of the victims were males, and 54% were females. 53% of the victims were black, and 47% were white.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 75% of the homicides; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 7%; a knife was the weapon used in 12%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 6%.
- In 25% of the homicides the victim was the wife of the offender; in 22% the victim was the boyfriend and in 17% the victim was the girlfriend of the offender.
- 75% of the homicides occurred at a residence; 14% occurred in a street, alley, or parking lot; and 11% occurred in other locations.
- In 51% of the homicides the offender was white; and in 58% the offender was a male.

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	20%
Common-law wife	5%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	15%
Common-law husband	2%
Ex-husband	0%
Girlfriend	17%
Ex-girlfriend	7%
Boyfriend	22%
Ex-boyfriend	7%

Domestic Violence - Rape

- There were 177 domestic violence rapes in 1995, representing 14% of the 1,307 rapes reported in Alabama for that year. 116 domestic rapes were cleared for a 66% clearance rate. 65% of the clearances were exceptional.
- 57% of the victims were black females and 43% were white females.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 9% of the rapes; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 74%; a knife was the weapon used in 4%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 13%.
- 52% of the victims suffered injuries: 8% were injured with a firearm; 5% were injured with a knife; 80% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 7% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- 70% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender, and 30% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.
- 80% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 4% occurred in a street or alley; and 16% occurred in other locations.
- In 57% of the rapes the offender was black and in 43% the offender was white.
- 25% of domestic rape victims were juveniles, but only 7% of the offenders were juveniles.

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	20%
Common-law wife	3%
Ex-wife	7%
Girlfriend	35%
Ex-girlfriend	35%

Domestic Violence - Robbery

- There were 75 robberies in 1995 that indicated domestic violence. This represents 1% of the 7,697 robberies reported for Alabama in that year. 45 domestic robberies were cleared for a 60% clearance rate. 64% of the clearances were exceptional.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 16% of the robberies; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 65%; a knife was the weapon used in 9%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 10%.
- 41% of the victims suffered injuries: 15% were injured with a firearm; 11% were injured with a knife; 70% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 4% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- 74% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; 13% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.
- 52% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 25% occurred in a street or alley; and 23% occurred in other locations.
- In 74% of the robberies, the offender was black and in 90% the offender was a male.

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	5%
Common-law wife	0%
Ex-wife	8%
Husband	4%
Common law-husband	0%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	28%
Ex-girlfriend	46%
Boyfriend	3%
Ex-boyfriend	5%

Domestic Violence – Assault

Aggravated

- Of the 16,942 aggravated assaults reported in 1995, 4,102 were domestic aggravated assaults - or 24% of all aggravated assaults reported in Alabama for that year. 2,356 incidents of domestic aggravated assault were cleared for a 57% clearance rate. 41% of the clearances were exceptional.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 17% of the assaults; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 34%; a knife was the weapon used in 21%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 28%.
- 67% of the victims were injured: 8% with a firearm; 22% with a knife; 38% with fists, feet or hands; and 32% with other dangerous weapons
- 39% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife of the offender; 34% of the victims were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; and 14% of the victims were a husband or ex-husband of the offender. 66% of the offenders were black, and 75% were males.

Simple

- There were 20,996 domestic simple assaults reported in 1995, or 39% of all simple assaults for that year. 11,584 incidents of domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 55% clearance rate. 46% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.
- Hands, fists or feet were used as a weapon in 94% of these assaults, however, 48% of the victims still reported injuries.
- 46% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife to the offender; 38% were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend.

Domestic Violence - Aggravated Assault

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	29%
Common-law wife	6%
Ex-wife	4%
Husband	10%
Common-law husband	3%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	22%
Ex-girlfriend	12%
Boyfriend	9%
Ex-boyfriend	4%

Domestic Violence - Simple Assault

Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	33%
Common-law wife	7%
Ex-wife	6%
Husband	6%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	2%
Girlfriend	23%
Ex-girlfriend	15%
Boyfriend	4%
Ex-boyfriend	3%